

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Roberts S7407

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/11/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Ohio Ross County: SS

On this 14th day of June A.D. 1834 personally appeared in Open Court before the Honorable Frederic Grimkey Pres'd [presiding judge?] and James McClintock, Isaac Cook & Isaac McCracken Associates of said Court of Common Pleas in and for said County now sitting William Roberts a resident of said County of Ross Colerain Township, aged sixty-nine years and a little upwards, 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That he entered the service of the United States about one year and four months, as well as he now recollects prior to the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781], but the precise month or year he cannot safely swear to, that he well remembers that it must have been at least one year & some months or thereabouts. At that time he lived in Frederick County Virginia on the Shenandoah River. That he was drafted there into a Company of militia commanded by Captain Abraham Kendrick, and Chrisley Kendrick [also spelled Christly Kindrick] a brother of the Captain was Lieutenant and under these officers the Company was first mustered at Frontroyal [Front Royal]. From there they marched across the Blue Ridge, into Lower of Virginia in the direction of the City of Richmond a little to the left of the Town of Fredericksburg, passed through Richmond across the James River to Manchester, & after laying there some time, we were ordered to Petersburg; and there we lay again a long time, – while there at Petersburg a good many other Companies were there, but we were not united in any Regiment or Battalion to the best of the recollection of this declarant nor can he say with any degree of Certainty how long they lay at one place, But well recollects that after they had laid there a good while, they were permitted to march back, with this strict injunctions to keep themselves in readiness to take the field him moments warning. And when they got home and were disbanded at Frontroyal they had been absent three months and some few days, and were charged by Captain Kendrick to keep ready at any moment to parade there upon the shortest notice. That in a few days after they got home, word came that they must muster again at Frontroyal which the Company immediately did, with this declarant, & were marched again under Captain Kendrick nearly on the same route as before as far as Richmond, where they lay a considerable time with other Companies of drafted militia, and thence marched again to Petersburg and took up a station a little below Petersburg at a place not now recollected by name – where they lay for some time, and then there was a report that Washington was coming on to lay siege to Yorktown where we heard that Cornwallis had stationed himself. And it was the alarm of Cornwallis' approach, and his movements upon Virginia that was the cause of our last call out – From this last station we were moved about from place to place sometimes under one

field officer and sometimes under another so that he cannot recollect & does not know if his company was really attached at any time to anyone Regiment or Battalion – but remembers having field officers, one particular call General Lafayette and such were the rapidity of their movements and the noise and interest about the Siege at Yorktown, that he cannot safely swear to what points they did march. They were not however at the Siege of York, but were all that time posted about from place to place as a defense to the Country – against the rising of the Negroes & other marauders – and after they heard of the Surrender of Cornwallis, they were marched back & discharged at the same place as before after an absence of nearly eight months and a half as well as he can now recollect. They were originally drafted only for six months, but during the last tour of duty the six months expired, & this deponent with all the rest of the Company while they lay below Petersburg, being pressed by their officers, as the danger to the Country was great volunteered to serve as much longer as the danger needed their service & were Captain as aforesaid on the most positive assurance of receiving pay at Richmond – which paid they never got. This declarant says that he has no documentary evidence of his said service and that Mr. John Owens whom he now produces in Court is the only person now living that he knows of who can prove any part of his said service, as he received no written discharge.

He hereby relinquishes all & 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 or territory.

- 1st Tour of duty 3 months
2. do do 8 ½ months

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Humphrey Fullerton, Clerk

S/ Wm Roberts



State of Ohio Ross County: SS

Personally appeared in open court John Owens aged about 75 years, and made Oath that he has been well acquainted with the within named William Roberts for 50 or 60 years, that they were raised in the County of Frederick in the State of Virginia & were near neighbors. That he well recollects of the said William Roberts being drafted into the service for six months as stated in his declaration, and of his having served in the Army in the Company commanded by Captain Kendrick as he has stated in the within declaration, and knows that said Roberts is a man of truth, and that his declaration within is true to the best of this affiant's recollection and belief.

S/ John Owens, X his mark

[Nathan Cary [could be Nathan Cory], a clergyman of the Baptist Church, and John Owens gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions Propounded by the Court to the Declarant

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Frederick County Virginia in 1765 or 6 but as this declarant has no written memorandum of his birth he will not be positive of the month or year, but is sure it was in the winter of 1765 – 6.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. – As last above.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the

Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer, I lived in Frederick County Virginia when I was called into the Service, and after the War was over I continued to live there for some time, and during that time was frequently out as a Spy amongst the Indians on the frontiers – And was in the Service in the Indian War, called the Old Indian War, as the enclosed affidavits will show – When I left Frederick County I removed to Harrison County, and then went out against the Indians under Captain Jackson who commanded a company called Rangers. That after these Indian wars were over he removed to Ohio, Ross County, where he now resides say 30 odd years ago.

4th How were you called into service; etc.?

Answer. I was drafted for 6 months & afterwards volunteered and served as before stated.

5th State the names of some of the General Officers Regular officers, Regiments etc. etc. in which you served

Answer. I knew no other regular officer than Lafayette as aforesaid, nor do I think I was attached to any regular Regiment or Battalion, we were Lt. [light] troops and kept on a running service, very laborious & fatiguing – as stated in the declaration

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service?

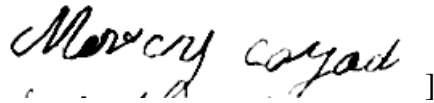
Answer. I did not, we were 1st dismissed to go home as stated before but no discharge in writing was ever given.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known etc. etc. Who can testify as to your character for veracity etc. & their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Mr. Nathan Cory, and Mr. John Owens and others if necessary

S/ Wm Roberts

[f p. 9: On May 21, 1834, Mercy Coyad [??] gave testimony in Green County Kentucky that William Roberts served in the old Indian war in defense of Harrison County, Va., under Capt. John Jackson and Col. Edward Jackson.

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[f p. 12: On May 21, 1834, John Coyad [?] also gave testimony as to the service of William Roberts in the Indian War in 1788 & 1789 under Capt. John Jackson and Col. Edward Jackson.

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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia.]