

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Jones S4441

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/19/14

[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' 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.]

State of Tennessee Giles County: Sct.

On this the 22nd of November in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Edward D Jones, Simpson H White and Thomas T Webb three acting Justices of the peace in and for the County of Giles authorized by law to hold the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Giles aforesaid, and which is now sitting, Richard Jones a resident of said County and State aged sixty-nine 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 – viz. – Sometime in the month of August 1780 General Lawson [Robert Lawson] raised a Brigade of Volunteers, and a Regiment of horse commanded by Colonel John Bannister and Lewellen Jones Lieutenant Colonel and Philip Jackson Major as the field officers – and Captains Joseph Greenhill, Zachariah Lee, Philip Holcomb and another not now recollected – I entered the service in the company commanded by Zachariah Lee – a company of volunteer horse volunteering for during the expedition – I lived in the County of Charlotte State of Virginia at the time I entered the service and volunteered there as above. In the month of September of that year we marched to Petersburg and there drew arms for the expedition – we remained there till sometime in the month of November of that year under the training and inspection of the Baron Steuben – These troops were raised for the assistance of the Carolinas – The remainder of the Brigade commanded by Colonels Lynch and Calloway remained behind up the country in readying to march when ordered: we remained at Petersburg in arms ready to march when ordered But having received no orders to march my Regiment was discharged sometime about the latter part of November of that year – I got a written discharge from General Lawson as well as I now recollect – or from some other person lawfully authorized – Which discharge I have long since lost it not thinking it worthy of preservation.

Sometime in the month of February in the year 1781 Major Walker Daniel of Charlotte County Virginia raised a company of volunteer horse to join General Green [Nathanael Greene] who was at that time in the state of North Carolina – we marched early in February and met General Green on his retreat from North Carolina at Dan River. I joined said company as a volunteer at Charlotte Courthouse in February 1781. After meeting General Green we were put under the command of one Captain Bruff – I saw no more of Major Daniel for 5 or 6 weeks. We were immediately sent to Hillsboro where the British under Cornwallis lay – We scouted about there for 3 or 4 weeks – and upon one occasion while there we discovered a foraging party of the British and lay in their rear till dark, and took one prisoner. Colonel Lee of the horse coming into that quarter we were ordered to join Colonel Henry J Williams who commanded the

infantry; I continued still under the command of Bruff – General Green having retreated from North Carolina as aforesaid into Virginia – made his stand at Halifax Courthouse Virginia where he remained some weeks and being reinforced marched again into North Carolina to meet Cornwallis who at that time was lay [sic] in or about Hillsboro. General Green avoided a general action with Cornwallis on one occasion the British made an attempt to bring on an action – Colonel Williams being joined by Washington's [William Washington's] and Lee's [[Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee's] regiments of horse made a stand [at] Whitsails Mills [Whitesell's Mill or Wetzell's Mill or Weitzel's Mill, or Wetzall's Mill, March 6, 1781] – and a very severe action ensued which lasted near an hour – We lost about 20 men killed the British loss I never understood – There were several other small engagements of not much importance I continued with Colonel Williams until his juncture with the main Army at the place called the High Rock Ford on Tar River (as I think at this time). Here my horse and Captain Gideon Booker's being entirely worn down Colonel Williams gave us leave to go home. I was out upon this time of service I think about nine weeks – I received no written discharge from Colonel Williams. – In May 1781 I resided in the County of Charlotte Virginia as aforesaid, about this time, Captain Thomas Jones of Amelia County Virginia raised a volunteer troop of horse in Amelia County for the purpose of Joining the Marquis Lafayette in Virginia to oppose to the march of Cornwallis through Virginia who at that time was passing through Virginia laying waste the country. At this time I had many relations in Amelia County to whom happening to upon a visit, I volunteered as a member of said Captain Thomas Jones' Company & entered the said service with I [sic] under him in Amelia County Virginia in May 1781. We joined the Marquis on the North side of James River & continued there till the Militia ordered out for the same service should arrive – the Marquis continued at his post near Richmond until the arrival of the British at Richmond – the respective armies continued to maneuver in Virginia in different parts of the country for some time during which affiant continued in said service until sometime in August or September 1781 when he was discharged at Amelia court house by Captain Tom Jones from said service, declarant has lost long since all his discharges & has now no documentary evidence by which to establish his said service – he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his said service. Declarant when in service with the Marquis Lafayette as aforesaid new by character & probably by sight the following Continental officers – General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] – General Mulenburg [Peter Muhlenberg] – Major Boyce – Colonel Hoffler – & others. – He has no particular knowledge of or acquaintance with any Continental regiments or companies. 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 the agency of any State – Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ German Lester, Clerk

S/ Rich'd Jones



[Coleman Harwell, a clergyman, and Thomas K Gordon gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1. Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the County of Amelia State of Virginia on the 5th day of May in the year 1763

2. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Ans. I have it now in my possession.

3. Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War; and where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in the County of Charlotte Virginia when I entered the service – I lived in the state of Virginia and Georgia until the year 1820 when I moved from the latter state to Lincoln County Tennessee – where I lived till February 1821 & from there I moved to the County of Giles where I now live.

4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I was a volunteer in every case.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I refer to my foregoing declaration in affording an answer to this interrogatory.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Ans. I have received 2 discharges – but have long since lost them – Both given and signed as stated in my foregoing declaration.

7. State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Ans. I am probably known to the following persons who live in my neighborhood viz. Daniel Goodwin, Andrew Goodwin, Coleman Harwell, John Kennedy and Thomas K Gordon and many others – who can testify as required.

S/ Rich'd Jones

State of Tennessee Giles County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Giles aforesaid Richard Jones who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of his memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below as a private viz. for three months and fifteen days as a private in the year 1780. For two months and seven days as a private in the early part of the year 1781 as a private – and for three months as a private also in the middle of the year 1781.

S/ Richard Jones

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 30th of November 1833

S/ N. G. Nye, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$29.93 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private & Corporal in the Virginia militia.]