

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Fryer S6866

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia To wit Greenbrier County Court May Term 1829
On the 26th day of May 1829 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the County of Greenbrier John Fryer aged 70 years or thereabouts of said County of Greenbrier & who has been a resident of said County for many years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 the 1st of May 1820 and of the first of March 1823 That the said John Fryer enlisted in the first place under Captain McKee [probably William McKee] for two years in the year 1777 in the said County of Greenbrier and was stationed at Point Pleasant for the most of the said Tour of Two years and then returned to Greenbrier and in the year 1780 some time in September enlisted for Eighteen months in the Virginia line of the Regular Army on Continental establishment that he belonged to Captain Andrew Wallace's Company & in that Company he was marched from Staunton to Hellsborough [sic: Hillsborough] North Carolina where he was attached to Colo. Bluford's [sic: Abraham Buford's] Regm't. The Company was then ordered from Hellsborough to Charlotte where he joined Gen. Gates - After the arival of Gen. Green who took command of the army & marched to Cheraw Hills [sic: after the arrival of Gen. Nathanael Greene who took command of the Southern Army from Gen. Horatio Gates in early Dec 1780, and in Jan 1781 took part of the army to Cheraw Hills in SC] thence he was marched to the borders of Virginia [crossing Dan River near present South Boston, 14 Feb] to avoid an engagement with Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] where he remained until the army was reinforced he then was marched to Gilford Court house where the memorable battle of that place was fought [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] in which he participated. In that battle he lost his Captain & was transfered to Capt. [Conway] Oldham of the Virginia Line. From Gilford Court House Gen'l. Green returned to the Iron works [on Troublesome Creek in present Rockingham County NC] & continued there some time and recruited his Troops & then moved to Rock river That he was there attached to Col. [Richard] Campbell; That he was afterwards marched to Camden [SC] where a Sortie from the Town in Possession of Lord Rawdon and which Gen'l Green was wounded & compelled to retreat to Rugeles Mill in the affair of Camden he lost all his messmates except one & that one was severely wounded Gen'l Green afterwards returned to Camden where the British army was stil Lying and after some skirmishing the enemy was compelled to leave the place [sic: see note below] After this the Army marched to 96 & besieged the Town [Siege of Ninety-Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun] In the whole of that long Siege from the first to the last day he bore a part That he was also in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [8 Sep] where he lost his Capt Oldham and Col. Campbell From thence he was marched to the High hills of Santee from thence to the Round O from thence to PonPon where he staid till his Term of service Expired & then marched to Salisbury where he was Honourably discharged That during the whole time of his enlistment and service he was not two weeks from under arms that his discharge was signed by his Lieu't Hout[?] his Capt having been killed, and by a Major whose name he does not now recollect That he has since lost his discharge & cannot now produce it that he has the evidence of John Williams & Eli Perkins [Elias Perkins, pension application S5908] taken before a Justice of the Peace for the County of Greenbrier to prove his haveing been a Revolutionary Soldier which evidence he submits to prove as well that he was a Revolutionary Soldier as the both of the foregoing declaration & in pursuance of the Act of may 1820 he doth solemnly swear that he was a Resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by Gift Sale or in any manner disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provisions of the Act of Congress entitled An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & Naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War passed the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property or securities contracts or debts due him nor have I any income other than that which is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him

subscribed

One Horse Valued by John Cassell[?] at .	\$40.00
Two Cows by same.....	18.00
16 Sheep & 4 Lambs by same.	14.00
1 Cupboard by same \$8. - 1 Loom by same \$6..	14.00
2 Hoggs & 6 pigs \$3 - 3 Old chairs by same 25 cents.....	3.25
2 potts & 1 oven \$3. Sundry old farming utensils \$7.....	10.00
Sundry old vessles & Tubs by same.	2.00
1 Tract of land containing 184 acres Valued by Francis }	
Luding[?] Sen. & Jno. Cassell said Land not much improved }.....	<u>500.00</u>
	602.25

The yearly rent of said property would not exceed in Value more than \$25 This is not his own Opinion but that of others

John hisXmark Fryer

I the said John Fryer have two children living with me the oldest about 16 and the youngest about 10 years of age and have no assistance but them my wife being dead some time past. The said Children are my grand children whose Father & Mother are dead & they have no person to take care of & protect them but me. They are both helpless girls & can contribute but Little assistance I am a poor man & in such reduced circumstances as to stand in need of the assistance of of my Country for support I am too far advanced in years & too infirm to labour for my support Sworn to and declared on Oath this 26th day of May 1829 before the County Court of Greenbrier aforesaid now in session the same being a court of Record

John hisXmark Fryer

I John Williams state that in or about the year 1780 I was a Lieutenant of the Militia of this County and that I went from this County to Staunton Augusta County & delivered John Fryer and others to Cap Andrew Wallace a Regular officer of the Army I new John Fryer before he went to the Army & I have known him ever since and have good reason to believe that he served Time I do not recollect of seeing his discharge but I saw his Tobacco Note [i.e. certificate for payment in tobacco] which he got as his bounty & I have always understood that he was a brave soldier John Fryer lives near me & has for many years and he is a man in Low Circumstances Given under my hand

John Williams

Greenbrier County April 18th 1829

I Elias Perkins do state that I was in the army in the year 1780 and 1781 as a soldier & that I there saw saw John Fryer frequently doing duty as a Soldier and we were of the Virginia Line and under the command of Bluford but were afterwards seperated Fryer was put in Campbells Regm't and me in Haws [Smuel Hawes's] Regm't I know John Fryer before he Enlisted and after he had served his time and always understood he behaved himself well and was a good Soldier I have a discharge signed at Salisbury the 17th of January 1782 by S Stribling [Sigismund Stribling] Capt. & S Snead [Smith Snead] Major [illegible word] ? Given under my hand the day & year above written

Eli Perkins

State of Virginia } SS.

Greenbrier County }

On this 29th day of august 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justice of the County Court of Greenbrier County now sitting John Fryer a resident of said County and state of Virginia aged 73 years, or their abouts who being first duly sworn according Law doth on his oath make the following decleration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. First that he entered under Capt. McKee for 2 years in the year 1777 in the County of Greenbrier and was stationed on the fronttiers at Point Pleasant, on the ohio River, to guard against the attack of the Indians. And served at Point Pleasant a considerable part of his time, at any rate upwards of Eight or Nine months or more. during this time, he was stationed at Point Pleasant he entered for 3 years, to go to the grand camp, and left Point Pleasant and returned as far as Lewisburg Greenbrier County, and there got a substitute, 2nd that he entered in the Army of the United States in the year 1780 in the month

of Sept. for the term of Eighteen months in the Virginia Line of the regular army on Continental establishment in the County of Greenbrier with Capt Andrew Wallace and was marched from Staunton Virginia to Hillsborough North Carolina where he was attached to the Regiment commanded by Bluford, the Company & regiment was then marched from Hillsborough Charlotte where he joined Gen'l. Gates, after the arrival of Gen'l Green who took the commandment of the army he was marched to Cheraw Hills. he was then marched to the border of Virginia to avoid an engagement with Cornwallis, where he remained until the army was reinforced. he was then marched to Gilfred Court House where the memorable Battle of that Place was Fought, in which he participated in that Battle he lost Capt. and was transferred to Capt. Oldham of the Va line from Guilford Court House Gen'l. Green returned to the Iron Works & continued there for some time and recruited his Troops & then marched to Rock River There he was attached to Col Campbell's Regiment he was attached to Col Campbell's Regiment he was then marched to Camden when a Sortie from the Town in possession of Lord Rawden in which Gen'l Green was compelled to retreat to Rughes Hill in the affair of Camden he lost all his mis mates [sic] except one and he was severely wounded Gen'l Green afterwards returned to Camden where the British army was still lying and after some skirmishing was compelled to leave the Place That is the Brits after this the army marched to 96 & besieged the Town In the whole of that long siege from first to last day, he bore a part. That he also was in the Battle of the Eutow Spring when he lost his Capt Oldham and Col. Campbell from thence he was marched to the High Hills of Santee and from thence to the Round O, from thence to Pon Pon where he staid until his time of service expired, and then marched to Salisbury when he was Honorably discharged. That during the whole of his Enlistment and Service he was not two weeks from under arms his discharge was Signed by Lieut Hewit his Capt having been killed and by a Major whose name he does not now recollect. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the prison [sic] Roll of any agency of any State. He further states that he made a declaration the 26th May 1829 which he presumes is on file in the War department accompanied by affidavits of his service while he begs leave to refer to as part of his Evidence and that he wherein submits the affidavit of Richard Williams [R11613] as further further proof of his services Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid
Teste John Mathews CGC John hisXmark Fryer

State of Virginia Greenbrier County Viz

This day Richard Williams Came before me Charles Hyde a Justice of the Peace for s'd County & made Oath that he was on a tour of Duty at Point Pleasant that he saw John Fryer there then belongin to the Regular service & that he left that under the Command of Andrew Wallace Capt & he understood that he was a good soldier given under my hand & seal this 2[?]th day August 1832 Charles Hyde

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners in present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]

John Fryer Served two years. has drawn \$240—

this old Gentleman gave a most interesting [one or more illegible words here and at the following places marked X] account of his Revolutionary Services satisfying [X] all question that he not only served in the Regular Service for the time set forth in his Declaration but three tours of 3 months each in the Militia of Virginia after his [X] expired - having previously learned from Mr. [X] that his name was found on the Roll - I considered it entirely unnecessary to take his statement in writing - this case has not been [X] in any case unless a [X] from information - that there was evidence of the [X] such, in the possession of the Commissioner of Pensions

W. G Singleton February [X] 1835

NOTE: The contest between the troops of Greene and Rawdon alluded to was the Battle of Hobkirk Hill on 25 Apr 1781. Greene was not wounded, but retreated toward Rugeley's Mill. Lord Rawdon abandoned Camden on 9 May.