

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Rinker S32485

f40VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/2/12

[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.]

Pleas held at the Courthouse of Union County in the sixth judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana on the first Monday of September in the year of our Lord 1832: Before the Honorable Charles H Test President Judge of said Circuit, & Robert Swann and Daniel Ogden his associates, judges of said County of Union

Be it remembered that on this day, to which, the 6th day of the judicial term aforesaid, comes personally into Open Court George Rinker and makes and files the following declaration in this behalf, to wit,

State of Indiana Union County SS In the Union Circuit Court at the September A.D. 1832 [term].

On this 8th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable C H Test President Judge of the 6th judicial circuit, Indiana and Robert Swann and Daniel Ogden his Associates for the said Union Circuit Court, now sitting, George Rinker a resident of Harrison Township in the County of Union and State of Indiana, 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 A.D. 1830.

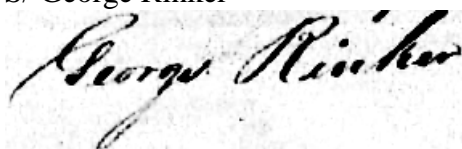
That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, to wit, Jacob Rinker was commander of the Company to which applicant belonged, that Colonel Darke, according to the best of his recollection, was the officer under whom they mustered, and that General Stephens [Edward Stevens] was the Commandant of the Brigade to which they were attached = an officer by the name of Williams this was Adjutant of their Regiment – that he entered the service in October 1780 – but does not now recollect the exact day – that he was discharged from this tour, sometime in the month of March or April – that he feels confident that his tour lasted between 6 and 7 months – that during this time he was not in any engagement, but was employed part of the time in building a hospital at Cheraw Hills [South Carolina], and doing Camp duty in the line that General Green [Nathanael Greene] commanded that division of the Army – This applicant further states that he resided in Dunmore County afterwards called Shenandoah County in the State of Virginia where he entered the service that he went as a volunteer, and was Lieutenant of the Company to which he belonged – that he marched after him he thus volunteered in the South Carolina, crossing the Roanoke in Virginia at Perkins ferry and passed through Guilford and stood Salisbury in North Carolina to the Cheraw Hills in South Carolina, that they remained there the principal part of the time during the winter season, that they marched back with some of the prisoners that General Morgan took at Camden [January 17, 1781], and that he stopped at the Albemarle Barracks where the prisoners were delivered to other troops. That when they volunteered he thinks they did not volunteer for any particular period – that when they got the said prisoners to Albemarle every man was permitted, without any regular discharge to go to his own home. Said applicant had no commission as Lieutenant in the militia

of Virginia prior to the time he volunteered as aforesaid which Commission is yet in his possession, but so much torn that its date cannot be ascertained: but the names of Pendleton [the first part of the Christian name being torn off) John Page Thos. Sud Lee, Dudley Digges, W. Cabell & P. Carrington are signed to it – that at that time the County in which this applicant lived was known by the name of Dunmore, but was afterwards changed to Shenandoah. That at the time he volunteered as aforesaid, the most of the Company to which he was Lieutenant volunteered also, and it was by virtue of said Commission that he served as Lieutenant during the Term aforesaid – that he has no documentary evidence of his discharge or services during this campaign nor did he ever have any – that he knows of no person by whom he can prove his

And this applicant further states that after the performance of the tour aforesaid, he again went out as a volunteer in consequence of the approach of Cornwallis towards the Blue Ridge – that this time he does not recollect that they were under the command of any particular officer until they got to the main Army between Richmond and Williamsburg – he does not recollect who commanded them after they joined the main Army, but he recollects to have seen General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] with the Army on the 4th of July in the year 1781 – He further states that Cornwallis commenced retreating, and the troops to which he belonged being mounted on horseback, and it being difficult to procure forage for their horses, they were sent home before they got to Williamsburg – he feels certain that this tour lasted at least 3 weeks – that he has no documentary evidence of having served this tour, nor does he know of any person living by whom he can prove this service and further that he served at this time in the capacity of a private. And this applicant further states that afterwards, about the last of September in the year 1781, he again entered the service as a volunteer, that he volunteered in Shenandoah County, Virginia, and went as a Lieutenant under the commission referred to as above, in a company commanded by Captain Auld or Orr, this applicant cannot be certain as to which, is the proper pronunciation and spelling of the name – that after volunteering they were marched through Fredericksburg, in the State of Virginia, Bowling Greene in the same state, and past Hanover Courthouse to Williamsburg, Virginia when they drew their arms and marched from thence to Yorktown where Cornwallis was besieged by the Army under the command of General Washington – that he cannot now recollect who was there Colonel, but thinks that Stephens [Edward Stevens] commanded this Brigade – that during this time they were engaged in prosecuting the Siege until the troops under Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781], when the troops to which this applicant belonged were sent with the prisoners or a part of them to the line between Virginia and Maryland, where they delivered them to the Maryland troops. He thinks while performing this duty they were commanded by Major Jones that they marched the prisoners he thinks through Loudoun County, and delivered them up above George Town [Georgetown], at which place they the volunteers were discharged by said Jones. He thinks it was in November when they got home from this tour, he feels confident this tour lasted for the space of 8 weeks – he never had any documentary evidence of this service, nor does he know of any person within his reach by whom he can prove the services aforesaid.

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 any Agency of any State.

S/ George Rinker

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Rinker". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes characteristic of the late 18th or early 19th century.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 8th day of September 1832

S/ Edghill Burnside, Clerk

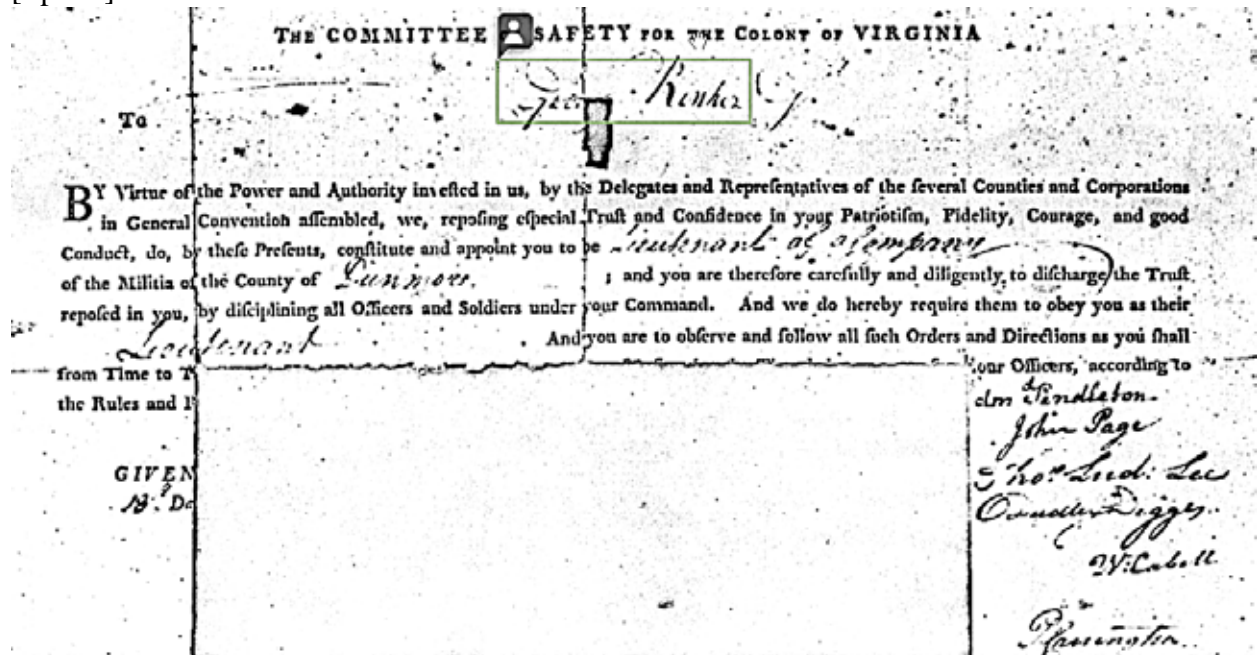
[John C McNamar, a clergyman, and Samuel McCollough gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And the court having propounded to the said George Rinker the following interrogatories and received from him the following answers

To wit, 1st, where and in what year were you born? I was born September 1752 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Have you any record of your age; and if so, where is it? My age was recorded in my father's Bible which record I have often seen, but I am not now in possession of it – I Brother got the Bible. 3rd Where were you living when called into service; where he you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live? I lived in Shenandoah County Virginia, when I entered the Army. After the war I continued to live in the same place until the year 1802 when I moved to Greene County Tennessee, and continued there until about 5 or 6 years ago – I came to Union County Indiana where I have resided ever since. 4th How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? Him appeared – I served about 6 or 7 months. 5th state the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your services? My Captain was Joseph Rinker – Major not recollected – I was under General Stevens – I was a Lieutenant while in the service. I was at Cheraws and encamped there after which I returned home and again entered the service, and was at the taking of Cornwallis at York Virginia, during the whole term of service I was a Lieutenant and served as such, by virtue of a commission now in my possession – 6th. Did you ever receive a commission; and if so, by whom was it signed and what has become of it? I received a Commission (which was produced in Court) and is herewith transmitted.

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

[f p. 14]

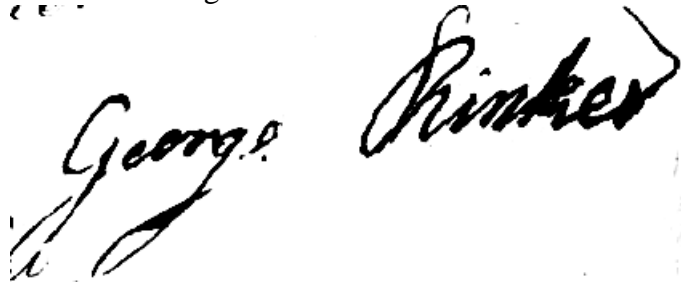


[f p. 19]

State of Indiana Union County

Be it remembered that on the 9th day of September 1833 personally appeared before me Benjamin Bone a justice of the peace for Harrison Township in said County of Union Georgia Rinker who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, that he entered the service under Jacob Rinker as stated in his declaration in the month of October 1780 and was discharged in April 1781 and that the period was not less than 6 months and that he served as Lieutenant. And that in the 2nd tour as stated in his declaration he served not less than 3 weeks as a private. That in the 3rd tour as stated in his declaration he served not less than 8 weeks as a Lieutenant and for such services I claim a pension.

S/ George Rinker

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Rinker". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[f p. 21]

State of Virginia Shenandoah County to wit

This day personally appeared before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County George Keller,<sup>1</sup> who being sworn deposes and says. That, he was acquainted with George Rinker who was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and that he knows that the said George Rinker volunteered a soldier for the term of three months under Captain Jacob Rinker, and that he marched from Stony Creek in the aforesaid County to the County of Hardy against the Tories and that he was discharged in about two or three weeks which was about the last of May 1781 –

That the said George Rinker also volunteered under the same Captain a second time about the 18 or 19 day of June in the said year 1781 that he marched from the aforesaid County of Shenandoah down to Richmond and from thence to the Burnt Ordinary some distance from Williamsburg. That your deponent believes the said George Rinker served at least one month as a soldier and was then discharged. That the said George Rinker was drafted also as a soldier in the militia and marched from Shenandoah County about the 7 day of September 1781 with Captain All or Nalle and that the said George Rinker returned home about the last of October of the same year. And that he served in the capacity of the 1st Lieutenant of said Company in this last tour.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of July 1833

S. A. Rinker, JP

S/ George Keller

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<sup>1</sup> FPA R5828

*George Rinker*

[f p. 21]

This day personally appeared before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County Christian Miller Senior<sup>2</sup> who being sworn deposes and says. That he was acquainted with George Rinker who was a soldier in the revolutionary war, and that he knows that the said George Rinker was drafted in the militia and in the same Company with himself – commanded by Captain Joseph Rinker and that the said George Rinker served as 1st Lieutenant. That the Company marched from Woodstock Virginia about the last of September or 1st of October in the year 1780 but that the said George Rinker did not go with the Company but overtook them at Hillsborough North Carolina then head quarters, after the company had been there some 3 or 4 weeks. That he served as Lieutenant during the whole period and that the Company or most of them were discharged at Pittsylvania court house but your deponent does not recollect whether the said George Rinker was then discharged or not and further that the period of my discharge was some time in the month of May 1781 reference to the declaration by which I obtain my pension will perhaps give more information about our marching and about their officers – than I can now state or give owing to my loss of memory.

S/ Christian Miller

*Christian Miller*

[Facts in file: Captain veteran died December 11, 1835; there is no reference to any spouse or children in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$95.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 21 days and as a Lieutenant for 7 months in the Virginia militia.]

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<sup>2</sup> FPA W18515