

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Valentine Gruber S39627

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Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

6/24/23

[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 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 4: illegibly faint on Fold3.com and barely legible on Ancestry.com]

Weston District of Pennsylvania

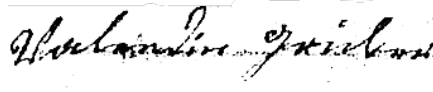
and County of Bedford SS} On this Fourth day of April A.D. 1820 before me the Subscriber Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas held at Bedford in and for Bedford County in the said district personally appeared Valentine Gruber aged Sixty seven years next September, resident in Dublin Township & County of Bedford aforesaid in the said district who, being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the 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 Valentine Gruber enlisted for the time of three years on the fifteenth day of March in the year 1779 in Pottsgrove in the State of Pennsylvania in the Company of Independent Light Horse commanded by Captain Bartholomew Von Heer on the continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said company in the service of the United States until the 31st day of March A.D. 1782 when he was discharged from service in Reading in the State of Pennsylvania by a discharge in writing signed by the said Captain Von Heer and by Jacob Mytinger Lieutenant of the said company, which discharged the said Gruber has ever since kept in his possession and which is produced and annexed hereto. That before his said enlistment in the Company of Light Dragoons he served at two different times Six months & more in the flying camp in the militia – That he was at the battle at the White Plains and a skirmish at Horse neck and a place called Springfield and many other Such Services he does not remember where. That while he was in said Company of Light Dragoons he does not remember that he was engaged personally in any battle. The company was engaged in one battle as he understood but at that time he Gruber had been sent away towards Rhode Island with twelve more of the Company under Lieutenant Strowbank [sic, Philippe Strubing] or some Such name, as a Guard to some French Ambassador. The said company of Light Horse almost always kept with the Commander in Chief General Washington [George Washington] and the men were generally employed in Scouting and carrying letters &c That he Gruber never heard until this last winter of the Act of Congress passed for the relief of the old Soldiers who are unable to support themselves. That from sundry misfortunes, his wife having

had her leg broke lately and lost her health entirely and from his own age and infirmities he is unable to support himself by labour, that he is in reduced circumstances and poor and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support – And that he has at present no other evidence

in his power of his said Services because there are none of his old acquaintances living near him at present. After the war he lived some years in Berks County Pennsylvania then moved to near Hanover in Pennsylvania, then to Washington County in Maryland from thence he moved to Dublin Township Bedford County Pennsylvania in different parts of which said Township he has ever Since resided.

Sworn to & declared & subscribed this 4th day
of April 1820 Before me
S/ Abm Martin [Abraham Martin]

S/ [German signature]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Valentine Gruber", enclosed in a rectangular box.

[John H Hill a resident of Bedford County gave a supporting affidavit as to the reputation of the applicant as a soldier in the revolution and his inability to support himself.]

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Weston District of Pennsylvania
County of Bedford, SS

On the 7th day of August A.D. 1820 Personally Appeared in Open Court of Common pleas held at Bedford in and for Bedford County aforesaid being a Court of record for said County having the power of fine and imprisonment, proceeding, according to the course of the common law with a jurisdiction unlimited in point of Amount and Keeping a record of its proceedings, Valentine Gruber, Aged Sixty eight years and Upwards resident in Duplin Township Bedford County aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath declare that on the 31st day of March 1779, he the said Valentine Gruber in Potts Grove in the State of Pennsylvania enlisted for the time of three years in the Company of Independent Light Horse commanded by Captain Bartholomew Von Heer on the Continental establishment that he continued to serve in said Company in the Service of the United States until the 31st day of March 1782, when he was honorably discharged from service by a Discharge in writing Signed by his Captain the said Von Heer and by Jacob Mytinger Lieutenant of said Company which discharged the said Valentine Gruber always kept in his possession until it was annexed to his Original declaration made before Abraham Martin Esquire One of the Associate Judges of the Court aforesaid which said Declaration is dated the fourth day of April A.D. 1820. – That before his said Enlistment in the Company of Light Dragoons he served at two different times six months and more in the flying Camp in the Militia – that he was in the battle of the White Plains, and in a Skirmish at horse neck and a place called Spring field and many other such Services not recollected where – And I the said Valentine Gruber do solemnly 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 vizt.—

Two Cows, One horse blind of one eye, Three Sheep, Three Chairs with bottoms, three Chairs without bottoms, One table, One Iron pot, One Dutch Oven, Six knives and forks, Six pewter Spoons, One Spinning Wheel.

Valentine Gruber

The Said Valentine Gruber has a wife named Margaret Who is fifty Eight years of age and upwards, who is weak and in bad health and likely to continue, so a Son married and with a family of his own, two Daughters married, and One daughter single and living with him aged thirty six – And in a weak state of health.

The said Valentine Gruber Saith further that to the best of his knowledge and belief the full value of all his property real personal and mixed does not exceed Seventy Dollars Sworn declared & subscribed and open Court 7th August A.D. 1820
S/ Corain D. Mann Prothy. S/ Valentine Gruber [in German as above]

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Valentine Gruber having been inlisted as Dragoon under my Troop of independent Light Dragoons For the Space of three Years commencing the 15th of March 1779 & ending March 15th 1782, He has behaved him – during his period as a true & faithfull Soldier; As He is not willing to stay any longer to continue the Service, I do Discharge him of my Troop & recommend him to all militair = & Civil = Officers or other Gentlemen to forward him by every Occasion –

Given under my Hand this 31st day of March 1782

S/ Bartholomew Von Heer

Capt. L. Dn.

S/ Jacob Mytinger Let.

Valentin Guber having been
 enlisted as Dragoon under my Troop
 of independant Light Dragoons
 for the space of three years commencing
 the 15th March 1779 & ending March
 15th 1782, he has behaved him-
 self during his period as a true & faithfull
 Soldier; & as he is not willing
 to stay any longer to continue the
 service, I do discharge him of my
 Troop & recommend him to all
 military & Civil Officers or other
 Gentlemen to forward him by
 every Opportunity
 Given under my Hand this 11th Day
 of March 1782.
 Barthel von Meer
 Capt & Col
 Prob. Mytnig Lt

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing August 15, 1832.]