

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Reuben Stivers (Stiver) S37463

f30VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/28/12 rev'd 2/4/16

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of Kentucky Fayette County and Circuit Sct.

Before the Subscriber one of the Circuit Judges of the State aforesaid this day personally appeared Reuben Stivers an inhabitant of the said County, who by me being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration and statement, 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 forces of the United States in the Revolutionary War:"

That he the said Stivers entered into the service of the United States late in the spring or beginning of the summer 1775 as a minute man, under Captain Joseph Spencer of Orange County in the State of Virginia: that in the Spring of the year 1776 he enlisted as a regular soldier in the Company of the said Captain Spencer belonging to the 7th Virginia Regiment of the Continental line: that he continued to serve as a soldier and a musician in said Corps, or in the service of the United States, until sometime in the fall of the year 1778 when he was discharged by Alexander McClanahan (Colonel) he thinks at the Valley Forge in the State of Pennsylvania; that he was in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4, 1777], and Monmouth [June 28, 1778]; that he is now in the sixtieth year of his age; that he is in reduced circumstances, decrepit, unable to gain his subsistence by labor and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support; that he has no other evidence now in his power except what accompanies this Certificate; and that he has never received a pension from the United States.

Sworn to and declared before the Subscriber the 17th day of June 1818.

At the same time and place aforesaid also appeared before the Subscriber James Ball who being first duly sworn according to law deposes that he is well acquainted with the aforesaid Reuben Stivers, being a neighbor of him & having known him for many years; that the said Stivers is extremely poor, and is the deponent believes unable to support himself either by his labor or from any property which he made happen to possess, and if he possesses any it is some useless articles.

Sworn to this 17th day of June 1818

At the same time and place aforesaid likewise appeared John Nelson<sup>1</sup> who being first

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<sup>1</sup> [John Nelson S35537](#)

duly sworn according to law deposes that he served first as an Ensign & afterwards as a Lieutenant in the aforementioned 7th Virginia Regiment; that he knew him personally during his service therein the aforesaid Reuben Stivers; and that he believes he served the period by him declared.

Sworn to this\_\_ day of June 1818

[Attested by Benjamin Johnson Judge]

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State of Kentucky Fayette Circuit Court June Term 1820


Be it remembered that Reuben Stivers this day appeared in open Court and produced a schedule of his property under the Act of Congress of May 1st 1820 which is ordered to be entered of record. District of Kentucky SS Fayette Circuit; On this 13th day of July 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the said district, and circuit of Fayette County Reuben Stivers aged 62 years, resident in the County of Fayette in said district, who, being 1st duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War, as follows:

He enlisted in Captain Spencer's Company of the Virginia Regiment 7th commanded by Colonel A. McClanahan of General Woodford's Brigade on Continental establishment in Orange County Virginia in the year 1776 as a musician to serve for three years; continued in service till the expiration of his term of service when he was discharged by Colonel McClanahan at the Valley Forge camp in Pennsylvania. He was in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth and afterwards long since wounded badly in St. Clair's defeat [Sinclair's defeat, The Battle of Pea Ridge, Battle of Wabash, Battle of Thousand Slain, November 4, 1791 in the Indian Wars], and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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. He has no property except one bed, which he is informed need not be valued. By occupation formally a Cooper and drum maker – but cannot now work but very little owing to age and bodily infirmity. My family consists of my wife aged 59 [?, very faint]<sup>2</sup> years who has for several years been almost entirely helpless – no land – no income – Captain E. Craig deceased owes me \$16 which I never expect to get. Brig. Genl Bend South deceased \$20 and about 8 or \$10 besides from different persons, which I never expect to get; I know about \$50 which I shall be forced to pay if I am ever able.

S/ Reuben Stivers<sup>3</sup>

[p 14: letters of administration of the estate of Reuben Stivers, deceased issued on motion of "Rossel P. Stivers" in March Court 1828 Fayette County Kentucky]

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<sup>2</sup> could be 69 or even 39: In its summary of the facts in this file, the War Department listed her age as 59.

<sup>3</sup> same handwriting as the balance of the document and therefore unlikely to be the actual signature of the veteran

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 17, 1818, for service as a musician for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

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The [Virginia State Library](#) online collection relating to bounty land claims issued by that state contains the following documents relating to this veteran:

Kentucky Fayette County

Reuben Stiver made oath before me a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath that in the year 1777 he enlisted for during the War in the Company commanded by Captain Joseph Spencer of the 7th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel McClanahan, and that he continued to serve in said Court until the close of the War in the year 1783 when he was honorably discharged as a Drummer or drum Major and that he has lost the discharge that Colonel Richard Parker gave him. And that he has never received his land warrant.

S/ Reuben Stivers, X his mark

Sworn before made this 7th day of September 1822

S/ R. J. [?] Todd, JP

Kentucky Fayette County Sct.

William Stivers made oath before me a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath that he was well acquainted with the above named Reuben Stivers in the Revolutionary War and knows that said Reuben Stivers enlisted for during the War and did serve to the end thereof and was honorably discharged in the year 1783 as a Drum Major as he has stated in his affidavit within.

S/ William Stivers,<sup>4</sup> X his mark

Sworn to before made this 7th day of September 1822

S/ R. J. Todd, JP

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<sup>4</sup> Also certainly the same man as [William Styvers S37465](#)