

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Drury Roper S4133

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/25/12

[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 Tennessee Jefferson County:

On this 13th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court, the is the court of pleas & quarter sessions now sitting for said County Drury Roper a resident of Jefferson County in said State aged about sixty-eight 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That in the spring previous to Siege of York he engaged as a substitute for his father Joseph Roper, who was drafted under the command of Captain Blackburn Mosely [Blackman Moseley] & Colonel Faulkner [perhaps Ralph Faulkner] in Chesterfield County, State of Virginia, for the term of three months, we were marched first to the "burnt Mills" in Suffolk where we remained until the main Army which was retreating from General Philips [William Phillips], arrived there; our Army then under the command of General Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg], or General Lawson [Robert Lawson] declarant does not know certainly which, retreated across the Appomattox River to Pocahontas hill; General Phillips in the meantime armed with his Army in Petersburg, & the General took possession of the house on Bolingbrook Street & his soldiers, were ransacking the town, declarant distinctly recollects that while Phillips occupied the house he had taken possession of, the artillery of the American Army fired several shots through said house from Pocahontas hill – he then marched to Manchester expecting to cross over James River to Richmond, but when arrived we learned that the boats had all been destroyed; we then marched up the River to Westham where we crossed & marched to Richmond, from thence to a place near Bottoms Bridge over the Chickahominy, where we were halted & remained until the term of declarant's service expired, & he was discharged. Declarant returned home, & in the same year was called out under Captain Cheatham [perhaps Henry Cheatham], & Colonel Robert Good [Robert Goode] to guard the ports & present the British landing; we were marched to Brodaways & detained about one month, when he was discharged having served another tour of two months, – Declarant was then called out under the same officers to prevent the landing of the British who had sailed up to old Jamestown – we were marched up & down the River for about the term of one month when they were discharged. Declarant returned home, when his father was again drafted, & he as a substitute took the place of his father under Captain George Marcum [George Markham], as well as he recollects, the Colonel's name he does not recollect. They were marched to Cabin Point there & below there we rallied for some time, in the meantime General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] & the British Army under Cornwallis had had an engagement at James town, the Militia then under Colonel Good, to which Regiment declarant belonged were marched to Jamestown to reinforce Wayne's Army as was said – We were then marched to Williamsburg to the French Army, where we remained until

Cornwallis marched to Little York, when we were marched down to the siege him, & remained there until his surrender [October 19, 1781], & were then marched to Winchester to guard the prisoners – and were marched near to Richmond where he was discharged – having served 3 months, – Declarant knew Captain Orothe [?], who along to Wayne's Army – He has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his service, & he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service –

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State.

S/ Drury Roper

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Drury Roper". The signature is written in a cursive style with some ink bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

[Andrew Gass, a clergyman, and John Wood [sic, George Bramm] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Jefferson County: On this 8th day of June 1833 personally appeared before me ___ an acting Justice of the Peace in said County Drury Roper and made oath that he was born in Chesterfield County State of Virginia in the year 1764 as well as he recollects, that he has no record of his age, and that he is acquainted with Andrew Gass a clergyman and George Bramm in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his veracity and their belief of his Services as a soldier of the revolution.

S/ Drury Roper

Sworn to & subscribed to before made this date above

S/ William Hill, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia.]