

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Perry Sperry S3959

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/30/12

[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.]

State of Ohio Ross County: SS – On this 10th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for said County, now sitting, Peter Sperry a resident of Concorde Township in said County, aged 72 years, who being first 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 June 7th 1832. That from information received from his Uncle Nicholas Sperry now dead (his father having died when he was a child) he was born in Frederick County Virginia, in January 1760. That he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, as a private soldier in the volunteer Militia, under Captain Cravens [probably Robert Craven], from Rockingham County, Virginia for a tour of six months, he thinks, about the year 1778, to guard the frontier settlements, during which time he assisted to build fourt Koonce [Fort Koonce?]¹ and was in several him expeditions against the Indians, but was in no general battles, and had no higher officer that his Captain, that having served out his tour of six months, he returned home Rockingham County in a few weeks after, he again entered the said service as a Substitute for Gasper Haynes who was drafted from the same County to serve a tour of three months in the Militia and was marched to Warracks fort [Warrick's Fort?] on Green briar [Greenbrier River], but cannot positively remember the name of his Captain but thinks it was Captain Peters, or Captain Busby [?]², having served out his tour, he returned home; and in a short time after he again entered the service of the United States in the Militia, as a substitute for a Mr. Porter of Shanadore [Shenandoah] County, Virginia, who was drafted to serve a tour of three months, under Captain Pennewright [Jacob Penneweight] and was attached to Colonel Edmunds Regiment at Richmond, under General Millinbergh [Peter Muhlenberg]; he was thence marched to Bottoms bridge, thence followed in pursuit of Corn Wallis [Cornwallis] towards little York or Yorktown in Virginia until he was taken sick, and left, at or near, the camp, and remained there till the Americans on their retreat, three days after found him void of reason as a Mr. Shepard [?]³ informed him. He was then carried home, he was at other times called on to serve a few days at a time but has no documentary evidence of any said facts, that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services, except George

1 *fourt Koonce*

2 *Beesley*

3 *Mr. Shepard*

The War Department interpreted this name as Captain "Beesley."

Spickard Senr. Whose testimony is hereto annexed. 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 any State – That he left his residence in Virginia in the year 1814 and removed to Ross County of Ohio where he now lives.

S/ Peter Sperry [looks more like Peter Sherry to me]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter Sperry". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized and slanted.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court October 10th 1832

S/ Humphrey Fullerton, Clerk

[Nathan Corey, a clergyman, and William Callings gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The State of Ohio Highland County SS

The deposition of George Spickard Senior⁴ who being of lawful age duly sworn deposeseth and saith that he was a drafted soldier in the United States service in the revolutionary war in the year of our Lord 1781 being the same year that Corn Wallace surrendered [October 19, 1781] and that Peter Sperry served a three month tour as a drafted Soldier in the United States Service at the same time in the year in which the said Corn Wallace surrendered and that he and the said Peter Sperry was at that time residence of Frederick County in the State of Virginia and was taken from Frederick County to Richmond and from thence to Bottoms Bridge from thence we pursued after Wallace on his route to little York until the term of three months expired and that the said Peter Sperry served under Captain Pennewit [Jacob Penneweight] and General Muhlenberg and Colonel Edmond and this deponent saith that he the said Peter Sperry entered the service about the 1st of April A.D. 1781 and that said Sperry was taken sick about the middle of June in the time of service this deponent also states that he was personally acquainted with the said Peter Sperry in the time of Service and before the draft and since that time he is positive that the said Peter Sperry is the person that he represents himself to be further this deponent sayeth not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me at my office this 21st day of March A.D. 1833

S/ John Hixson, JP

S/ George Spickard, Senr., X his mark

State of Ohio Ross County: SS

Affidavit of Peter Sperry of the County of Ross in the State of Ohio, taken before me Peter Patterson Justice of the Peace in and for said County, this 3rd day of April 1833, supplementary to the declaration of the said Peter Sperry made before the Court of Common Pleas for said County, on the 10th day of October 1832 in the matter of his application for a Pension under the act of the 7th of June 1832 – the said Peter Sperry being first duly sanctioned and sworn, deposeseth and saith that he performed the first tour of service of six months as stated in his declaration in full, also his second term of three months in full, but in his third tour being for three months under Captain Penneweight (his own residence being at that time he entered said term of service in Frederick County Virginia) and that to the best of his recollection and belief he served two months and a half of said tour, but being then taken sick as stated in his declaration, he did not perform any more actual service during that term but was shortly afterwards carried home sick.

S/ Peter Sperry

⁴ [George Spickard S4880](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$38 33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months and 15 days in the Virginia militia.]