

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Adam Shepley S6077

f53VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/8/12

[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.]

Fayette County Pennsylvania SS

On this 6th day of September 1834 Personally appeared before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas in & for said County now sitting Adam Shepley a resident of Washington County Pennsylvania aged seventy-four years who being 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the spring about the first of April 1776 he entered the service of his country in the Flying Camp for the term of four months in Captain Joseph Burgess' company of Anarundle [Anne Arundel] County Maryland and attached to Colonel Bell's [Beall's?] Regiment. That he was first marched from the city of Annapolis Maryland to the head of Elk [River] and from thence to the State of New Jersey & was for some time at New Brunswick & Morristown and remained for some time on the Jersey shore, was then marched for a short time to the State of New York and from thence back to the State of Pennsylvania. That he served the full period of four months at the above mentioned places & on the march from place to place. That about the first of October 1776 he again engaged in the Flying Camp for the term of four months in Captain Levin Lawrence's Company attached to Major Brown's Battalion and performed the entire service at the City of Annapolis Maryland. That Colonel Hyde was also in command at that place. That about the first day of September 1777 he was drafted for two months in Captain Charles Hammon[']s company][Charles Hammond's company] attached to Colonel Darsy's [? name written over]¹ Regiment and performed this service in various places in Pennsylvania that he crossed the Susquehanna River at Johnston's ferry above Hovengross [?]², and from thence to the cross Keys thence to several other places which he does not now recollect. That he was also at the Peola [Paoli, September 21, 1777] but not in the engagement at that place. That his term of service expired and he immediately volunteered under the same officers for one month with a view of opposing the British at Germantown [October 4, 1777] and was engaged in that Battle beginning to in & served out his engagement.

In August 1780 he volunteered to go nine months to the South in a troop of horse called the "Chestnut Ride light horse" near Baltimore commanded by Bannister Carroll who however

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The War Department read this as "Dorsey's."

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declined going & gave his horse & trappings to a Mr. Guess [Gist?] who was chosen Captain in his place that they rendezvoused at Georgetown and marched from thence into Virginia to Colchester at this place he was taken sick with the fever and ague and was confined one month and left by the troop & never joined them again not knowing where to find them. He then joined another troop of horse in Essex County Virginia who volunteered for two months under Captain Revelea [Francis Revely?] about forty strong & served out that time at different places as required at Richmond, Albemarle & on the Potomac [River] – next he volunteered again for two months in a company of Horse under a Captain Woodruff in Middlesex and served out the term which expired about the 1st of March 1781 this service was performed in Virginia in guarding & supplying the Negroes &c. Afterwards about the 1st of April 1781 at a place called Urbana a company of horse was made up for two months service of about fifty strong – they had an election and this applicant was elected Captain & William Finley was elected Lieutenant they received orders from militia field officers General Spotswood, Ridley, Colonel Carter & others, they were called patrols or Rangers by some – they served out their time at different places in Essex and other [indecipherable word]³ Counties of Virginia at Hobs hole [Hobbs Hole?], Essex Meeting house &c-- after this two months was out a part of the men agreed to serve another month, some left us, but their places were supplied for the most part by others, and they served this additional month as above stated making three months as Captain of horse Rangers or reconnoiterers. That on the 1st of August 1781 he volunteered in a company of Riflemen on the Rappahannock at a place called Leedstown they elected Robert Russell as Captain (of the first name Robert he is not certain) for a term of four months uniformed in Hunting shirts which were furnished to them & bearskin caps – they were placed under the General command of General Lafayette & Baron Steuben – they were attached to no Regiment but were detailed & called "Rangers." They were employed on James River for most part between Jamestown & Richmond also at Petersburg, Pamunkey, Suffolk &c – they were sent with Prisoners to Fort Frederick (about 400) & delivered them to Colonel Rawlings and were there discharged early in December a few days after the expiration of their four months service, making twenty-three months actual service as above particularly specified with the dates places & officers but independent of the above he was frequently out on short periods in detachments the officers, dates and particulars of which he cannot recollect with the certainty in fact he was in the Service in one capacity or another during the whole war with but little intermission – he done nothing else & thinks he would be safe in saying in all he served at least 4 years but will not undertake to specify more than he has done. He has no discharge or documentary Evidence now in his possession nor does he know of any living witness to prove his services owing to the distance of his residence he would not procure the attendance of a clergyman but Charles Brown & John Gray both of Fayette County Pennsylvania will testify as to his character.

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

In answer to the questions required to be put he answers

That he was born in the State of Maryland the 17th of August 1759. His age is recorded in the family Bible now in possession of his eldest brother Benjn Shipley [Benjamin Shepley] – lived when he 1st went into the service in Anne Arundel County Maryland – He lived there till 1790 when he moved to this County Fayette he now lives [one or more words written over and

illegible] his children sometimes in Washington & sometimes Allegheny & Fayette County Pennsylvania – he was called into the service & served out the terms & under the officers as set forth above in his declaration – he had discharges but they are all lost & destroyed – he had a commission or certificate of his election &c – given by General Nelson which is also lost or destroyed by time.

S/ Adam Shepley

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Shepley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail on the "y".

[Charles Brown and John Gray gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: This veteran gave an affidavit in support of the application of the widow of his brother [Henry Shipley W6046](#) [sic].]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$56.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Cavalry & Infantry of the Maryland and Virginia militias for 15 months, 7 months as a private in the infantry and 8 months as a private in the cavalry.]