

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Archelaus Merritt S36124

VA

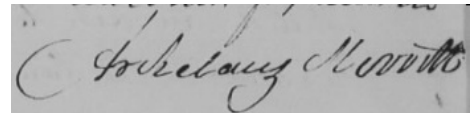
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 12 Oct 2020.

State of Kentucky

Fifth Judicial District St

On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of July 1821 personally appeared in open court towit in the Jefferson Circuit Court being a court of record, with power to fine & imprison and whose proceedings are enrolled & signed Archelaus Merritt, a resident of said County of Jefferson in said District, which said County comprises the Jefferson Circuit, aged about 61 years who being first sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war between Great Britain & the U States as follows: that he entered the company commanded by Captain Lovely [William L. Lovely BLWt1302-300] at Chesterfield old Court house in the spring of 1781, that in a short time he marched toward the point of Fork [at the confluence of James and Rivanna rivers, 28 May 1781] & marched to & fro in Virginia till the fall, when the company took up Winter Quarters at Cumberland old Court house, that a short time after he entered the company Capt Lovely left it & Capt afterwards Major Sam'l. Finley [Samuel Finley W10026] took command, and in a short time Captain Abraham Kirkpatrick [[BLWt1210-300] took command of the Company and commanded it until the deponent was discharged at Cumberland old Court House in the fall 1782. He states that he served 18 months as aforesaid. He states that it is not in his power to state, to what regiment he belonged, but he states that the field officers by whome he was commanded were first Major Poulson [John Poulson BLWt1734-400 ], then Colonel Gaskins [Thomas Gaskins BLWt867-450], Colo. Tho. Posey [Thomas Posey BLWt1733-450] and by Colonel Christian Fibiger [sic: Christian Febiger VAS675], who commanded at the time of this deponents discharge. He states that his service was in the Virginia line on the continental establishment. He states that he received a written discharge signed by Gen'l. Peter Muhlenberg [BLWt1495-850], but that it is long since lost or destroyed; and he solemnly swears that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property or securities contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed towit a part of a set of Waggon making tools consisting of 5 augers, two good axes, one good plain, three drawing knives, one foot adz; and also one pot & a few dishes & plates, four knives & forks, and timber already gotten out enough to make six or seven wheels.

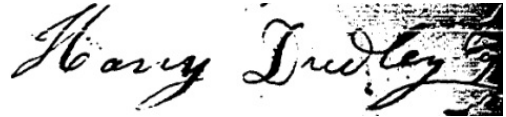
This declarant states that he is by occupation a farmer, that latterly he has done a little at the Waggon makers business; that his wife the woman with whom he lived 28 years is living, about 48 years of age; that he had by her seven children, three sons & four daughters none of whom are now living with him nor have been for nearly four years – that he never was married to the sd woman that he now lives alone he is feeble in health & has been at intervals lame for many years on account of pains in his hips

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Archelaus Merritt". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

March 17<sup>th</sup> 1783 This is to Sertify that archalas Merrit servd three years a soldier in the second state Regment under my Command as Capt.

Harry Dudley [Henry Dudley R13891]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry Dudley". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized, with a prominent flourish at the end of the name.

NOTE: A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse lists the following: Achilles Merit, age 21, height 5' 10", light hair, grey eyes, fair complexion, planter, born and residing in Essex County where he enlisted as a substitute on 10 Apr 1781 for 18 months, having previously served three years in the "2 S Reg't." Merritt may not have mentioned his service in the 2<sup>nd</sup> State Regiment in his pension application because only service in the Continental Establishment counted under the acts of 1818 and 1820.