

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Presley Symmes S32546

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/31/12

[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 Indiana Montgomery County SS: Montgomery Circuit Court

On this 18th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John R Porter President Judge of the first Judicial Circuit (embracing said County) and Hon. James Still [?] one of the Associate judges of said Montgomery Circuit Court being a court of record having unlimited common law jurisdiction now sitting Presley Symmes a resident of Coal Creek Township in the County of Montgomery and State aforesaid aged seventy-nine years & seven months 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 – this

His service was in the State Troops of Virginia as a private under various engagements embracing a period of about five years. He was drafted soon after the commencement of the war at Marlborough in Stafford County in the Company commanded by Captain George Williams & George Williams Junior Lieutenant (or Ensign) in the Regiment commanded by James Garrard (or Garret) our General's name was Joseph Weedon [perhaps an erroneous reference to Brigadier General George Weedon] – petitioner [sic, petitioner?] in subsequent tours was under the command of Captain John Hardy [John Harvey?], Captain Ralph Groom, Charles Rawles & John James respectively and in the Regiment of Colonel Thomas Montjoy [Thomas Mountjoy], Colonel John Willis but cannot remember the precise length of each tour of service, resided at the time of his first enlistment near the town of Dumfries but in Stafford County – he left the service at the close of the war & received a discharge from Colonel James Garrard (afterwards Governor of Kentucky) at Marlborough aforesaid, which discharge he has lost in the lapse of time – he was in one small engagement with the British at Marlborough one other at Brent's Town [?] on the Potomac (burnt by the British) and some few other slight skirmishes but in no battle of note – was stationed upon the Potomac & his marches were for some 50 or 60 miles up & down that River to guard the coast & shipping – never served with any Continental Companies.

He knows of no documentary evidence by which he can prove his service, and although he thinks he has some comrades living in Kentucky who know of his service he cannot procure their evidence without a toil and expense to considerable for his old age & slender means. He adds that while under the command of Colonel Willis he was one of the men drafted to guard to the barracks above Winchester the prisoners taken at the surrender of Cornwallis.

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 & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Wilson, Clk  
[Albert S White and John Beard gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

S/ Presley Symmes, X his mark

[f p. 8]

Supplement

State of Indiana Montgomery County SS

On the 18th day of September 1833 personally appeared in the Circuit Court of said County now sitting in open Court Presley Symmes who being duly sworn says by way of supplemental declaration to the above that by reason of old age & 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 grade: For two years & six months I served as a private & for such service I claim a pension (this service being in different tours running through a period of five years, which tours cannot be precisely recollected for the reason aforesaid; – Deponent further says that there is no settled clergyman in his neighborhood by whom he can prove

[f p. 7] the reputation of his services it being a newly settled neighborhood Deponent further saith in answer to the interrogatories put to him by the Court & prescribed by the War Department & which are not particularly answered in the body of his above declaration, that he was born in Stafford County Virginia in the year 1753 – had a record of his age in his family Bible which is destroyed a long time ago – lived in Stafford County, Virginia from the time of the revolution until 18 years ago when he moved to Madison County Kentucky where he lived 2 years then removed to Indiana where he has since lived & now lives – he was drafted at his 1st tour & volunteered in his several subsequent tours & further saith not.

Sworn to in open Court September 18th 1833

S/ Presley Symmes, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for two years in the Virginia service.]