

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Arthur Litchford S7156

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/13/13

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Campbell County: SS

On this 10 day of September 1832, personally appeared in Open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of Campbell County now sitting Arthur Litchford a resident of the parish of Russell in the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy-three 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 act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832 in relation to the Officers & Soldiers of the revolutionary war.

On his oath, he saith that he entered the service of the United States in 1776, as a private soldier in the militia as a minute man in the County of James City & State aforesaid. Served at the Barracks town of Williamsburg in this State at the place in said town called the Palace Yard: where he performed Garrison duty – 4 or 5 months: there was just one company of minute men: Colonel Ennis [probably James Innis] was then in command at that place: he don't recollect his Captain's name; but remembers that he (the Captain) was not in good standing with his superiors nor with others. Believes that he was broke for his misconduct. After this term of 4 or 5 months service, he was dismissed and went home: that he was shortly afterwards called into service again, as a private in the militia of the County aforesaid, and marched to Holt's forge between Richmond and Williamsburg. Shortly, a few days after he reached that place, he joined Captain Kelly's Company of volunteer militia; who were stationed at that place. At that time the British fleet lay in James River, where the enemy threatened Williamsburg & Richmond: after the fleet moved down the River, and traveled up York River, the immediate danger being over, he was, together with others discharged and he went home. He was in service at this time, nearly or quite three months; in all, both tours together eight months. He has lost his discharge, if indeed he ever had one: and he has no living witness of his said service, nor no writing whatever concerning the same. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except in the present; and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State whatever.

S/ Arthur Litchford

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[Henry Brown, a clergyman, and James D Cardwell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The Interrogatories put to Arthur Litchford a revolutionary soldier of Campbell County Virginia the attached to his declaration already made out before the County Court of said County by the court.

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the County of Kent, old England in the year 1758.

2nd Have you any record of your age?

Ans. I have not, but it is down in my father's Big Church Bible & that is in my brother's hands, where he is I don't know

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. In James City County Virginia – I have lived 2 years in Charles City County, and the balance of the time in Campbell County Virginia

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

Ans. I voluntarily enlisted in the minute service; and after that I volunteered in the volunteer Company after my first Captain was broke –

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. Colonel Ennis; I don't recollect the major's name; I don't recollect more than is put down in my declaration; James City Regiment I recollect.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I received no discharge: I was dismissed without one – & the time of the siege of York.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

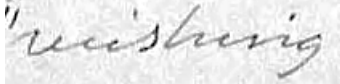
Ans. Capt. John Rosson, Major Thomas Franklin; William Rossen and David Callahan – Adler Arrington, Henry Brown

Campbell County Virginia to wit

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Arthur Litchford, who being duly affirmed 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, in the revolutionary war, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: for eight months at least he served as a private in the militia of Virginia during that war: to wit, 5 months as a minute man under Colonel Ennis, at the Barracks near Williamsburg: and three months under Captain Kelly, as a volunteer at Holt's forge; he is sure that he served these two tours, and that they first runs at least five months; and the last three months, as mentioned in his declaration; he says that he then put down for the times "4 or 5 months" [indecipherable word]¹ to be rather short than over the time he served; but he does not doubt but it was 5 months, and the last tour 3 months. In all 8 months.

Given under my hand etc. this 29th day of April 1833

S/ Alex. Austin, JP

¹ 

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the Virginia militia.]