

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Joel Ramsey S39031

NC

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 Nov 2014.

Virginia:

At a Court held for Russell County the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 1818.

Joel Ramsey who resides in the County of Russell in this State, wishing to become a pensioner pursuant to the provision of an Act of Congress of the United States passed on the 18<sup>th</sup>. day of March 1818, entitled, an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” personally appeared in Court & declared on his oath, that he enlisted as a private soldier in the 4th Regt of the North Carolina line commanded by Colo Thomas Clark, and served in Capt Goodmans [William Goodman’s] company; he does not recollect the year, but he was in the first detachment that marched to Wilmington. He enlisted for three years and served his time faithfully. He went from Wilmington to Philadelphia, from thence to head quarters at Valley Forge, and wintered there [1777 - 1778]. He served frequently as guard to General Washington. He was also at the battles of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] – Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] – Germanton [sic: Germantown, 4 Oct 1777], & Trenton [26 Dec 1776], and was present at the taking of the Hessians at Trenton. He was also present when General Washington captured General Howe’s Horse, Howe himself having taken to his scrapers [See endnote].

And from the knowledge which some of the members of the Court themselves have, as well as from other satisfactory evidence, the Court are unanimously of opinion and do hereby certify, that the said Joel Ramsey is a person of credit as a witness, that it was generally understood in the neighborhood of the residence of the said Joel Ramsey previous to the passage of the said act of Congress, that the said Ramsey had served in the Revolutionary war; and that the said Joel Ramsey is in such reduced circumstances in life as to need assistance from his country for support. All which is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of the Department of War.

District of Virginia

On this fifth day of December 1820, personally appeared in open Court, being a court of record holden in and for the county of Russell in the state of Virginia, Joel Ramsey aged sixty four years, resident in the said county of Russell and state aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law on his oath declared that he enlisted as a private soldier in the 4th Regiment of the North Carolina line commanded by Colo. Thomas Clarke, and served in Capt. Goodman’s company in the first Detachment that marched to Wilmington. He served three years; the date of his enlistment he cannot recollect. — Went from Wilmington to Philadelphia, thence to Head Quarters at Valley Forge and wintered there. He served frequently as guard to Gen’l. Washington. He was in the battles of Monmouth– Brandywine– Germantown– Trenton, and Stoney Point [sic: Stony Point NY, 16 Jul 1779], of which he made a declaration on the 15th day of May 1818 before the Court of said County. He also made oath that he has received a pension Certificate for the above service No. 14,662, dated the 21st. day of September 1819.

The said Joel Ramsey also made oath to the following effect:

“I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States in the 18th. day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it, as to brig 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 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, to wit,  
1 Heifer two years old past; six head of hogs middling size, and 22 young pigs; one oven worth 21/2; one kettle worth \$6; one small pot worth about \$1; 6 plates; 4 knives and 6 forks; 1 basin; one pewter dish; 4

small bowls; 1 shovel plough, one pair of chains, a clevis and single tree; two hoes, one of them of scarcely any value; 2½ acres of indian corn, standing, which will probably yield 50 bushels in all; some unbroke flax worth about \$3; about 10 doz Oats; one iron wedge; 1 ax; about 10 lbs tobacco; a tub pickled cabbages; two sides of leather; 1 mattock; a small skillet; 1 pr. steelyards; 8 or 10 lbs of iron. Owes Thomas Alderson & Co. \$5:95; James P. Carroll about \$20; Charles Beckley \$1.33⅓, Robert Preston \$12.

Joel hisXmark Ramsey.

And the said Joel Ramsey further makes oath that he is a farmer, is tolerably healthy, but infirm in one of his ancles, which is a considerable impediment to his walking about; his family consists of himself and his wife who is above 50 years of age, and is very unhealthy.

NOTE: "Take to one's scrapers" was Irish slang for fleeing on foot. I could find no other account of Gen. William Howe's having to do so, or of Washington capturing his horse.