

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Abraham Abshire S6459

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 Sep 2014.

Virginia Franklin County Sct

On this 1st day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the County Court of Franklin, now setting Abraham Abshire who has no register of his age but believes himself to be seventy seven years old – a resident of the county of Franklin Va who being sworn according to Law on his oath, doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 that he entered the Service of the United States, under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That early in the revolutionary war about 1779 he went in a company raised in Bedford County Va under the command of Captain Moses Greer [pension application S8609] to the lead mines [near Fort Chiswell in present Wythe County VA] & served three months under that officer & others guarding the said mines from the Indians and Tories – that at the expiration of the tour he was discharged – that soon after he was called on by said Capt Greer to go a second tour of three months to the same place & for the said object – that he obeyed promptly – and served another three months under the said Moses Greer & was at the expiration of his term discharged. The applicant understood that this service in guarding the mines was by order of Colo James Callaway – as he believes though it might have been by order of some others This applicant performed sundry expeditions or short terms of service under Capt'n Moses Greer after the Tories who had taken shelter in the mountains – but the number & length of these several expeditions after the Tories he does not now remember. In the year 1780 or 1781 he does not remember which he was marched from Bedford County Va to Petersburg in Va under said Greer who had been specially appointed a Leutt in the company thus called to Petersburg by his excellency Thomas Jefferson Governor of Va and that the company was at Petersburg attached to Gen'l Lawsons [Robert Lawson's] Brigade – as was understood it should be the officers of the company being specially commissioned to act with said Gen'l Lawson – as he was informed by Capt Greer – and as he has good reason to believe – the special commission of Greer as Leutt being that he as such should be attached with the company to which he belonged to Lawsons brigade – such he has understood was the purport of Greers commission — This applicant considered himself a volunteer in every tour he performed – and held himself ready to march at a moments notice from his officers — The Capt being absent Greer commanded the company – during the time his company (of which this applicant was on of the number) was attached to Lawsons brigade This applicant – served this tour out with Greer attached to Lawsons brigade & was then discharged He verily believes it was full three months – Capt'n Greer who commanded him in all his tours at the lead mines and when attached to Lawsons brigade & when out against the Tories who repeatedly appeared in the [illegible word] is living – is now and has long been the senior member and presiding Justice of the county Court of Franklin and can testify that this applicant did his duty as a soldier during the revolutionary war and to said Greer he confidently appeals for his character in every respect.– The said Greer is now as he states Eighty Eight years old – but he remembers this applicant well – and has given him an affidavit of his this applicants service — This applicant on his oath says that he verily believes he was in actual service at least Eighteen months. This applicant files with pride and pleasure the affidavit of his gallant and venerable officer–

This applicant has lived in the county of Franklin Va ever since the war– He does not remember having ever received written discharges if he ever did has lost or mislaid all of them — He is well known to many of the principal citizens of Franklin – to Moses Greer Jr – Henry Carper, and other members of the County Court – also to Colo Thomas B. Greer and others to whom he refers for his character as a citizen and as a man – he is very poor – but he has ever maintained the fame of a Whig – and an honest man — he has no documentary evidence. He relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity – except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Role of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Abraham hisXmark Abshire

State of Virginia Franklin County (to wit)

this day Moses Greer Sen. (Aged Eighty Eight years) personally appeared before me Moses Greer Jr. a Justice of the peace in the County aforesaid and made oath that Abraham Abshire served two, three month Tours as a privet Militia man at the Lead mines to guard the same and also one tour at Petersburg and several Tours after the Torys which he seposes has amounted in all to twelve or Eighteen months, as he was a good Solider and a true Whig and was always redy to serve his Cuntry when cald on the tower to Lead mines was in the year 1779 as he beleave from the date of sum papers in his possission and the trip to Petersburg in the year 1780 or 1781 and the twoers after the Torys was before and after the above twours to the Lead Mines and Petersburg, and that the said Moses Greer Sen. Commanded a Company at the said Lead Mines under Colo. William Leftwich and as a Lutenant but the Captain of the said Company was missing and the said Command was given to the said Greer Petersburg under Colo. Charles Lynch all which twours we served as Vallenteers

Given under my hand this 31st day of August 1832 Moses Greer Sen

[Signed by Moses Greer Jr, Moses Greer Sr being "too blind to write."

NOTE: A typed summary gives Abshire's date of death as 28 July 1842. A Treasury Department document dated 5 Feb 1846 refers to his widow.