

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Owls (Owl) S36713

f24VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

1/1/13: rev'd 6/12/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

This to Certify that the bearer Robert Owls a yellow man who says he is now an Inhabitant of Jefferson County served as a Soldier in my Regiment to the South the years 1799 [sic] & 1780 & was considered & said to be freeborn. Given under my hand at Frankfort Kentucky November 7th 1802

S/ A. Buford [Abraham Buford]

Chs. Scott M. Gl. [Charles Scott, Major General]

A Copy

George Pope
Louisville

[p 16]

Opelousas Louisiana 27 May 1818

Sir

Robert Owls, a yellow man near eighty years old who lately came to this State from Kentucky, learning that Congress had passed an act granting pensions to old, infirm & indigent Soldiers of the Revolutionary War has handed me the enclosed paper which he requests may be forwarded to the War Office as the only document which he can now produce to substantiate his claim to benefits of the Act in question. –

He says his regular discharge which was given to him in Richmond Virginia (he thinks by a Gentleman named McCray) has long since been lost, that it is so long since he received a discharge that it would be difficult if possible to procure the Testimony of any Gentleman of the Army who served at the time he did to establish his claim but is in hopes the Records of the War Office may be found to corroborate some of the following facts which he hopes will entitle him to be placed on the pension List. – His narrative is this – That he was drafted to serve in the militia of Princess Anne County Virginia, and before the expiration of the term for which he was so drafted he enlisted himself in the regular [Army] and Served under Captain Wallis [Andrew Wallace]¹ who was killed at Buford's [Abraham Buford's] defeat when the narrator was slightly wounded in the Head; that he afterwards served under Capt. Morgan [Simon Morgan] was wounded at the Battle of Eutaw Springs² having his left leg broke by a musket Ball at which time

¹ Battle of the Waxhaws, May 29, 1780.

https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_waxhaws.html

² September 8, 1781 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

his wound was dressed by Doct. Johnson & Doct. Clements both at that time Surgeons in the Army. He states further that he continued in the Army to the close of the War & received his discharge in the year 1782. –

Any information which you may be kind enough to give me concerning the present application will be immediately communicated to the poor old man at whose request I write.

I have the honor to be with very great respect Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

S/ Levin Wailes

[p 4]

On this 31st day of July 1818 before me George King Judge in & for the Parish of St. Landry in the State of Louisiana personally appeared Robert Owles [sic] a free man of Color who being first Sworn deposed That from the information obtained from his parents he is in the eightieth year of his age; That he served as a Soldier in the Army of the United States from the year 1775 to the close of the Revolutionary War; first in the Company of Capt. Andrew Wallace in Col. Buford's Regiment under the command of General Scott [Charles Scott] & afterwards in the company of Capt. Morgan in Col. Campbell's [Lt. Col. Richard Campbell's] Regiment under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. – The deponent further saith that he received a Slight wound in his head at Buford's defeat at a place called Hanging Rock and that at the Battle of Eutaw Spring he received a wound from a musket shot in the left leg which has never been entirely healed to the present time, and from which he has suffered great pain. – The deponent further saith that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his Country for Support –

S/ Robert Owls, X his mark

[p 13]

State of Louisiana Parish of St. Landry, SS }

On this nineteenth day of July in the year 1819, before me the Subscriber Judge in and for the aforesaid Parish and ex officio Judge of Probate and Notary Public in the aforesaid State of Louisiana, personally appeared Robert Owls a free man of color aged about eighty one years, resident in the aforesaid State and Parish, who, being by me first duly sworn, according to Law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war"

That he, the said Robert Owls enlisted for the term of three years on the __ day of __ in the year 1775 or 1776 in Essex County in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Andrew Wallace of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Abram Buford in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental Establishment, that previous to the expiration of the said three years he enlisted in Captain Morgans company in Colonel Campbell's Regiment for during the War; that he continued to serve in the said Corps, until the war ended, when he was discharged from service in the City of Richmond State of Virginia, in the year 1783. – That he was in the battle of the hanging rock, where he was slightly wounded in the head, and in the battle of the Eutaw Springs where he was wounded in the left leg which was broke and the wound has never been entirely cured, and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

Sworn and declared before me the day and year aforesaid.
S/ Geo. King, Judge in & for the Parish of St. Landry

[p 21]

State of Louisiana Parish of Saint Landry} SS

Be it remembered. That at a Parish Court held in and for the Parish of Saint Landry in the State of Louisiana, at the Court house of said Parish on Monday the 7th day of August in the year of our Lord 1820 Present George King Esquire Judge, comes Robert Owl and here in Open Court took and subscribed the oath required by an act of Congress Approved May 1st 1820, entitled "An act in addition to "an act entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and Naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war," passed the 18th of March 1818" – which oath is in the words following to wit. I Robert Owl do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed – The said Robert Owl also presented to the court here a schedule of his property, which he signed, and is as follows viz.

Seven paint Brushes

Four paint Buckets

whereupon it is the opinion of the Court, that the said property is worth the sum of three dollars and seventy five cents.

[p 7]

Schedule of Property Owned by Robert Owl or Owls a Pensioner of the United States

One Shuck bed worth about	\$2
One Blanket do do	3
Pair of Shoes and two suits of ordinary wearing apparel worth about ten dollars	10
Two Small Iron pots worth about two dollars	2
One big Iron pot worth about four dollars	4
One hat worth about	<u>3</u>
	\$24

The above Schedule contains a true and faithful list and inventory of all the goods and effects of which I am possessed – Opelousas 9th Sept. 1822

S/ Robert Owl, X his mark

I Robert Owl do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 19th day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale or in any manner

whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March in the year 1818, and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me any property or Securities Contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule annexed and by me Subscribed." –

S/ Robert Owl, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing July 19, 1819, for service as a private for 7 years in the Virginia Continental Army.]

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

This may Certify that the bearer Robert Owls was an 18 months Soldier in my Battalion his time of service commenced the 25th April 1779, he before discharged reenlisted to serve during the War. He the said Owls has not to my knowledge received any pay since the 31st of December 1779. Given under my hand at Richmond this 2nd day of June 1783.

S/ A. Buford, Colo. [Abraham Buford]
11th Virga. Regt.

(A Copy)
J. Pendleton

Richmond June 2nd, 1783

I do certify that Robert Owls enlisted in the Virginia Continental Line to serve during the War on the 18th of March 1781 & has not received any Pay.

S/ M. Clements [Mace Clements]
Surgeon 11th V. Regt.
A Buford Colo.

(A Copy)
J. Pendleton

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

This may Certify that the bearer Robert Owls was an 18 months Soldier in my Battalion his time of service commenced the 25th April 1779, he before discharged reenlisted to serve during the War. He the said Owls has not to my knowledge received any pay since the 31st of December 1779. Given under my hand at Richmond this 2nd day of June 1783.

S/ A. Buford, Colo. [Abraham Buford]
11th Virga. Regt.

(A Copy)
J. Pendleton

Richmond June 2nd, 1783

I do certify that Robert Owls enlisted in the Virginia Continental Line to serve during the War on the 18th of March 1781 & has not received any Pay.

S/ M. Clements [Mace Clements]

Surgeon 11th V. Regt.

A Buford Colo.

(A Copy)

J. Pendleton