

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abraham Grooms S3419

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/4/14

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

The State of Ohio Adams County: Court of Common Pleas October Term 1833 SS

On this 20th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable George J Smith President of the 7th Judicial Circuit Robert Morris and John Kincaid and Samuel McClanahan Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Abraham Grooms a resident of the County of Adams and State of Ohio aged ninety-three 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 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. On the first Tour he does not now recollect the name of the General. Colonel Philip Pendleton commanded the Regiment the officers commanding the Company to which he was attached was Captain Benjamin Baylor Lieutenant Andrew McCormick and Ensign James Matheny – that he was drafted in the Militia in Barkley [Berkeley] County Virginia in the month of August in the year 1777 and served in the Militia three months on the said tour. That he did not receive any discharge but was marched home under his Captain Baylor. That at the time he entered the service he resided in Barkley County Virginia. That he was not in any Battle, that he was marched from Barkley County Virginia to the neighborhood of Philadelphia and from thence to the Rising Sun, and Continued in the neighborhood of the Rising Sun until his time expired, that he did not serve with any Continental Regiment or Company but the day his term expired the Company was marched up to General Potter's quarters and there dismissed that he has no documentary evidence in support of his claim. And the said Abraham Grooms doth further declare upon his solemn oath that he again was drafted in the Militia in Barkley County Virginia about the first of July 1781 and immediately entered the service of the United States. His Company officers were Captain William Vandever the subaltern officers not recollected. That he was discharged about the first day of October 1781 that he cannot produce his discharge or save what has become of it, that he does not at this time recollect the rank and names of any of his officers but that of his Captain that he resided in Barkley County at the time he was drafted and marched off in the service of the United States, that he was not in any Battle during the second tour. That his Company and he with it was marched from Barkley County Virginia to Pamunkey River where the Company was detained some time and from thence he was marched to Williamsburg where they joined the French troops and continued there till discharged, that he has no documentary evidence to offer in support of this claim. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

Interrogatories required

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. Near the Gun Powder falls in the State of Maryland but when young my father moved to York County Pennsylvania from thence to Barkley County Virginia where I resided until I came to this County about 34 years ago where I have continued to reside ever since.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

[Ans.] I was living in Barkley County Virginia at the time I was called into the service. Since the revolutionary war I lived in Barkley County Virginia a few years and then removed to this County where I 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?

[Ans.] I was drafted each time

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 service.

[Ans.] The infirmities of old age has so impaired my memory that I cannot at this day recollect the names of any officers except that of Colonel Philip Pendleton, Captains Baylor and Vandever Lieutenant McCormick and Ensign Matheny. I recollect to have seen General Lafayette on horseback commanding the troops.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

[Ans.] On the first Tour I received no discharge, at the conclusion of the 2nd tour I received a discharge signed by William Decamps (his rank not recollected) the discharge has long since been lost. I supposed when I received it it would not ever be of any use to me and therefore took no care of it.

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

[Ans.] In compliance with the above I will state the names of the Reverend William Page, the Reverend Christopher Wamsley and Judge Dinning

S/ Abraham Grooms, X his mark

[Christopher Wamsley, a clergyman, and Benjamin Satterfield gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Be it remembered that on the 20th day of October in the year aforesaid personally appeared in open Court Benjamin Satterfield of full age and being sworn in due form of law deposeth and saith that he formerly resided in Berkeley County Virginia and a near neighbor to the aforesaid Abraham Grooms; that he has been acquainted with the said Grooms ever since this deponent was a small boy; that the said Abraham Grooms was drafted in the Militia in Berkeley County in the year 1781 and served a 3 months tour; that he returned to his home in the County aforesaid in the fall of that year and that this deponent was at the house of the said Abraham Grooms when he returned home. This deponent frequently heard it talked of in the neighborhood by the neighbors that the said Abraham Grooms had performed the first tour in the Militia, stated in his foregoing

declaration but being young at that time, cannot now recollect the facts so as to state the particulars & does not now remember the time of his starting on the tour or of his returning home.

S/ Benjamin Satterfield, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]