

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Perry S30644

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/13/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Henry County: Sct.

Be it known that on this 17th day of September 1833 personally appeared before William McCracken a Justice of the Peace in and for said County of Henry and one of the Justices of the Henry County Court Benjamin Perry a resident of said County of Henry and State of Kentucky aged eighty years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that is to say being a resident of Spotsylvania County in the State of Virginia he did on the ___ day of April in the year 1781 as well as he remembers he entered the service of the United States as a drafted militia man and private soldier in the company of Captain Legg [John Legg] upon a tour of six months and served as such during the whole of his tour – that he rendezvoused with his company at Fredericksburg Virginia and was there joined to the Regiment of Colonel Winslow [Beverly Winslow] and was attached to the Brigade of General Weeden [George Weedon] and was marched from thence and joined the Army under General Lafayette near the horse Pinns Ford [Horse Pen Ford?] of the Potomac River that he continued with the Army of General Lafayette under the said officers during the whole of that celebrated campaign and partook of its dangers turmoils and difficulties – that the operations of the American Army were directed against that of the British under Lord Cornwallis and he was finally driven to Little York – that General Washington and the troops with him joined the troops in Virginia under Lafayette and the whole Army marched to Little York and commenced the siege of that place and prosecuted it until Cornwallis and the Army under his command surrendered [October 19, 1781] – this declarant was with the Army and assisted in its operations from the time of his said entry into the service until the expiration of his said tour of duty – he was present & assisted at the siege of York and witnessed the surrender of the British Army and soon after that event his term of service having expired he was discharged and returned home. I recollect upon this tour to have seen Generals Lafayette, Wayne [Anthony Wayne], Steuben and Colonels Greene & Willis [?] of the regulars and now think I recollect Generals Lawson & Weedon and Colonels White & Winslow of the Militia.

He further states and declares that soon after his return home from his above named tour that is to say in the month of November 1781 as well as he remembers he moved from Spotsylvania County to the present state of Kentucky and sometime in the month of December in the same year landed at Bryan's Stationed [Bryant's Station] – that he continued at said Station during the balance of the winter that is to say from the month of December 1781 as a part of the Garrison of the Fort at that place till the month of April 1782 constituting a period of not less than three months which time he served in said Fort faithfully under Captain Craig as a private

volunteer soldier – that the country was a frontier one and the Indians very troublesome.

He further states and declares that in the month of April 1782 as well as he recollects he entered the service of the United States as a private volunteer Indian Spy upon an engagement for seven months under Captain Dudley, that he was at the Fort at Bryan's Station at the time he entered the service against the Indians as a spy upon this last engagement – that he continued in the service as such during the whole period of his said engagement actually and actively employed as such – that his duties as such under his said engagement required him to range an extensive track of country including the present Counties of Fayette, Clark, Bourbon, Scott, Franklin & Harrison; – that he was frequently at Bryan's Station, Ashton Station, Stroud's Station and Boone's Station – he states that he was not engaged in any skirmish of note or importance with the Indians during the period of his engagement in the service upon this tour but that he was in several slight ones. He states that he served out the full term of his said engagement actively and faithfully –

He states that he served upon many small scouting & spine parties in the year 1783 but he does not recollect the particulars of them with sufficient certainty to attempt their detail but he is confident and certain from his present best recollection that he did not serve less, during the spring and summer of 1783 than three months in scouting and spine parties against the Indians.

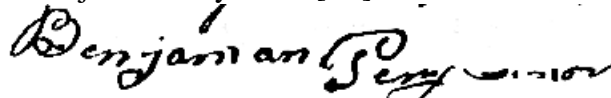
He states that he is growing old and is so infirm that he cannot attend court to make his declaration, but though his memory from age and infirmity is very impaired yet he thinks he can safely say and he is positive from his present best recollection that he did not serve less during the revolutionary war and 6 months as a drafted militia man, 3 months as a private volunteer soldier in the Fort at Bryan's Station, 7 months as an Indian Spy in 1782 and 3 months upon scouting and spying parties in 1783 making in all might team months service for which he claims a pension.

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his Service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Benjamin Perry senior [sic]



Interrogatories put to the above named applicant by the said William McCracken Justice of the Peace and member of the Henry County Court as aforesaid

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Spotsylvania County Virginia in the year 1752

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I have a record of my age at home in my Bible.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in Spotsylvania County Virginia when I entered the service upon my first tour. In the month of December 1781 as well as I remember I moved to Kentucky to the present County of Fayette where I lived during the residue of my services and where I continued to reside for a short time after the war and then I moved to the present County of Woodford where I continued to live till the year 1803 as well as I recollect and I then moved to Henry County where I have lived ever since & still live.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I was drafted on my first tour – Upon all my other services I was a volunteer!

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I recollect Generals Washington, Lafayette, Wayne & Steuben and Colonels Willis and Greene who I believe were regular officers I recollect Generals Weeden & Lawson and Colonels White & Winslow and Colonel Logan and Boone who I think were militia officers. My first tour was performed in Virginia in the Army of General Lafayette in the celebrated campaign against Cornwallis and I was with the Army during the whole of it and assisted in the capture of Cornwallis and was present at the time he surrendered and witnessed the whole transaction. My other services were performed in Kentucky against the Indians in the Fort at Bryan's Station, in spying and in spying & scouting parties – much of which kind of service I performed.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I received but one discharge and that was from my service as a drafted militia man in Virginia which was signed by my Captain & which I have lost.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. I will name Charles Stewart and William McCracken
Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Benjamin Perry senr.

[Charles Stewart and William McCracken gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$63.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year & 7 months in the Virginia service.]