

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Reuben Ratliff S31311

A12VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Kentucky, County of Morgan } Sct.

On this 2nd day of June 1834 personally appeared before me the Subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in & for the County of Morgan & State of Kentucky. Reuben Ratliff, a resident of the County of Morgan & State of Kentucky aged Seventy Two years & 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 was in the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. He states he entered the service in the month of September 1776 under the command of Capt. Gilbert Christy [Gilbert Christian], Major Shelby [Isaac Shelby] & Col. William Christy [sic, William Christian] as a volunteer under the orders of the County Colonel. I Joined the army at Long Island on Holston River in Washington County, Virginia where we were marched from there near to the Cherokee town on the Tennessee River where we remained some short time after Destroyed some Indian property, we were marched back to Washington County, Virginia & discharged having been out four months; he states he again entered the service of the United States between the 1st & 10th of June 1777 as a volunteer under the command of Captain Long, Col Arty Campbell [Arthur Campbell]; he was immediately marched to Long Island on Holston River where we were stationed about Two weeks, we were then marched against the Cherokee towns on the Tennessee River which we destroyed & staid there some five or six weeks, we was then marched back home to Washington County & discharged in December 1777—I again volunteered in the month of May 1779 in the service of the United States under the command of Capt. A. Brown who was a Captain of the Spies on the Frontiers of Virginia. I Joined him in Montgomery County, Virginia where I then lived & served a tower [sic, tour] of three months & was in the month of August 1779 marched back to Montgomery County, Va (& after having been out on the New River & Holston) & discharged . In August 1780, I volunteered under the command of Abram Trigg, Captain; Joseph Cloyd, Major, we were rendezvoused at a place called Chiswell Lead Mines on New River & was marched within some short distance of King's Mountain (say about 15 or 20 miles) we was then turned & marched to the Shallow ford of the Adkins [sic, Yadkin] River in North Carolina where we had a battle with a party of Tories who we repulsed, we remained there about a week & were then marched home to Montgomery County, Virginia & discharged having been out three months the time for which I volunteered.

I immediately (after I served out my time named above) went to North Carolina, Henry County. I volunteered in May 1781 under Captain Arter [sic, Arthur?], Colonel Green as a spy or

ranger for Three months against the Tories, we were out Scouting through the Country from Henry County to Caroline County at the end of my Term of service of three months. I was discharged by my Capt. He states that he cannot distinctly recollect all the officers whom he saw in the service, he states he has no documentary evidence of his service & that he knows no person from this State by whom he can prove his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He states that after being discharged by his captain he moved at Tazwell County, Virginia where I lived for some years & moved from there to Morgan County, Kentucky where I have lived ever since. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Reuben Ratliff, X his mark

We Elias Johnson a clergyman residing in Morgan County & J G Hazelrigg residing in the same hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Reuben Ratliff who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be 75 years of age, that he is respected & believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution & that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Elias Johnson, X his mark

S/ J G Hazelrigg

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$43.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia militia for one-year]