

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Peter Richy (Ritchey) S32478

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } October Term 1832
Jackson Circuit Court }

On this 6 day of October 1832, personally appeared in open court it being a court of record before the Honorable Nathaniel W Williams circuit judge in & for the third judicial circuit in the State of Tennessee now in sitting Peter Richy aged about seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to the laws of the land doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service (of the United States) under the following named officers and served as herein stated

He states that he volunteered in the service of the United States for a tour of three months in Meclenburg [sic: Mecklenburg] County North Carolina marched to a place called Ninety six [Ninety-Six SC]. there were about thirty men in the company, the Captain was by the named of John Barringer The company to which he belonged joined General [Griffith] Rutherford's Army, at a place where one John Fifer [probably John Phifer] lived in Meclenberg County. The army marched to Ninety Six where at that place He with some men, who were drawn out of every company, went out as spies & to take tories; took about seven or eight tories one of whom died of cold the night after taken. [Possibly Snow Campaign, 8 - 30 Dec 1775.] When taken in they were sent to Charlestown [Charleston SC] as he understood The tories were in a cave. He was in no engagements or battles. He states that he cannot recollect the year the most he can say is, that it was about the commencement of the war & that they set out on this tour in the fall of the year. He states he served out his full tour as he believes & until he was discharged at Ninety six. He cannot name any other officers except his Captain & the General as before stated

He states that while living at the same place he was drafted for a tour of three months. cannot state the year, but knows that it was about the last of August or the first of September. marched to the Cherokee Nation against the Indians On this campaign the officers as far as he can recollect were his Captain John Fifer & General Rutherford. There was an officer called Alexander. On this campaign the destroyed several Indian towns. One town was called Over hill town, a part of the army in advance had an engagement but he was not in it, this was near the Overhill town [possibly Battle of Black Hole of the Coweecho River NC, 19 Sep 1776]. Some prisoners were taken and some killed. There were no other engagements while he was out on this tour He served out his time and was discharged at Catawba river as he recollects.

He states that the was hired as a substitute for three months, cannot state the time, marched to Hilsborough [sic: Hillsborough NC] & to a place called Cross creek [now Fayetteville]. He cannot recollect the Captains name, but can say the Col. in command was called Polk [probably Thomas Polk]. He was then in pursuit of tories. He was in no engagement He served out his full time of three months and was discharged in Meclenberg County

He states that sometime in the month of August as he recollects (the year he cannot state) he was drafted for three months and marched into South Carolina and joined the army under command of General [Horatio] Gates. His Captain was called [Matthias] Beaver. He marched with the army to a little place, he thinks it was called Charlotte [sic] and near this place they were met by the enemy and he was in what was called Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]. He cannot tell the names of any officers but General Gates General Rutherford & his Captain (Beaver) After his term of service was expired he was discharged in Meclenberg County This ended his service as a soldier of the revolution. He has no documentary evidence of his service, nor does he know of any one by whom he can prove the same by any witness

He hereby releases 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

1 I was born in Meclenberg County, and from the best information I have ever had I was born in about the year 1760

2 I have no record of my age. my house was burned as I believe by the tories, and a bible which

contained a record of my age was burned

3 I was living in Meclenberg County North Carolina when called into the service. after the revolution, I moved to Washington County in Virginia, from that place to where I now live. I moved to Indiana remained there four years & returned to this County about ten years ago

5 I was twice drafted. I once volunteered and I was once hired as a substitute for a man by the name of Starner

6 I can state nothing more about the officers and regiments or the circumstances of my service than I have already state. I am too old & my recollection has to far failed to enable me to [illegible word] in minute detail

7 I think that Archibald Dill, John Wilson Esq Leroy B. Littles, Ralph Rogers William Gipson, & many others will testify as I believe to my character for veracity and my reputation as a soldier in the revolution.

4 I was discharged but they were burnt at the same time my house was burned, which was at or about the close of the war [signed] Peter Richy

NOTE: On 10 June 1839 Peter Richy applied to have his pension transferred to Sevier County, Arkansas, where he then resided "with his son James Ritchie, who made the removal to Arkansas & peter the Father being old & Infirm accompanied him in order to be taken care of."