

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Henry Rader S5972

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia & County of Rockingham to wit.

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before Jacob D. Williamson, David Dayton, Reuben Moore & Augustin Waterman Justices of the County Court of Rockingham County now sitting Henry Rader a resident of Augusta County, (near the Rockingham Line) and State of Virginia aged about seventy-five, 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 in June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated. That he was born in the year 1756 as he believes, (the bible in which his age is recorded having been lost) in Pennsylvania, near Bethlehem, and his parents removed to Loudon [sic: Loudoun] County, Virginia, in 1769, and he resided in that County eleven years, and then removed to Shenandoah County Virginia. In the year 1776 or 1777 while he resided in Loudon County, he volunteered, and marched to Alexandria under Captain Coxe [possibly Samuel Cox]. This term of service commenced in the latter part of summer, after harvest, and he continued in the service three months; was stationed at Alexandria the whole time, and was employed in erecting a battery for the defence of the town. He was under the command of Gen'l. Coleman [probably Maj. James Coleman], and Col. [Josias] Clapham, and was not in any engagement during this term. He received no written discharge for this tour. About a week after the expiration of the above term of service, which was about the last of October, as well as he now recollects, he was drafted into the militia service from Loudon County. He marched under Major [George] West and joined Head Quarters at White Plains, and continued in the service in that neighbourhood three months; he was not engaged in any battle during this term of service. He joined headquarters shortly after the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and was discharged at the expiration of three months but got no written discharge. He was under the Command of Genl. Crawford, Col. Clapham, and Major West; but cannot recollect the name of the Captain under whom he served during this tour.

He further states that in the first of January 1782 he was drafted into the militia Service from Shenandoah County under Captain Downie, and served a tour of two months at Winchester Barracks Virginia, under Col. Niswonger [sic: John Niscwanger]. He was then discharged, but received no written discharge. In the fall of 1781 he was drafted from Shenandoah County and marched to Bowling green in Caroline County Va. and met the army with the British prisoners [captured at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] and returned, assisting to guard the prisoners to Noland's Ferry on Potomac River, and was discharged after serving seventeen days. This tour was performed under the Command of Gen'l. Thorn of the militia. He received no written discharge. In the year 1780 as well as he remembers, he was returning from Philadelphia with a waggon, and was impressed, with his waggon to carry some sick prisoners from Winchester Va to Lancaster Pennsylvania. He was engaged in this service seventeen days, and got a receipt for the delivery of the prisoners - which receipt he delivered to Reuben Moore the owner of the wagon and team. Neither himself, or Moore have ever received any pay for this service, as far as he knows or believes, but it was allowed in lieu of a militia tour.

He has no documentary evidence of his services but relies on the testimony of his brother Conrad Rader [see pension application S5973], and his brother-in-law Lawrence Howdeskill [Lawrence Howdershell S19341] to prove his services. For his character and standing in his neighbourhood, and the belief in his services he refers to Joseph Baxter Esq. High Sheriff of Rockingham County, Mr. Wm. Hopkins, Mr. Peter Driver, Mr. Benjamin Bowman, David Kenton Esq. and the neighbours generally. He has resided in Rockingham and Augusta County (near the Rockingham line) since 1802, or thereabouts. the last 13 or 4 years of the time in Augusta

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.

Henry hisXmark Rader