

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Doss S5350

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected]

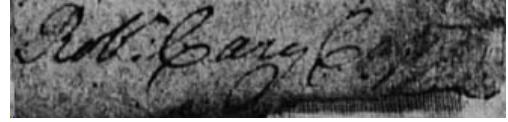
State of Virginia Buckingham County to Wit

On this 20th day of June 1833 personally Appeared before me Jonathan T. Phelps one of the Justices of peace for the County of Buckingham and as such one the Justices of the Court of Buckingham in the State aforesaid (which Court is a Court of Record); John Doss a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged seventy five years, who being first duly sworn 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 as a private soldier first under the Command of Capt. Cannon, that he resided and marched from the County of Buckingham in the State of Virginia, Crossing James River to Albermarle Court House, from there he went to the Barracks [constructed fall 1778; housed prisoners beginning Jan 1779], remained there five weeks and returned home, that he supposes it was six weeks from the time he left home untill his return, got no discharge as the Capt. left us there he does not recollect the month or year of this tour of duty. That he was drafted from the County of Buckingham to serve a second tour of duty, that he marched from Buckingham Court House through the counties of Prince Edward and Charlotte crossing the Roan Oak [sic: Roanoke] River and joining the main army commanded by Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], and was in the battle at Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] in this tour he went as a private under the command of Capt Chambers does not recollect the names of any other officer that he marched in this tour as well as he recollects from Buckingham Court House the 1st Feb'y. and got home the first of April got no discharge as we were ordered to make our escapes [see endnote]. That he was drafted from the County of Buckingham to serve a third tour of duty that he did serve the same three months as a private Marched from Buckingham Court House in 1781 dont recollect the month under the command of Capt. [Robert] Cary through Richmond to Morben Hills [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond], from Morben Hills to Williamsburg that he does not recollect the names of any of the officers names except Colo. Matthews [sic: Mathews] and Capt. Cary that he was discharged after serving three months at Camp new Magazine Sept. 18th 1781. Received a discharge signed by Capt. Cary which he sends with this declaration, he knows of no person now who was in the service with him at Albermarle and Guilford That upon interrogatories propounded, he states in answer to the first that he was born in the County of Buckingham and State of Virginia in the year 1758. In answer to the second he states that he has no record of his age that his ancestors informed him of the date of his birth. In answer to the third, he states that at each time he was called into the service he resided in the County of Buckingham and State of Virginia, that he has resided in the same County and State ever since the War of the Revolution and resides in the same County and State. In answer to the fourth he states that he was drafted in every tour he served. In answer to the fifth he states as before stated that Gen'l. Green, Colo. Matthews, Capt. Chambers and Cary are all the officers he cannot [sic] recollect at this time In answer to the sixth he states as he has before that he received a written discharge for only one tour signed by Capt. Cary which he still has and sends with this declaration. In answer to the seventh, he refers to Doct. Mace C. Spencer Colo. Sam'l Christian Briant Nowlin Maj. William Duval the Rev. Gabriel Walker & John Isbell, for his character for veracity and their general belief that he was a soldier of the revolution. He further states that he lives near thirty miles from the court house and from age and bodily infirmity cannot attend there without great inconvenience to qualify to his declaration for a pension He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever for a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state John hisXmark Doss

Camp new magazine Sep'r. 18th, 1781

John Doss a soldier from the County of Buckingham hath serv'd. his Tour of duty in the militia and is hereby disch: Given from under my hand the day and date

Rob't. Cary Capt

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Rob't. Cary". The signature is written on a piece of aged, slightly textured paper.

State of Virginia Buckingham County To Wit [4 July 1833]

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the peace for the County of Buckingham and State of Virginia John Doss who being duly sworn according, to law, deposeth and saith that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of 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, and in the following grades; For the first Tour he served as a private not less than six weeks for the Second Tour he served as a private as well as he can recollect two months, that he served the third tour as a private three months for which he has a discharge and for which services I claim a pension. Given under my hand the day & year aforesaid

NOTES:

At the Battle of Guilford Courthouse although the Americans were defeated by the British, they retired from the field in good order.

A Treasury-Department document states that the executor of Doss's estate received the final pension payment up to the date of his death, 2 Dec 1841.