

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Reubin (Reuben) Graves S3408
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

VA

Tennessee }
Jackson County } October Term 1832 of the Circuit Court

Be it remembered that at a Circuit Court of Law and Equity held for the County aforesaid at the Courthouse in Gainesboro, present the honorable Nathaniel W. Williams Judge. On this 2^d day of October 1832 Reuben Graves of said County, aged about seventy two years, personally appeared in open Court, and thereupon being first duly sworn according to Law, and the interrogatories required by the rules of the War department being propounded said applicant doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed 7 June 1832. towit That he entered the service of the United States in the Virginia Militia as a substitute for his father John Graves in the latter part of February, or early in March 1776 in the company commanded by Captain Peter Rodgers in the regiment commanded by Colo. Lewis Burrell [sic: Lewis Burwell] in Brig. Gen'l. David Mason's brigade, that he was mustered into service in Halifax County, Virginia, at a place called Dobe's old store, that he was then between fifteen & sixteen years of age, but being stout and well grown for his age, and well known to the captain, he was received as a substitute for his father as aforesaid – that he was marched to Guilford court house No. Carolina, thence to Salisbury where he remained about two months – thence to Mecklinburg County, & thence to Camden in South Carolina, where he was discharged on the 23^d day of May 1776, then being 16 years old. As well as he recollects he was mustered into service for a tour of five months, but was discharged before the expiration of the time as aforesaid his discharge was signed by Gen'l. Mason, and the same has been lost.

That afterwards, about the 8th January 1781 he again entered the service of the United States in the Virginia Militia, being drafted for a three months tour, in the company commanded by Captain Charles Wall – he served in Col Glemin's regiment, in Gen'l Muhlenburg's [sic: Peter Muhlenberg's] brigade – that he was mustered into service at Petersburg [sic: Petersburg], Virginia, marched to Cabbin point [sic: Cabin Point on James River in Surry County], thence into the County of Nansemond (the British then being in Portsmouth) and that he continued in the section of Country above Portsmouth until he was discharged from service (at a place called Babb's old field in the County of Isle of Wight as well as he recollects.) on the 8th April 1781. His discharge for this tour signed by Capt Wall has been preserved and is herewith exhibited.

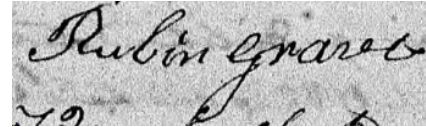
That afterwards in the latter part of August or early in September 1781 he again entered the service of the United States in the Virginia Militia (being drafted for a three months tour) in the company commanded by Captain Fleming Bates in General [Edward] Stevens' brigade – that he was mustered into service in Halifax County, that he marched to Yorktown where he remained until Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781] – that he was then sent with the prisoners until they were met by the Maryland troops and that he was discharged from service as well as he recollects in Leesburg about 13 November 1781. His discharge was signed by Capt. Bates, and he believes recited that he had assisted in guarding the prisoners as aforesaid, and for this he was to have a credit for a three months tour in addition to the one for which he was drafted – which discharge has been lost.

Said applicant further shews that a noted Tory Dr. Thomas Smith, who had been taken prisoner and carried into Maryland, afterwards escaped, and the captain of the company in which applicant resided hearing that he was probably in the neighborhood called upon him to assist in retaking said Smith. Said applicant accordingly went with Capt. George Willis and took said Smith; and by the directions of Col. John Coleman guarded said Smith to Frederickburg [sic: Fredericksburg] distant about two hundred miles from the residence of said applicant. and having produced the receipt of Capt. Barbe for the body of said Smith to Colo Coleman, he gave said applicant a certificate in substance reciting this service and declaring that the same should entitle him to a credit for a tour of militia duty. This took

place about March 1782 and said certificate has been lost.

Said applicant further states that he was born in the County of Spotsylvania, State of Virginia as he has been informed and believes on the 23^d day of May 1760. hat the record of his age is thus set forth in an old family bible of his fathers from which said applicant transcribed his age into one of his own. He does not know where his fathers bible is. He resided in the County of Halifax as hereinbefore set forth at the different times he entered the service of the United States – that he removed from said County of Halifax in the year 1805, and settled on Wartrace creek in Jackson County Tennessee where he has since resided. That he has no documentary evidence of his service in the army of the revolution except the discharge herein before refered to, & herewith exhibited That Daniel Ramsey, & Matthew Brooks, of said County of Jackson and Miles West a clergyman living in the adjoining County of Smith have been long and well acquainted with applicant to whose annexed affidavits he refers – and said applicant knows of no further testimony in this state that he can adduce in support of 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, and this is his first application for a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year first aforesaid



[The following discharge is extremely faded.]

April 8th 1781

This may Certify that Reubin Graves served in my Company [several illegible words] hereby Discharged from that service. [signed] Charles Wall Captain

Tennessee } May Sessions 1833 of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County.
Jackson County }

Be it remembered Reuben Graves, applicant for a Pension in the foregoing declaration, this day towit 14 May 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices thereof in session towit David Apple, John M Carver & Tandy K. Witcher and the said Reuben Graves being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following amendment to his former declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 1832. towit. Said Reuben Graves deposeth 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 in the different tours set out in his said original declaration, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in each & every of the tours of service, he served in the grade of a private. towit. That in the year 1776 when he entered the army as a substitute for his father, as before set forth, he served in the grade of a private, not less than two months and a half.

That in the year 1781 when he entered the army in January of that year, he served in the grade of a private not less than three months.

That afterwards in said year 1781 when he again entered the army, he served in the grade of a private not less than two months and a half. And these are the tours of service set out in his original declaration and to which this is an amendment – and the same for which he claims a pension

