

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Shepler S7497

f11VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/8/12

[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.]

[Note: This veteran's claim is erroneously indexed under the Virginia veterans. All of his service was rendered in the Pennsylvania Continental line. I did not realize that he did not fit the criteria for inclusion in this database until after I had transcribed his application so therefore I decided to include it.]

State of Virginia County of Rockingham: SS

On this 19th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Rockingham County, now sitting, George Shepler a resident of the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia aged 73 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 7th 1832.

That he was born in Berks County Pennsylvania on the 16th day of February 1759 – his age is recorded in his father's Bible now in his possession. He continued to reside in Pennsylvania until the year 1800 when he removed to Virginia and has lived in Frederick and Rockingham Counties in that state ever since.

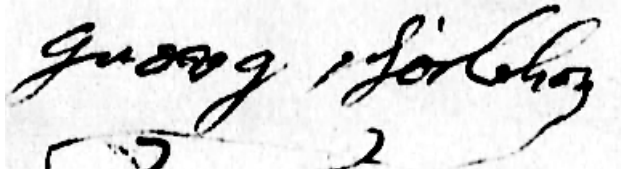
On the 4th of July 1777 as well as he now recollects, he enlisted in Berks County Pennsylvania as a private soldier in what was called the Flying Camp. The recruiting officers who were present at the time of his enlistment were Francis Umberhander and ___ Gheist, both lieutenants. He does not feel confident that he is right in the orthography of their two names – they being German names and difficult to spell in English. The place of rendezvous was Reading Pennsylvania he was marched from that place immediately after his enlistment through Trenton, Princeton and New Brunswick to New York and joined the main Army. He was in the engagement on Long Island [August 27, 1776], under the immediate command of Lord Sterling [William Alexander]. He was then marched to the White Plains [October 28, 1776] and was in the engagement at that place. He recollects particularly the conduct of Colonel Wood who he thinks was from Virginia, and distinguished himself by displaying great bravery in that action. He knew General Washington, General Lafayette, Colonel Wood and other Officers. The officers whose names he now recollects in his own Regiment were Colonel Hollon or Holler, Lieutenant Colonel Lootz or Lutz, Captain Joseph Heister (since Governor of Pennsylvania). After the engagement at White Plains they advanced to North Castle and afterwards retreated from time to time, until they reached Trenton, and he was discharged on the Pennsylvania side of the River near that place. He received his discharge in writing, after having served a few days over 6 months but does not recollect by whom it was signed and has since lost it. He was in site of Fort Washington on the opposite side of the River near the City of New York at the time at the surrender of that Fort. He has no documentary evidence of his service. For his general standing and character for veracity in his neighborhood he refers to Samuel Cootes and Christian Horn

Esquire Justices of the peace in this County. Major John Shaver, John Rader, Christian Funk, Samuel Bowman, Benjamin Yount and Samuel Yount. If he were in his native Country, in Pennsylvania he thinks he would find no difficulty in procuring ample testimony of his services, by men acquainted with them personally.

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/ George Sirbhoz [?]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Sirbhoz". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. There are some faint, illegible markings below the main signature.

[Jacob Houck, a clergyman, and Benjamin Rhodes gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Pennsylvania Continental line.]