

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Rolstone S7431

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/20/12

[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 Virginia and County of Rockingham: to wit:

This 17th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Rockingham now sitting David Rolstone a resident in the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia aged seventy-one 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 provision made by 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 was born in the County of Rockingham (then a part of Augusta) in Virginia, on the 20th of October in the year 1760 and has resided in the same place ever since, that but has no record of his age; he believes the record kept by his father has been lost. In June 1776 he was drafted into the militia service, as one of Captain Hopkins's Company and marched under Captain John Rice to Greenbrier – when he reached the Fort which he had been called out to defend the Indians had dispersed, and he was only retained a short time, he thinks he was out about fifteen days. This service was performed before he was sixteen years of age, he had been enrolled under that age, and agreed to serve against the Indians believing it would be received in lieu of another tour.

In September 1780, he thinks about the 20th of the month he was drafted as a militia man under Captain Robert Cravens and Lieutenant William Smith, and was marched to Hillsborough North Carolina, and joined the Head-Quarters of Colonel Stubblefield of the militia at that place. From Hillsborough he marched to Cheraw Hills South Carolina. From this place he was detached with a small party of about 18 or 20 men down the Pee Dee [Pedee] River to take possession of some boats and bring them up the River to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. After serving three months from the time of joining Head-Quarters, he was discharged, and returned home in February. He was not in any engagement during this term, and was under the command of General Green [Nathanael Greene] but was not immediately with his Army.

Early in January 1781 he was drafted under Captain Richard Ragans [Richard Reagan's], and marched through Virginia and joined Head-Quarters below Richmond, on York or Pamunkey River. After remaining at that place 2 or 3 days he was detached on a scouting party of about 200 men under the command of Major Long of the militia, and continued between York-town (which was then occupied by the British) Army, and the American Army, until the latter marched to the siege of York. He served at York during the siege, and was discharged on the 20th of October, the day after the capitulation of the British Army, having served three months and ten or eleven days. He never received a written discharge, and has no documentary evidence whatever

of his service. For the proof of his services he relies on the testimony of George Argubright¹ who served in the same company during the siege of York – and of Andrew Huling² who served in the same company in the Carolinas, who well be produced in Court for that purpose. For his character for veracity, and the belief of his revolutionary services in his neighborhood, he refers to Henry J Gambill Esquire Clerk of this Court, Robert Gray Esquire Commonwealth's attorney, Colonel David Henton one of the edge Justices of the Peace, Joseph Banks Esquire high Sheriff and Major Daniel Rogers son of the Captain under whom he served, Doctor Cravens and the older neighbors generally.

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 to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ David Rolstone



[Michael Mayerhoeffer, a clergyman, and David Steele gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Rockingham County to wit:

This day personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for Rockingham County & State of Virginia George Argubright who being first duly sworn deposed and saith, that he served a tour in the militia in the same company with David Rolstone, in the year 1781 during the Siege of York and previously, and he knows that the said Rolstone served during this tour three months and ten or eleven days. This tour was served under Captain Richard Ragan.

I further certify that the said George Argubright is a credible person, and his statements on oath are entitled to full faith & credit.

Given under my hand this 18th day of March 1833

S/ David Henton

This day personally appeared before the undersigned, a Justice of the Peaceful Rockingham County Andrew Huling of Rockingham County and State of Virginia who being first duly sworn deposed and saith; that he served a three months tour in the same company with David Rolstone, in the year 1780 in the Carolinas under Captain Robert Cravens. This deponent further states that he was in court when the said David Rolstone's declaration was read and sworn to, and was sworn as a witness, and gave the same statement then, which he makes here.

I further certify that the said Andrew Huling is a credible person, and his statements on oath are entitled to full faith & credit. Given under my hand this 20th day of March 1833

S/ R. P. Fletcher

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$22.75 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia militia for 6 months and 20 days.]

¹ [George Argubright W25357](#)

² FPA S5584