

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Michal Radar (Michael Rader) S7349

VA

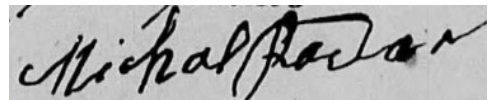
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 27 May 2019.

Virginia } to wit
Jackson County }

On this 27th day of August [1832] personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Jackson County now sitting Michael Rader a resident of Mill Creek in the County of Jackson and State of Virginia aged Eighty one years six months and nineteen days 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

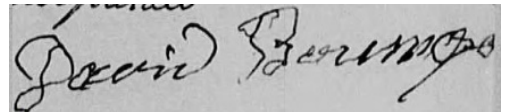
That he entered the service of the United States in the Latter part of the year 1777 by volunteering his services and raising a volunteer Company in the County of Sheandoah [sic: Sheandoah, at that time Dunmore County] in the State of Virginia at a place in said County called Massinuten [sic: Massanutten] and took Command of said Company as Captain and marched first to Winchester and there joined the following officers – Capt. Reddicken – Capt. Bauling [sic: Henry Paulding of Botetourt County] – Capt Nighswenger [sic: John Nisewanger of Frederick County] Capt. Buck [Thomas Buck S16672 of Dunmore] each with his Company. they all marched in Company to the then Fort Pitt – there was neither Major or Coln with these troops when they arrived at fort Pitt. Genl. [Edward] Hand took the Command and the troops went from fort Pitt to wheeling by water there they halted and remained during the balance of their tour of Duty at which last place they were discharged And returned to Shenandoah County where this Applicant was appointed by the Government of Va. a major about the first of May in the year 1778 this applicant marched as major to fort Pitt again having under his Command two Companies of Men under the Command of Capts. John Roush & Abraham Byrd after arriveing at fort Pitt they were ordered to proceed to a place called Carnes fort on Dickards Creek about six miles from Morgantown [sic: Fort Kern on Deckers Creek at present Westover WV just across the Monongahela River from Morgantown] and took the Command of the fort where the term of Service Expired — his documentary Evidence was some years ago accidentally destroyed all except one original dockument which was accidentally preserved and which is now here Exhibited [not found in the file] and he knows of only one person within in his reach that he can prove his personal service by whose name is David Bumgarner [W5968]

And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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
Sworn and Subscribed to the day and year aforesaid



[George Castor and George Stone gave the standard certification of Radar's honesty and his reputation as having been a soldier of the Revolution.]

David Bumgarner was produced in Court who stated that he in the y[page torn] 1777 served as a private soldier in Capt. Michael Raders Company and that the facts in relation to that tour of Duty so far as stated in Michael Raders declaration in relation thinks are true as far as he reccollects and that the present Michael Rader now here in Court is the same person that Commanded in the year 1777 which statement of the said David Bumgarner was verified by the oath of him the said David Bumgarner Sworn and subscribed to on the day and year aforesaid

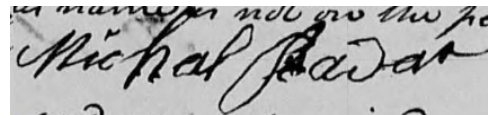


Virginia Jackson County to wit,

On this 22^d day of September in the year 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Jackson County now sitting Michael Rader a resident of Mill Creek in the County of Jackson and state of Virginia aged eighty one years and upwards who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his corporal oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States and served as follows In the latter part of the year of 1777 it is believed on the 1st or 2^d day of Sept he had raised volunteer company in the County of Shenandoah Virginia at a place in said County called Massinutten. As well as he now recollects on the day and year last mentioned he marched with said company as Capt. thereof to Winchester Frederick County Virginia and there joined the following troops commanded by the following named officers viz Capts. Reddicken, Pauling, Nighswonger and Buck – each with a company of men. That they all marched in company to the then fort Pitt situated at the head of the Ohio river. That on their march there was no officer whatever with the troops of a higher grade than Capt. After arriving at their destination Genl. Hand then at fort Pitt took the command. After remaining at fort Pitt about a month or six weeks they were ordered to Wheeling fort situated in Virginia on the bank of the Ohio river about one hundred miles below fort Pitt. To that place they went by water and there served out the balance of that tour of duty which was for the period of three months. At wheeling fort there were a Col. [Isaac] Zane there were some regular soldiers at Fort Pitt at which place I also saw Col. Steele & Col. [John] Gibson from the former of which viz. Steele I drew two guns for my Company.

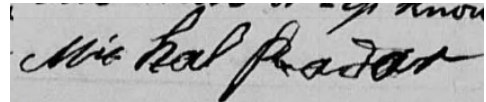
After having compleated the aforesaid tour of duty he returned to the County of Shenandoah where he was appointed a Major in the Militia of that County by the then Government of Virginia. About the 1st day of May 1778 (and this applicant believes that it was on that day) this applicant marched by order of the Government of Va. as a Major to Fort Pitt a second time having under his command two companies of men commanded by Capts John Roush & Abraham Byrd. After arriving at Fort Pitt He with his command was ordered to place called Carnes's Fort on Decker Creek about six miles from Morgan Town Virginia and took the Command of the fort where he remained untill his turn of service expired which last Tour of Duty was also for three months. At Carne's Fort Col. Evans [John Evans S8444] commanded there were no other troops at Fort Carnes but my own except what military duty was done by the inhabitants of the surrounding country congregated there. His documentary Evidence viz. his Commission as Capt. & Major were some years ago accidentally destroyed. One original paper he however has preserved and produces which accompanied his former application made to the Court on the 27th day of August 1832. And since the making of that application he has accidentally discovered the other original papers now accompanying this application. He knows of only one person within his reach that he can prove his personal service by whose name is David Bumgarner of the County of Mason who gave his affidavit in his former application which he here again offers in lieu of the personal attendance of the witness whose great age renders it difficult to procure his attendance even if the very considerable distance from the Courthouse of Jackson County at which he witness lives was not to be travelled over a very rough road He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael Rader". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "Michael" is written in a larger, more prominent hand than "Rader".

And the Court pursuant to the directions of the department propounded the following questions which with the answers thereto annexed were reduced to writing and sworn to

1st. question. Where and in what year were you born? – Ans. I was born in the lower end of Rockingham County [formed from Augusta County in 1778] some in the year of our lord 1750 it is believed in the month of March

- 2^d. “ Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? – Ans. I have a record of my age it is now in my possession
- 3rd. “ Where were you living when called into service – where have you lived since the revolutionary war? Where do you now live Ans When called into service I lived in the County of Shenandoah Virginia. Since the revolutionary war I have lived in the Counties of Shenandoah a short time – in the County of Greenbrier about ten years the residue of the time viz 24 years I have lived in the County of Mason Va. until that part of the County I reside in now was recently taken from Mason and created a County called Jackson
- 4th. “ How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? Ans. My First tour was as a volunteer for three months as capt. of a Company My Second tour was as a Major by a draft or at least by order of the Government for three months I never was a substitute
- 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. It is believed that Genl. [words apparently missing at end of page] Cols. Steel & Gibson I do not remember any regular regiments nor can I remember any other troops particularly other than those already mentioned
- 6th. question. Did you ever receive a commission and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it. Ans. I did receive a captains as well as a majors Commission but I do not remember by whom the Commissions were signed and it is lost – both of them
- 7th. “ State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief as to your services as a soldier of the revolution? ans. I believe I can refer safely to almost Every Justice of the peace in the County of Mason where I long acted as one untill old age and infirmity rendered it proper for me to resign. In the County of Mason I can refer to the following persons who it is believed are known to the department. Doctor Jess Bennett. Benjamin Thomas Esq. the present post master also Mr. Alex.[?] McCulloch the former Post Master. In the County of Jackson which was created in 1831 I can refer to the Justices also the Clerk of the Court Benjamin Wright Esq. also to James Smith Esq. the Post master at cedar grove Jackson Cty. to Robert Louthier Esq. the Postmaster at Jackson Ct. house now called Ripley and believe that I am more or less known to all the persons in the County.



[David Sayre and George Stone gave the standard certification that Michal Radar was honest and had the reputation of having been a soldier of the Revolution.]

[A letter dated 3 June 1833 states that no record could be found of Michael Rader’s commissions.]

James Rader was produced in Court and sworn who stated that he has frequently seen Michaels Raders Commissions of Capt & Major of a very ancient date and appearance. That he is the son of the applicant had frequent occasion to look among his papers And that he has frequently saw other papers purporting to be in relation to military service of the period of the revolutionary war

[signed 11 Oct 1833] James Rader

[Another son, Michael Rader, Jr., signed a similar statement and added that “some ten years ago [he] Committed as will the said Commission as the other papers to the flames and they were burnt.]

Lewisburg Va Dec'r 23^d '57

Commissioner of Pension

D'r Sir. By referring to the roll of Revolutionary Soldiers from Virginia you will find that name of Michael Rader. It can be established by record evidence, that he entered the service as a mounted man and continued in the service seventeen months. Under the act of 7th June 1832 he appeared before the Jackson County (Va) Court, and proved the above-mentioned fact which was certified to the Secretary of war who placed him upon the pension roll at \$70 per annum which he received until June 17th 1839.

If it is within the province of your office you will please inform me whether there are not arrears now due and payable to the heirs of Michael Rader upon their making a proper application.

Respectfully yours/ Hy Mason Mathews

NOTES:

A roll of Michael Radar's company probably in 1777 is transcribed at <http://revwarapps.org/b390.pdf>.

A note in the file indicates that Radar's pension was for \$10 per year for three months service as a private plus \$60 per year for three months service as a captain.

A document in the file states that Radar died on 18 June 1839 leaving a widow.

In the file is a copy of a document stating that when Mason County was formed from Kanawha the following were appointed Justices of the new county on 2 May 1804: Francis Watkins, William Clendinen, William Owens, John Rausch, Maurice Reynolds, Edward H. McDonough, John Henderson, John McCulloch, Michael Rader, and Andrew Lewis.