

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Prichard S32456

f36VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/25/12

[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.]

[f p. 35]

Original Claim

Scott County State of Kentucky

On the 4th day of September 1826 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record established by law and called the Circuit Court for Scott County John Pritchard [sic] resident of said County aged sixty-five years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress of the 18th day of March 1818 and first May 1820.

That he the said John Pritchard enlisted for the term of two years on the __ day of __ in the year 1780 (the precise date he cannot now recollect) in Louden County [Loudoun County] State of Virginia in the company of Captain Lewis as a Dragoon but for want of horses & arms was attached to the Light Infantry – I think Lewis was promoted to a Colonel & I was commanded by him – In the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] I was under the command of an officer who was a stranger to me whose name I cannot recollect – he was in Virginia Line on the Continental establishment – he continued in active service until after the capture of Cornwallis in October 1781 and after that event was discharged at Winchester by an officer whose grade he does not know but whose name was either Hardin or Hardeman or Hardman. The great length of time and bad memory will not enable him to be more minute –

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present – that his name is not on the roll of any state except Virginia – And that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application

When the law first passed he was able to work and until recently could decently support himself & family – He had sons to aid him the last of whom left him last winter. He would not make this application if imperious necessity did not demand it.

He was wounded in the leg at Guilford and as age advances it disabled him from walking or laboring long at any one time.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

Schedule

one mare – \$30 – one cow & calf \$10 – three beds \$30 – some chairs & one Bureau \$10 – he has had some horses & cattle since the 18th of March 1818 which have died or have been disposed of to support his family –

I have now living with me five daughters Elizabeth aged nineteen – afflicted with fits, Margaret aged fifteen – Mary Ann aged thirteen, Harriet aged eleven – Fanny aged eight years – His wife Ann aged forty-seven. He is a farmer having no mechanic Art

John Prichard

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Prichard". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Declaration of John Prichard for a Pension

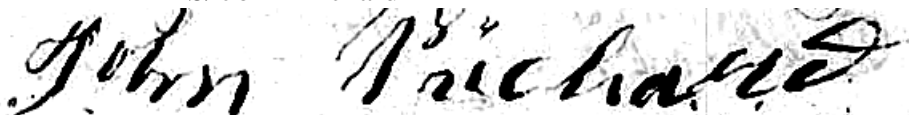
State of Indiana Decatur County: Sc

On this 31st day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable the Judges of the Decatur County Circuit Court now sitting John Prichard, a resident of said County of Decatur & State of Indiana aged 74 years next July 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 volunteered in the service of the United States in the month of March 1781 and served under the following named officers (to wit) General Stevens [Edward Stevens] or Lawson [Robert Lawson] (he cannot now say positively which) Colonel Mathews, Major Risley [?], Captain Douglass, Lieutenant Francis Adams and Ensign White Cotton of the Virginia Militia. He continued to serve under the above named officers until the 19th of October when Lord Cornwallis was captured. Then he was transferred to the command of Colonel Alexander [probably John Alexander, Lt. Col. of Loudoun County militia] and served under him until the month of September 1782 when he was discharged. From the time of his entering the Regiment of Colonel Alexander until the time of his being discharged he was commanded by Colonel Alexander and Captain William Bearnis at the Winchester Barracks. He was discharged in the month of September 1782 after serving faithfully for one year and six months for which services he claims a Pension. At the time of his entering the service he resided in Loudon [Loudoun] County Virginia and continued to reside there until the War was over. He was a volunteer. He was in the battles of Guilford Courthouse [March 15, 1781] and also in the Battle of Yorktown at the capture of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. He marched from Loudoun County Virginia to Richmond from thence to Norfolk, from thence he marched with General Greene's Army to Guilford Court house North Carolina where the Battle was fought from thence after remaining there for some time in consequence of a wound he marched to near Orange Court house from thence to Williamsburg from thence to Burrels ferry [Burwell's Ferry] on James River at Pamunkey bridge, from thence he marched to near Little York where he remained for a very considerable time traversing the Country in pursuit of the enemy until the capture of Lord Cornwallis, when he was transferred to the command of Colonel Alexander and went as a guard to the British Prisoners to the Winchester Barracks where he remained constantly on Militia duty until the September following (1782) when he was regularly discharged by his officers: he does not now recollect of serving with any other Continental companies or Regiments except those of Colonel Alexander, or any militia companies or Regiments by name than the ones to which he belonged. He was acquainted with General Washington, General Greene, General Gates, General Lee, General Stevens & Captain

Lane of the Continental Army. He has no documentary or written evidence and he knows of no person living 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 & year aforesaid

S/ John Prichard

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Prichard". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

[John Ford, a clergyman, and John G Kindall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Answers to the 7 Questions prescribed by the War Department = Answer to 1st Question I was born in these Burke Loudoun County on the 29th of July 1760. Answer to 2nd Question I have the record of my age in the family Bible it is now in the possession of my Brother in Virginia. Answer to 3rd Question I was residing in the Gum Springs in Loudoun County Virginia when I was called into service and continued to reside there until the war was over, since the Revolution I have lived in Maryland, from there I moved to near Morgan town Virginia, from thence to Kentucky, there I resided until about 6 years since when I removed to Decatur County Indiana where I now reside – Answer to 4th Question I was a volunteer. Answer to 5th Question I was acquainted with General Washington, General Greene, General Gates, General Lee, General Stevens, general Lawson and Captain Lane of the Continental Army as he believes. He recollects of Captain Jamison's Company of militia at Burrel's ferry and of some Regulars at the Winchester Barracks, the general circumstances of my services are stated in [indecipherable word]. Answer to the 6th Question I was never discharge only verbally I continued until the officers dismissed their men never was told that there would be no more fighting – Answer to 7th question In choir of Colonel Thomas Hendricks of Decatur County of Judcas Bryson Esquire Fowler, Esquire Bryan and all who know me.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Prichard

State of Indiana Decatur County: On this 20th day of December in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the peace in and for the County of Decatur, John Prichard the above named applicant for a pension – who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following amendment to his former declaration made on the 31st day of October in the Decatur County Circuit Court (to wit) said applicant states most positively under oath that his services were rendered as a volunteer and as an enlisted soldier in the Continental service. Applicant further states to the Department that he served his first tour of eight months (to wit) from the beginning of March 1781 until the last of October 1781 under one Colonel Mathews (the Christian name he has forgotten) who was a Colonel in the Militia of Virginia as he always understood – and subject to the command of either General Lawson or Stevens he cannot say which his other officers are mentioned within. After the surrender of Lord Cornwallis he was discharged verbally by his officers as his time was up for which he volunteered. But he did not leave the service a single day, but immediately entered the service a second time as a volunteer (and not as an enlisted soldier (as the Department has remarked) under Colonel Alexander to go with him with the prisoners to Winchester Barracks and there he served on Military duty until the month of September 1782 when he was duly

discharged (verbally by Colonel Alexander, but the precise term of eight months was not included at all in mentioned; therefore he is convinced that he was under two terms of engagement of service and not under one as the Department has supposed – Applicant further states that it is probable that he has made some errors as it regards time, and the particular places which he marched to &c, but that according to the best of his knowledge at this remote period he is correct.

S/ John Prichard

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia militia.]