

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathaniel Reeves (Reever) S4760

f19VA [NY]

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/15/12

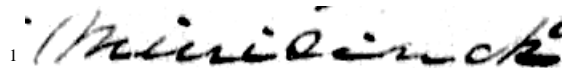
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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.]

[Note: The handwriting of the scribe of this application is so challenging that the reader will notice many more than the normal omissions in the following transcription. If anyone has a better, more complete transcript, please consider submitting it for inclusion in this database.]

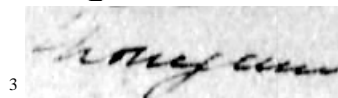
State of Ohio Clermont County: SS On this 6th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John M Goolleman [?] President Judge of the 9th Judicial Circuit of Ohio and [indecipherable name], Joseph Whitaker & John Emory [?] Esquires Associate Judges in & for the above named County Nathaniel Reeves aged seventy-six 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 and served as herein stated:

I was born near Elizabethtown New Jersey on the 3rd day of October in the year 1756 as appears by a record of my age copied from my father's family Bible into my own which he believes to be correct. When I was yet an infant my father moved with me (as I have been informed & believes) to Ulster or Orange (I do not know which as I lived near the line) County in the State of New York. For the time of the revolutionary war my father with himself & the rest of his family Miniscink [? perhaps Minisink]¹, a low Dutch settlement, on the Neversink [Creek?]² which empties into the Delaware. While I lived at this place I entered the service of the United States as an Indian Spy. In the spring of the year 1777 but the month is not remembered Captain Tyler [Bezaleel or Bezalrel Tyler] was commander of the party. We acted as spies on the Delaware River. We went from the Shongum [?]³ mountains on to the Delaware and up that River to the frontier our business was to guard the settlements and [indecipherable word or words] them in the time of danger when we saw a sign of the Indians – we [indecipherable word] to the settlements and alarmed the inhabitants. We spied at the frontier for about forty miles part of our route was on ten mile River and across to Coshethten [?

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Shongum [sic, Shawangunk Mountains?]

Cochecton?]⁴ and from there back to the Minisink and continued in this employment running up and down the before mentioned Country for five months. Sometime I was at home for 2 or 3 days but not more than [indecipherable word or words] two weeks or twenty days and when at home was engaged in my usual occupation, but in the late of the fall and sometimes in the dead of winter I was out so that I can safely say that I served not less than five months in that season. The Delaware & Shawnee were troublesome [indecipherable word] This service as a volunteer and served as a private Captain Tyler had no commission except as a Captain of militia Company and when we went out as volunteers [one or more indecipherable words] voted him in as our Captain. Moses Thomas was either Ensign or Lieutenant I do not remember which. I had no written discharge. Sometimes our company consisted of 18 or 19 man sometimes there were but 2 or 3 of us. We had no engagements in this year's service.

In the year 1778 while I lived at the before mentioned place my [several indecipherable words] residence, to which my father and his family myself [indecipherable word or words] and been driven from the mouth of ten mile River on the Delaware – in the month of February we went out again and staid not less than fifteen days & volunteered and served as a private Indian Spy under the command of the same Captain Tyler before mentioned. We started from the [indecipherable word] Mountain and crossed the Minisink settlement and went up the Delaware River to 10 mile River, then across the Coshethen on the Delaware, he saw Indian signs and returned to the settlement and gave them notice. While we were returning from this tour – we met with 3 families in canoes coming to the settlement. Robert Land and Jacob Walker's families and also Wood family. [Several indecipherable words] the family and the older boys were among the Indians acting against the Whites these women and children ran off from them and had got to the before mentioned place – they came down in canoes – when we found them they almost perished from cold and hunger we took them to the Minisink settlement. I had no written discharge from this service. In this year soon after my return from the above mentioned tour I started again under the command of Captain Tyler. We went on the same route with some variation of no great course [?] and most [of] which from the loss of memory all along [indecipherable word] on another tour as Indian Spies. I was a volunteer and served as a private. I served during this summer, spring and fall not less than 5 months. The greatest part of the time we were commanded by Captain Tyler, Moses Thomas as above was second in command. Tyler and Thomas were both killed in the battle of Lackowack [Tyler and Thomas were killed at the Battle of Minisink on July 22, 1779⁵] about forty whites were killed in said battle. It was fought with the Delaware & Shawnee, British and Tories as was said. I was not in the battle. After the death of our Captain we did not elect another but acted without a commander. We found our own provisions around [?], ammuniton and clothing. I was acquainted with Major Decker a militia officer of New York and Major Phillips and Colonel Weetzner [?]. They came out to guard the frontiers. During this year part of old Minisink was burnt by the Indians British and Tories and a few of the inhabitants killed, this took place just after harvest.

After this in the year __my father with myself and the rest of his family moved to Berkley [Berkeley] County Virginia in which County in the year 1781 in September I was drafted for three months & served as a private in Captain John Hart's Company. I think a man named Cunningham [Cunningham?] was Lieutenant I also think Isaac Morgan was Colonel. I

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⁵ See http://home.earthlink.net/~sussex_nj_history/id11.html (viewed 6/15/12) for a description and accounts of the engagement between Chief Joseph Brank of the Mohawks and white militia units.

belonged to Captain Anderson's Company and served under Captain Hart a few days before the company started. Captain Anderson came to me and told me I must go. I told him I could not start in a few [days] until I had got done seeding. After I got done I started & overtook Captain Hart's Company in Albemarle. We marched from Albemarle to Little York, through Fredericksburg and Williamsburg. When we got there we found the main American Army under the command of General Washington. There was a heavy cannonading which lasted several days. I stayed there until they surrendered [October 19, 1781] Captain Hart's Company guarded a party of the British to Noland's ferry [Nolan's Ferry] on the Potomac [River] & they were there given in charge of the Maryland men. At Noland's Ferry I was discharged. I had a written discharge which was signed by Captain Hart which I have lost. This was the only written discharge that I ever had. General Washington General Lafayette &c were with the troops where I served. Major Decker Major Phillips and Colonel Weezer – regiments were in the neighborhood where I served. Colonel Isaac Morgan commanded a Regiment in Virginia I think but am not certain that I served in this Regiment.

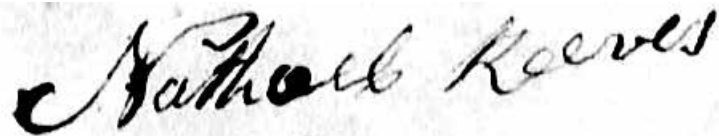
David White, Elder Ichabod Temple, Robert Dunham, Honorable Thomas Morris know me in my present neighborhood and can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my service as a soldier of the Revolution. I have no documentary evidence and know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify to my service. In the tour to Little York in the old Virginia I was in actual service not less than 5 weeks and 5 days. The other two tours were not less than five months each.

From Berkeley County Virginia I moved into Monongahela County Virginia and lived there ten years and then removed to Hamilton County of Ohio where I lived about ten years and then moved to Clermont County. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to in Open Court May 6, 1833

S/ J. Dillon, Clerk

S/ Nathael Reeves

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathael Reeves". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[John Pampelly [?] and David White gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$39.43 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in both the New York and Virginia service.]