

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Rayburn (Raiborne) S38324

f45VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/8/12 supp'd 4/26/15

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Virginia to wit,

This day before me the Subscriber, one of the judges of the General Court of Virginia personally appeared George Rayburn, aged 62 years, resident in the City of Richmond State aforesaid, who being 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 & naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War:"

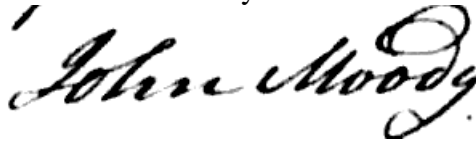
That he the said George Rayburn enlisted in the County of Chesterfield, in said State, as a Fifer, in the Company of Captain William Fowler, of the 5th Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment, which Regiment was commanded by Colonel John Neville; that he enlisted as aforesaid in the month of March 1778; that he continued to serve in the same Company & Regiment (as Fifer) till the spring of 1780, when he was taken Prisoner at Charleston (South Carolina) [May 12th, 1780] together with the besieged Army, from thence was carried to Halifax (N. S.) [Nova Scotia] and not exchanged 'till the peace: that he was in the Battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778], at Powles Hook [Paulus Hook, August 19, 1779] and at the Siege of Charleston: That he is in reduced Circumstances & 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, except the Certificate of John Moody (who was a Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania line) which is hereto annexed.

Sworn to & declared before me, this 6th day of June 1818

S/ Wm Brockenbrough

I Certify that I well knew George Rayburn a Musician who played the Fife in the Revolutionary War belonging to the 5th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Neville I well recollect Mr. Rayburn in that Regiment when I was an officer in the Pennsylvania Troops in several Detachments of that Corps Mr. Rayburn often acted as a Fifer for several Detachments on duty and I well remember him when the Army lay at Smith's Cove in the State of New York. I have known Mr. Raybourn for upwards of twenty years being generally attached to all the Recruiting parties at this place so far as comes within my knowledge I have often heard the officers here speak of Mr. Rayburn's character as being a Sober, Industrious, Musician who might be Depended upon in any manner he was employed. Given under my Hand at the City of Richmond State of Virginia this 18th day of January 1818 & 42nd year of the American Independence.

S/ John Moody¹



Schedule

District of Virginia SS

On this 9th day of August 1820, personally appeared in open court, being a court of record for the County of Henrico George Rayburn aged Sixty-five years a resident in the City of Richmond in said district, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows: in the 5th Virginia Regiment in Captain William Fowler's Company on the Continental line in the Revolutionary war and his original declaration was dated the 6th day of June 1818 and the number of his Pension certificate 7071

And I 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

that he has no real nor personal estate and that his Occupation is a fifer and does not possess the ability at all times to perform that duty and that his family consist of a Wife forty years of age and that he stands in need of the assistance of his country for support.

S/ George Rayburn, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 6, 1818, for service as a fifer for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Mecklenburg County Legislative Petitions

To the Honourable the Speakers and Members of the General Assembly of Virginia. –

The petition of George Raiborne [sic] most respectfully Sheweth, that your petitioner, on the 16th day of March 1778 enlisted as a Fifer into the company of Capt. Falkner in which William Fowles was Lieut.; to serve in the sixth Virginia Regiment for the term of three years or during the War that by different derangements in the Virginia line, your petitioner became a Fifer in the Second Virginia detachment commanded by Col. John Nevell and ordered to South Carolina that on the 12th day of May 1780 he was taken prisoner in Charles Town, that after having sustained a grievous confinement on board of a prison Ship for nine months (in which time a great many of his brother soldiers perished) he attempted to make his escape, but was retaken and immediately put on board the British *Hornet* Sloop of War, that she sailed first to the West Indies, from thence to the East, and to numberless other British Stations, – that during a hard and severe service for 15 years, which was rendered additionally so being impressed into a

¹ FPA R7303

Service in which your petitioner laments, that he was compelled to contend with his own Countrymen, at one time, and then with the faithful allies the French, at another, that your petitioner, during the time aforesaid may no less than seven different attempts to throw himself into the arms of his countrymen, but all to no purpose, but still your petitioner never ceased to sigh for a return to his native land, that on the 22nd day of February 1795 he made his escape from the *Thetis* frigate, commanded by Capt. Cochran [probably Alexander Cochrane, uncle of the famous Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald] then lying at Norfolk; That in consequence of his confinement, aforesaid, your petitioner was prevented from making an earlier application for his pay, and depreciation also his bounty in land. Your Petitioner therefore prays, that the auditor of public accounts be directed to issue a Certificate for his pay, and depreciation your petitioner is entitled to as a bounty for his services, & and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c &c

It appears by the books in this office that the within mentioned George Raiborne has not received a Certificate for his services in the Continental Army.

S/ Jno. Carter

Aud: Office 22 Nov. 96

[Reverse]

George Raiborne's Petition

December 12, 97

To Claims

Reasonable

Reported

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Addendum to George Rayburn (Raiborne) S38324

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 20 Jan 2021.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Raiborne, George.]

I certify that George Raiborne was a fifer in the 2nd Detachment of Virginia Ordered to South Carolina under Colo. John Nevill [BLWt1595-500]; that at the reduction of Charles Town in May 1780 [surrender of Charleston, 12 May 1780] he was made a prisoner, and was carried off with several other Musicians by the Brittish and that he never returned to this country, to the best of my knowledge & belief, untill the arrival of the Thetis frigate of War off Norfolk, when he made his Escape from her.

Given under my Hand

Henry Moss [BLWt1504-300] Capt
in the late War

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry Moss". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "H".