

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Peter Vanbibber S32566

f30VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/27/11

[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 Ripley County: SS

On this 11th day of November in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Henry B Hukill sole Judge of the Ripley County Probate Court now sitting Peter Vanbibber a resident of the County of Ripley and State of Indiana aged seventy-six 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 the 7th 1832. He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the month of October A.D. 1775 he entered the service as a volunteer and served under Colonel James Henderson, Major Thomas Quirk and Captain Matthew Arbuckle (the rest of his company officers he has forgotten). He left the service in the month of June A.D. 1777 after serving faithfully the most part of the time as and Indian spy for one year and eighteen months. He then afterwards in the month of November A.D. 1780 entered the service as a substitute for one John Dixon and served for ten months, nine under Colonel Luke Boyer (Major's name forgotten) Captain James Grimes Lieutenant John Hall & Ensign Samuel Campbell. He left the service in the month of September 1781 after serving faithfully for the ten months which added to his other term of eighteen months makes two years and four months. He then in the month of July 1782 was drafted for six months (and served five months only) under Colonel Luke Boyer, Major Thomas Quirk Captain James Grimes, Lieutenant Montgomery and Ensign Armstrong. He left the service in the month of December same year after serving faithfully the five months when he was discharged by Colonel Boyer. This third and last tour of five months added to his other two tours makes two years and nine months for which service he claims a pension. He resided at the time he entered the service and during the war in Greenbrier County Virginia. The first tour of eighteen months he volunteered, the second tour of ten months he served as a substitute, and the third and last tour of five months he was drafted. He was at the Battle of Point Pleasant [Fort Randolph] with the Indians where Colonel Lewis and a gentleman by the name of Fields were killed. He was also at the Battle of Donlays Fork [<sup>1</sup>] and at the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis on the 19th October 1781 during the first tour he marched from Donlays station to Point Pleasant where he continued garrisoned for one year and 8 months except occasionally he

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<sup>1</sup> This word is written variously throughout this application so as to appear to me to be "Donlays" in one instance, then "Donseys," then "Danlays."



will be greatly appreciated.

Any help in correctly identifying this location

was out on a scouting expedition, and in fact was looked upon as one serving in that capacity throughout all of the surrounding Country – at one time he was out for 3 weeks constantly with one Leonard Cooper and William Morris traversing the Forests for the purpose of watching the movement of the Indians who were prowling about that section of the Country – during his 3 weeks scout he marched from Donlays Station to Point Pleasant from thence to Patallico Creek from thence he went to Elk River from thence he crossed over to little [indecipherable word], from thence to Muddy Creek, from thence to John Kenney's Fort, from thence to Grimes Fort, from thence back to Donlays Station where he remained until he was discharged. During his second tour he marched from Grimes Station to Botetourt town, in Botetourt County from thence to Roanoke to Neely's Mills from thence to a place the name of which he has forgotten, from thence he marched direct to Yorktown where he remained and was at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He was then discharged. During this 2nd tour he served also for some time at Grimes station, Donlays Station and at [indecipherable word] station before he marched as he has just stated. During his 3rd and last tour he marched from Quins station (where he had also remained for some time) to Fort Chissel [Fort Chiswell] – from thence he was sent with an express through the wilderness to General Clark [George Rogers Clark] at Fort Pitt, and when he was returning back to Grimes station he met his Major with some other officers who told him that the fighting was over and that he was discharged this accounts for his leaving the service one month before the time was up for which he was drafted. This was in the month of December 1782. He was acquainted with General Washington, General Lee, General Lockard, Colonel Luke Boyer and many others. He does not now remember any Continental Regiments or companies by name who served with the troops but is confident that there were many Regulars some part of the time with him. He has no written or documentary evidence, and he knows of no person living who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he 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/ Peter Van Ber

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Van Ber". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style with a prominent flourish at the end.

[Meshach Hyatt and Samuel Gaskins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Answers to the 7 Questions Prescribed by the War Department

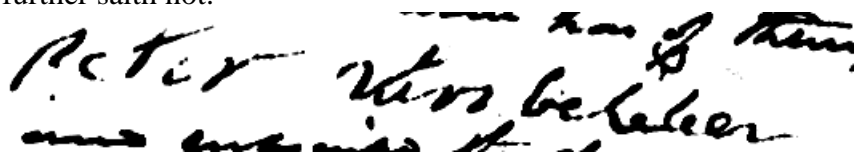
1<sup>st</sup> Answer. I was born in Botetourt County on the 5th of August 1757 Answer to 2nd Question I have no record of my age I only speak from what my parents have told me. Answer to 3rd Question I was called into service I was residing in Greenbrier County Virginia and continued to reside there until the war was over from thence I removed to the State of Ohio where I remained for many years when I removed to the County of Ripley Inda. where I now reside. Answer to 4th Question The first tour I volunteered, the 2nd I served as a substitute for one John Dixon the other tour I was drafted. Answer to 5th Question I can't state the names of General Washington, General Lee, General Lockard, Colonel Luke Boyer and many others. I cannot recollect the name of any Continental Regiment or companies or of any militia regiments or companies who were with the troops where I served but I know that there were such other troops. The general circumstances of my service are stated with him. Answer to 6th Question I never received any

other discharge than mere verbal ones from my commanding officers. They told me that there orders to me were sufficient. Answer 7th question Inquire of James Montgomery & John Campbell, Samuel Gaskins, Arnold Peckham and all who know me.

[f p 28]

State of Indiana Ripley County: SS

On this 19th day of December A.D. 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the peace in and for the said County of Ripley Peter Vanbibber the above named applicant for a pension under the act of June 7th 1832 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Amendment to his former declaration (herewith sent) (to wit) He was not only "in readiness to serve" as the Department have supposed from the month of October 1775 until the month of June 1777 – he was actively on duty subject to the command of Colonel James Henderson, Major Quirk &c &c as he has mentioned in his Declaration (see declaration) and when he acted as an Indian spy it was agreeable to the orders of his officers, and when he was not on duty as a spy he was in station at "Donlays Station" with many other troops, who were there. During his other two tours (to wit) ten months as a substitute for John Dixon and also the tour of five months, when he was employed he was constantly on duty subject to the command of his officers as mentioned within (see declaration). Here again he will remark that the Department have certainly mistaken the nature of his service: When he was not engaged in marches against the Enemy he was stationed at the various places mentioned within and had his various terms of duty as a sentry &c &c [several indecipherable words] that he has made some mistake in his stations as it names time, place, &c &c but at this remote point he cannot be more precise, there are also some short tours which he performed which he has omitted to mention in consequence of the indistinct recollection which she now has of them, and further saith not.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter Vanbibber". There are some faint, illegible markings above and below the main signature.

[facts in file: There is a note that the veteran died October 8, 1838.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 2 months service as a private in the Virginia service.]