

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Joshua Fry S37947

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Garrard County to wit

On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 1833 personally appeared, in open court, before the county court of Garrard County now sitting, Joshua Fry a resident of the said county in the state of Kentucky, aged seventy three years, who first being 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the summer or fall of the year 1779 according to the best of his recollection, this affiant being a student of William & Mary college in Williamsburg (Virginia) from Albemarle county in that state, entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the Militia of Virginia under Capt. William Nelson and William Short now of Philadelphia lieutenant, was marched from Williamsburg to Hampton, and there placed under the command of Colo. Thos Marshal [sic: Thomas Marshall] a regular officer in the Virginia line; he remained in service as long as the british fleet remained in Hampton road [sic: Hampton Roads]. Soon after it left the road, this applicant was discharged. He does not recollect the precise time he was in service on this occasion, but supposes, to reckon from the day of departure from Williamsburg to the day of his return thither (the distance to Hampton being about thirty six miles) not much less than a month was spend. The detachment had no conflict with the enemy the british not having landed on the north side of James river, but did much mischief on the south with land forces under general Matthews [sic: Edward Mathew, in May 1779] if he mistakes not. He knows of no one now living except Mr. William Short above mentioned who was on this expedition.

As soon as it was known to this affiant that Arnold had invaded the state and actually reached Richmond its Capital [Gen. Benedict Arnold, 5 Jan 1781] he turned out as a volunteer finding his own horse & at Richmond joined a company of volunteer horse from Louisa & Hanover counties, under the command of Capt. William O. Callis [William Overton Callis, pension application W6645] From Richmond he was marched to Williamsburg and thence to Hampton and served in the company as vidette to the american army which lay at Williamsburg under general [George] Weedon during the winter & spring untill the latter end of April 1781. The british fleet lay in Hampton road and Elizabeth river and their army occupied Norfolk and Portsmouth during this time. There was no fighting of importance, the company to which he belonged was employed principally in patrolling the country about Hampton. On one occasion a part of of the company took a small raiding vessel that had run aground a little above Hampton. On another occasion the enemy under Colo. Dundas made a movement against Colo. Charles Dabney who was stationed at the halfway house between York & Hampton the movement failed by the retreat of Dabney the night preceeding in the direction of York & Dundas retreated to his shipping at Newport news. Our troops being on his rear were drawn into an ambuscade [at Tompkins Bridge near Big Bethel in present Hampton, 8 Mar 1781], but escaped without loss. Dundas was met on his retreat by Colo. Malory [sic: Francis Mallory] and a few Militia of Elizabeth city county, who were quickly dispersed the Colo & his nephew being killed & some others wounded. In the early part of September following this affiant [as a?] private soldier joined a company of Albemarle militia under Capt. Benjamin Harris, marched to Williamsburg one hundred and forty five or fifty miles to the main army under General Washington preparing to lay siege to Cornwallis then fortified in Yorktown, & continued therewith untill the surrender of the british army [19 Oct 1781]. After the capitulation this affiant marched to Nolen's ferry on the Potowmac [sic: Noland's Ferry on Potomac River] with a division of the surrendering army destined for Frederick town in Maryland. This division of the british army was received on the northern bank of the river by the Maryland militia & the guard from York discharged. This affiant reached his home in Albemarle about the middle of November having been delayed a day or

two on his way by attendance on his sick Captain. At Williamsburg he was promoted from the ranks to a lieutenancy in which capacity he served during the siege & march to potowmac. Colo. Holt Richeson commanded the regiment and General [Robert] Lawson the brigade to which Capt Harris's company was attached.

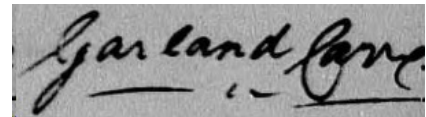
The brother of this affiant William A. Fry [S30425] joined Capt. Callis's corps from the ranks of the infantry but at what period I do not now recollect he also served at the siege of York but did not, owing I believe to sickness, escort the prisoners to the Potowmac. This affiant has no documentary evidence of his several services or discharges. 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 or if on any on that of the state of Virginia. The time of service as stated above may be thus computed three weeks for the tour from Williamsburg, Three and a half months in that under Callis & two months in the one that ended at the delivery of the prisoners on the bank of the potomac forming in the aggregate rather more than six months.

Joshua Fry

The affidavit of Garland Carr of the County of Albemarle & state of Virginia, of Lawful age made at the request of Mr. Joshua Fry of the State of Kentucky:

This affiant being first sworn saith:

That in consequence of the lapse of fifty odd years and the age of this affiant, (his memory never very tenacious) what he has to say is necessarily faintly remembered so far as minute particulars are concerned: but he well recollects that soon after the traitor Arnold invaded the State of Virginia this affiant, and several other young gentlemen volunteered their services to raise a Troop of Cavalry to be commanded by Capt. Wm. O. Callis – that they rendezvous'd at Richmond where they were organized & where they were joined by Joshua Fry & his brother Wm. A. Fry. That the troop entered into the service of the State of Virginia, as well as this affiant recollects, early in the month of January 1781. This affiant cannot charge his memory as to the precise time of the continuance of the Troop in service, as he left it on furlough some time before it was discharged; which discharge he thinks took place about the last of April of the same year; so that the term of its service may have been between three & four months: & further this affiant saith not.

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