

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of James Troy S7747

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 26 Nov 2011.

Virginia Monongalia County court 28th August 1832.

On this day James Troy of this county personally appeared in open court of said county now sitting 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 the 7th 1832 That he entered the service of the United States when he was fifteen years old in this county [formed in 1776 from the District of West Augusta] at Stradlers fort [also called Fort Statler] on Dunkard creek in the year 1774 under the following officers. Col William McClary [sic: William McCleary] then a Captain Lieutents Philip Pierce & Samuel Livendler we were stationed at Stradlers fort the best part of two years then I was mustered under Captain Lewis Rogers at Martins fort on Crooked run [on the W side of Monongahela River] two months then I was drafted for six months to go to Fort Pitt I was there placed under the command of Captain Bruce Col [John] Gibson and Col Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] commanded continued until my turn of service expired returned home and volunteered and was marched under Capt William John and Col William McClary to wheeling where I was placed under the command of Captain Robert Fenoll, Collonel Jackson & Major Louther [sic: William Lowther] continued there three months Gen Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark] was the commanding officer I then returned home thus ended my services untill the close of the revolutionary war I was Born in Winchester Virginia in the year 1759 moved in this county when I was ten years old and have lived here ever since in all the company I was in I acted as an orderly Sergeant Peter Haut [sic: Peter Haught, pension application S6981] George Wade [S7829] and divers other of my neighbours can testify as to my veracity & character and their belief of my services as a revolutionary services

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of any agency of any State

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] James Troy

Amos Morris [S7244] a resident of said county aged seventy four years, personally appeared before the said court and after being duly sworn deposed and saith. That he recollects that in 1779 he saw James Troy, who signed and made oath to the foregoing declaration in his presence before the court of said county, at Fort Pitt but cannot tell how long he was in the service—

Sworn to and subscribed the day ad year aforesaid [signed] Amos Morris

George Wade a resident of said county aged seventy two years, also personally appeared before the said court, and after being duly sworn deposed and saith, that he has been personally acquainted with James Troy, who has sworn to and subscribed the foregoing declaration, for about fifty seven years – that he has heard said Troys declaration, and he knows that he performed the services as a scout as therein stated, and he believes that he was in the service and performed the duty as stated in said declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid [signed] George Wade

At a court held for Monongalia county, on monday the 25th of February, in the year 1833 personally appeared before the said court in open court Henry Yoho [S7996], aged eighty years, who being first duly sworn, doth depose and say that he has been acquainted with James Troy the person named in the foregoing declaration ever since the year 1777, that this deponent was a soldier in Capt. Cros company, attached to Col. Gibsons regiment, stationed at Fort Pitt he believe in the same year. that he knew the said James Troy, who was a sargent in a company of militia attached to the same regiment at

the same place, that after Troy and himself had been at Fort Pitt four months, this deponant was with others sent to the narrows of Grave creek below [S of] Wheeling to bury Capt. Foremans men – that he did not return to Fort Pitt, and does not know what time Troy was discharged, but the militia were drafted for six months.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Henry hisHmark Yoho

State of Virginia } SS.

County of Monongalia } On this 25th day of March, in the year 1833, personally again appeared before the said court, James Troy, a resident of said county, aged seventy years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following additional declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he recollects at Fort Pitt, during the Revolutionary War, Col. John Gibson & Col. Campbell of Virginia line and Col. Brodhead of Pennsylvania, and several inferior Regular officers, whose names he has now forgotten, that he knew also at Fort Pitt and on [Gen. Lachlan] McIntosh's campaign during the Revolution Col. John Evans, Col Boyer [probably John Bowyer], Major Springer, and many others besides those already named who were militia officers – that he in every instance received a discharge from the service, but he has long since lost them, deeming them of no more value than the Continental money he received for his services – that he was paid twelve dollars per month in that kind of paper, during all his services – That he has for a great may years been personally acquainted with Col. Dudley Evans, Col. Ralph Berkshire, Rev'd. Joseph A. Shackelford, Col. Samuel Flannery and many other old and respectable inhabitants of said county who he believes can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services in the Revolution

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] James Troy

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated a many pension applicants from Monongalia, Harrison, Lewis and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth. On the back of the report Singleton wrote "Fraud."] James Troy serv'd. 11 mo. amt. of Pension \$55—

I the undersigned James Troy at the Requisition of the Secretary of War, give the following narrative of my age and Revolutionary service to Wit. I was born in the year 1759 august 16th when turned of 15 yrs. I served under Col. McClary at Duncard Fort. there was no captain at that station, but there was Lieutenant and ensigns, but I dont recollect their names. nor do I now remember how many soldiers there was at that station. nor in what year this service was done – I went to the Fort in the spring & returned in the fall ["1774" written in margin] and was in service some five or six months – my Father had a "settlement or Tomahawk right" within 2 miles of the fort his family including my self were at the Fort at the time above spoken of.

In the succeeding summer, I was drafted & marched from Monongalia County to Pittsburg and remained there six month. there were ten of us drafted out of Capt. Rogers' company. we went on to Brownsvill [sic: Brownsville, then known as Redstone Fort, in present Fayette County PA] without any [two illegible words] and there joined Capt. Hardens company & marched to Pittsburg – Col Broadhead & Col. Gibson commanded at Pitt—

In the next succeeding summer I was at Martin's Fort (monongalia cty) for two months. Lieut. McKinly commanded – was out scouting every other week

In the same summer I was poppaw station in same County [sic: Fort Pawpaw on Pawpaw Creek now in Marion County] for two months under Capt John Evans there was a sort of Block House at this station – and this ended my services. Mr Ray wrote my Declaration. whilst the same above detailed I was orderly Sergeant – I proved my service by George Wade & Amos Morris. In Witness whereof I here to subscribe my name Nov. 6, 1834 [signed] James Troy

Witness Isaac Cooper.

Mount Morris, Greene Co. Pa: August 19, 1858.

Sir: Having in the month of April last restored the names of Peter Haught and Zachariah Piles to the Revolutionary pension list, I now presume, if the statements of the heirs of James Troy are correct and reliable, that Troy, who had been pensioned under the Act of June 7, 1832, had a valid claim to his pension – If there is nothing on file against his claim but the adverse opinion of W. G. Singleton, such opinion would not weigh a feather before any Court where Singleton is known in Virginia.

The heirs of Troy inform me that Peter Haught was one of the witnesses by whom Troy proved his service, from which I infer they served together.

Haught and Troy resided only a few miles apart, in Monongalia County, Virginia – and had emigrated there, as can be shown, about the time the Revolution commenced.

Thos. P. Ray of Morgantown, at the time Clerk of the Courts of the County of Monongalia, Va, was the Agent of Haught, Piles, and Troy. The latter died in 1841 and was at that time over ninety years of age – His pension was payable at the Richmond, Va. Agency.

The oldest citizens of Monongalia County – men near ninety years of age, now say to me, that they never heard any one doubt, as they do not, Troy's revolution services. Such was the reputation of Haught and Piles whose claims you have justly recognized.

Will you, therefore, please, reexamine the claim of James Troy – compare the evidence of meritorious service, with those of Haught and Piles, and let the heirs of Troy, through me, know the result.

Troy, as before stated, died, it is said, in Jan'y 1841. His pension had been suspended in March 1834 – the same time that Haught's & Piles' were – Very Respectfully Your obt. servt.

J. V. Boughner

Hon. Geo. C. Whiting, Comm'r. Pensions
Washington City.

State of Virginia,
County of Monongalia, SS:

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a justice of the peace, within and for the county and state above named, Joseph Tennant, aged seventy six years, a native of said county and state, and whom I certify to be a credible person, and who being duly sworn according to law, does depose and say: That he was well acquainted with James Troy, deceased, in his lifetime, having known him since about the year 1792, that said Troy, through his agent, Thos. P. Ray, Esqr, made an application for a pension, which was allowed him, but was afterwards suspended; that deponent was informed by Ray, the agent of Troy, that he had some trouble to prove the services of Troy, but finally a commissioned officer, deponent thinks Ray said he was a Colonel, informed Ray, that he had a knowledge of said Troy's services, and his evidence was procured; That deponent understood that said commissioned officer did not reside in this county: Deponent would further state that said James Troy, in his lifetime, had the reputation of having served in the Indian war, during the Revolution, and believes there was reasonable ground for such reputation – he further thinks said Troy's pension was not suspended at the same time that the pensions of Peter Haught and Zachariah Piles were; owing to some mistake by Singleton, at that time the United States district attorney & deponents recollection is that Troy's service, as alledged, was after the period of the service of Haught and Piles; that deponent is fully satisfied of the justice of restoring Peter Haughts name to the pension roll – That the father of deponent, Richard Tennant, served with Haught, and he thinks Piles too; he would finally state that his understanding was that no prosecution was instituted against Troy – That said Troy was a very poor man – and the United States could have made nothing by a suit against him, and further saith not.

[signed] Joseph Tenant

[Others listed in the following letter deposed similarly with regard to Troy's reputation.]

Mt. Morris, Greene Co. Pa: Nov'r 8, 1858

Sir: In conformity with the terms of your letter of Sept. 27, 1858, you will find herewith sundry affidavits of residents & citizens of Monongalia County, Virginia, showing that the late James Ray, who was at one time a Revolutionary pensioner, had in his lifetime, the reputation of having served in the Indian Wars, during the Revolution.

Amongst all who now survive, who knew Troy in his life time, the belief prevails of his meretorious services, as claimed. If required, the number of witnesses who would cheerfully attest this belief can be procured, to the extent of Troy's acquaintance.

The Character of most of the affiants is well known in Monongalia County and can be, I have no doubt, if required, attested by the Judge of the Circuit Court, of Monongalia district. There are, indeed, few men of more enviable reputation than the brothers Joseph and Abraham Tenant, and Richard D. Tennant. [John] Keck and [John] Shriver, [Stephen S.] Wilson and [Jacob] Brookover are equally reputable but not so widely known. The latter were, however, the immediate neighbors of Troy in his lifetime.

I am informed that W. G. Singleton, who in 1834 was United States district attorney, for the western district of Virginia personally called upon Zachariah Piles, Peter Haught, and James Troy, and after his interviews with them made out and transmitted to your office an opinion adverse to the claims of these men. Joseph Tennant, who was present during the interview with Haught, says, that his course of interrogation was very rude & ungentlemanly, and that he sought to intimidate Haught by threatening a prosecution for perjury.

If additional evidence was required of these parties it was that of direct evidence, which could not have been procured, and Singleton knew it.

Thomas P. Ray, Esqr at the time of the applications Clerk of the various Courts in Monongalia County, died about the time the pensions of these parties were suspended, and besides Ray, these old men did not know to whom to look for counsel and advice.

Ray had been their unwavering friend, and such was his character as a public spirited citizen and for moral worth, that the whole county mourned his decease. Such a man as Ray could never have connived at a fraud and the original applications of these men were fraudulent, if Singleton's showing was true. In Monongalia County where Singleton and Ray were both well known, the opinion of such a man as Thos. P. Ray would weigh against that of a thousand such men as Singleton.

You ask if proceedings were instituted against Troy:

I infer from Joseph Tennants evidence as well as the other witnesses in relation to Troy's poverty that no suit was instituted against him. Tennant informs me that he was a witness to show the reputation of Haught and Piles, when the suit was pending against them in the United States district Court at Clarksburg; that he is equally well satisfied of Troy's meretorious services, and if suit had been instituted against him would have so testified.

In conclusion, to quote the language of your letter of the 27 of Sept, "in the cases of Zach. Piles and Peter Haught, upon full examination, the United States voluntarily abandoned the prosecution to recover the money paid them," and thus repudiated the *ex parte* opinion of Singleton adverse to their claims. Now, when thus branded by such a Tribunal as the U. States district Court as unjust, what should such an opinion weigh as against James Troy?

Very Respectfully, Your Obt servt. Jas. V. Boughner

Hon. Geo. C. Whiting, Commr Pensions,
Washington City D. C.

[On 17 Jan 1859 Boughner again wrote to Whiting, stating that Troy had "three or four surviving children – the oldest of whom is now about 78." He also added, "W. G. Brown, Esqr and G. C. Wilson, Esqr both eminent jurists, (both of whom have served in Congress) attribute the course of Singleton to improper officiousness and incompetency. He never had any character as an attorney and his utter failure in the

prosecutions against Peter Haught and Wade is confirmation of the fact." After several more letters from Boughner, Troy's name was restored to the pension roll on 9 Apr 1859, according to a note on his pension certificate. In spite of the date on the following letter, it must have been written in 1859.]

Pentress, Monongalia Co. Va: June 30, 1857.

Sir: Your letter of the 24th inst. in reply to mine of the 7th addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions, in which you state "that the name of James Troy does not appear on the Wheeling Pension Rolls," communicated a fact I knew before I addressed the Pension Office.

James Troy was a Pensioner under the act of June 7th 1832 & was suspended in March or September 1834. The Wheeling Agency was not in existence in 1834, I believe, and of course his name must have been on the Richmond Rolls.

I would thank you to inform me, after examining the Richmond List of the precise date of Troy's suspension – I would also thank you to inform me of the date of George Wade's suspension. He was also paid at Richmond and I presume was suspended March 4th 1834.

Troy died Jany 15, 1841.

Wade " Oct. 30 1842, and the Commissioner of Pensioners has ordered their names to be restored to the Pension Roll at Wheeling Virginia, and their heirs will receive the arrears of Pension due them at the time of their decease

Very Respy J. V. Boughner

Third Auditor [illegible abbreviation]

Washington City D.C.

You will also notify S. Brady Esq'r. Pension Agent, Wheeling Va. of the same facts. J. V. B.