

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Josiah Phelps S31451

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/17/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Madison County: Sgt.

On this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful the County Court of Madison, now sitting, Josiah Phelps, a resident of Madison County, State of Kentucky, aged 77 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That in the fall of the year 1777 while on his way from the State of Virginia to Kentucky (then Virginia) on the North fork of the River Holston, he entered the service of the United States and had his name enrolled under Captain Richard May, and marched to Boonesborough on the Kentucky River, and remained there as a guard until the last of June 1778. Some of the men called it enlisting under Captain May. Deponent does not know whether it was so or not – he received no bounty, but as Captain May seemed to lack men to make up his company he agreed to have his name enrolled – it might properly speaking be called volunteering as deponent thinks. In July 1778 he again entered the service as a substitute for Robert Bowman under Captain John Montgomery at the fall of the Ohio [falls of the Ohio], now Louisville, and marched under Colonel George Rogers Clark to the Town called Kaskaskia, then held by the British, and then returned back to Boonesborough. He was engaged in this expedition three months. There was a Captain Helm and Captain Bowman under Colonel Clark. That in the spring of the year 1779 he went on an expedition under Colonel Bowman against the Shawnee Indians, and had two engagements with them, one at Chillicothe, and the other in the woods near the Town. He was engaged in this tour upwards of three weeks. In the summer (he thinks June) 1780 he was sent by Captain James Patton from the falls of the Ohio River to a Fort on the Mississippi River, a few miles below the mouth of the Ohio River, with an express to Colonel George Rogers Clark to return with his troops to the fall of the Ohio, for the purpose of marching against the Shawnee Indians. He was one month engaged in this service. In the latter part of the summer 1780 he volunteered again under Captain William Oldham [William Oldham?] and was again under Colonel Clark and marched against the Towns of the Pickaway Indians. There was a pretty severe battle between us and the Indians – fifteen or twenty killed on each side. We destroyed their Towns and all their Corn &c. He was engaged upwards of one month in this service. In the year 1781 or 1782 he again volunteered under Captain James Surgis [?], in the Horse Company, and was again under Colonel G R Clark. We marched against the Shawnee Indians had a little skirmishing with them and took some prisoners. He was engaged in this service upwards of one month. Thus ended his services. He was engaged in the service of his country, when all his services are put together, thirteen months and a half. He never received

a discharge for any part of his services, and has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. He was born in Buckingham County, Virginia, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 1755. He has a record of his age at his present residence in his family Bible, which he took from that of his father. He was on his way to the Western country when he entered the service, and resided in what is now the state of Kentucky during the balance of his service, except out on expeditions against the Indians &c. He has resided in this County (Madison, State of Kentucky) ever since the War, and now resides in the same County, where he has resided upwards of 40 years. He always volunteered his services, except in the instance before stated. He has already stated all the names of all Officers he can recollect, and the circumstances of his service. He never received a discharge. He is known in his present neighborhood to the Reverend Thomas Jerman, Jr. and James Pasley. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an 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/ Josiah Phelps

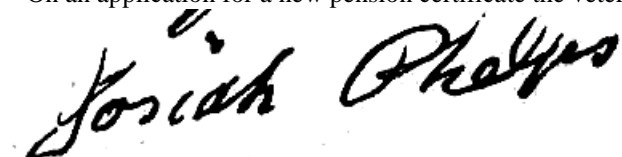
A faded, handwritten signature of Josiah Phelps in cursive script, appearing as a light grey watermark or scan artifact.

[Thomas Jerman, Jr., a clergyman, and James Pasley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$45 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 13 months and 15 days in the Virginia service.]

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<sup>1</sup> On an application for a new pension certificate the veteran's signature appears much more clearly as follows

A clear, handwritten signature of Josiah Phelps in cursive script, written in black ink.