

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Steers S6163

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 12 Nov 2017.

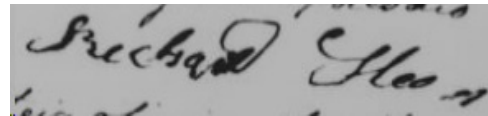
State of Virginia } SS
County of Spotsylvania }

On this seventh day of August [1832] personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Spotsylvania Richard Steers a resident of and in the County of Spotsylvania, and State of Virginia, aged Seventy — 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 provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year [blank] with [blank] and served in the [blank] regiment of the [blank] line under the following named Officers

He did not enlist but was drafted in the Virginia Militia in June 1779 under Captain John White of Spotsylvania County. He then marched down to Williamsburg Hampton and the Sea-board of Virginia, then under the command of Capt Holliday [see endnote]. He continued in Service, until October 1781 [see endnote] after the battle at York Town [siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. He was at the fight at Osbornes. He does not now recollect the day when he was drafted or the day when he was discharged which was a few days after the battle at York Town. Philip Vass [Philip V. Vass S19493] now living was with him at York town. He was born in Sept 1762. No record of age with him. Always lived in Spotsylvania County. He recollects Col Merewether [Thomas Meriwether], Major McWilliams [William McWilliams R1410] and Capt Naylor.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to 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.

Sworn to, and subscribed the day and year aforesaid



State of Virginia }
County of Spotsylvania }

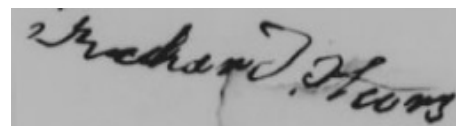
On this seventh day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Spotsylvania now sitting Richard Steers a resident of and in the county aforesaid and State of Virginia aged 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He was drafted in the Virginia Militia in June 1779 under Capt. John White of Spotsylvania County. He then marched down to Williamsburg, Hampton and the sea board of Virginia. He was then under the command of Capt [John] Tankersley, and was then under the command of Captain Holliday. He continued in service under the command of s'd Holliday untill a few days after the Siege at YorkTown in October 1781. he does not now recollect the precise day when he was drafted or when he was discharged. Philip Vass now living was with him at Yorktown. He was in the fight at Osbornes [see endnote]

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

Swon to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid



Declaration of the aforesaid applicant Richard Steers continued and amended

State of Virginia }
County of Spotsylvania } Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in
and for said County the aforesaid applicant Richard Steers who being duly sworn 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 Two years and three months I served as a militia man,
and from old age and consequent mental debility I can in no other particular amend my declaration
aforesaid. And for such service I claim a pension. [14 Jan 1833]

NOTES:

This file is not indexed by Fold3 but is found at the end of the file for John Steers S6168.

John Bunnell has kindly informed me that Steers's Captain was probably Lewis Holladay.

Drafts for militia service were never for more than three months per tour, so Steers could not have
served continuously from 1779 till October 1781. Steers received a full pension of \$80 per year for two
years of service.

On 27 Apr 1781 Gen. Benedict Arnold scattered Virginia militiamen at Osborne's Landing on
James River in Chesterfield County.