

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Henry Whiteman S7881

f33PA/VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves and C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 Apr 2015.

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia, County of Randolph [now West Virginia]

On this 23rd day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of the County of Randolph, now sitting Henry Whiteman a resident of the said County of Randolph 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 17, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. In the year 1777 in the month of August in the City of Philadelphia he was drafted in the third class of the Philadelphia Militia under Capt. Lehler or Leshler or some such name, his first name not recollected, the Lieutenant's name was Leshler; he belonged to Col. Smith's Regiment of Philadelphia Militia. Col. Smith's first name is not recollected was attached to Genl Erwin's [sic: James Irvine's] Brigade of Pennsylvania Militia. Genl Erwin's Christian name is not recollected. Was marched from Philadelphia, the place of his residence at the time he was drafted, to Brandywine and was in the battle at that place [11 Sep 1777], and after the Battle of Brandywine; was marched back to Philadelphia; remained there a day or two and marched from thence to a place called Skiback; remained there but a short time; and was marched from thence to German Town, on the day after our arrival the battle at that place was fought [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777]; on the day of the battle he was required to act as guard to watch and take care of the cattle for the support of the Army. His draft was for two months and it expired the day after the battle, and he was discharged, but in consequence of the confusion resulting from the battle he did not get a discharge. He was discharged at a place called "Penneybaker's mills" to which place he was marched during the night after the battle.

After he was discharged he went to Chester County Pennsylvania and was hired by Col. Andrew Boyd as substitute in the place of some Quaker who refused to serve; was placed under command of Capt. Anderson, his Christian name not recollected, he substituted not far from little Brandywine in Chester County for two months in the militia Capt. Anderson's Company belonged to Col. Boyd's Regiment and was marched to the camp near Philadelphia and joined Genl Erwin's Brigade, and at a place called Chestnut Hill, had a skirmish with the British in which Genl. Erwin was wounded and taken prisoner by the British [5 Dec 1777]. He recollects that while in this service near Philadelphia at the "Breast Works," he acted as an advanced guard to some troops marched by Col. or Genl Bull. During a dark night he advanced before the rest and took a British guard prisoner, he saw the guard carrying in wood to the guard house, he watched him got near him and presented his bayonet, the guard begged for quarters. He hurried the prisoner off with haste. They were however discovered and caused the British to fire alarm guns. On the next day Genl Bull directed him to convey the prisoner to Genl Washington who was about the "rising sun" [Tavern between Germantown and Philadelphia] with a letter to Genl

Washington giving the circumstances by which the prisoner was taken. When he arrived and presented the prisoner and letter to Genl Washington, the Genl enquired if he was "Whiteman" and on being answered in affirmative Genl Washington directed a treat of French Brandy to be given to Declarant, and handed him five dollars and told him to drink his Washington's health and said "well done my good fellow, stick to it" Soon after this circumstance occurred his two months tour expired and was discharged near a place called the "White Marsh" [Whitemarsh] in December 1777 the precise time not recollected, he received from Captain Anderson a written discharge which was destroyed in consequence of his house having been destroyed by fire.

During his service last mentioned his father moved to Burks [sic: Berks] County Pennsylvania and the declarant went to his father's after he was discharged by Capt. Anderson and remained at home until about the 1st of July 1778 when at Redden [sic: Reading] in Burks County Pennsylvania he was drafted for a two months tour in the militia under Captain Sebastian Miller and marched against the Wyoming Indians up the Delaware River about 60 miles above East Town [Easton] to Col. [Jacob] Stroud's and joined Genl Cowatts' Brigade, he thinks Cowatts was the General's name but cannot be certain. It was understood that some Indians were further up the River, he volunteered to go after them, was put under a regular officer whose name he has forgotten, we proceeded up the Delaware to where the Indians were, killed seven Indians near a place called "Cook house" also one white man was killed and three taken prisoners. Then we returned with the prisoners to Genl Cowatts' head quarters, the prisoners were sent to East Town Jail and understood were there hung. The Company he belonged to were soon thereafter with some other Troops sent under command of a Major whose name he does not recollect to a place called Minisink at Wells' Ferry to guard the frontier settlement; remained in that neighborhood until about the 1st of Sept. 1778 when he was discharged. His discharge was given by Capt. Miller which was also destroyed when his house was burnt.

He then returned to Burks County, Pennsylvania and in the Fall of 1780 he removed to Augusta County Virginia and in December of that year he took the place of Philip Hickart as his substitute in Thomas Hicklin's Company of Virginia Militia for a three months tour. Capt. Hicklin's Company belonged to Col. Sampson Mathews Regiment and was marched from Augusta County, Virginia to the Dismal Swamps near Portsmouth in Virginia against Benedict Arnold "the Traitor" who commanded part of the British forces. During this service [we] had several skirmishes with the British in which several of the British were killed as well as several of our men. He recollects that a Capt. [John] Cunningham from Augusta was killed in a skirmish, remained in the neighborhood of Portsmouth Virginia until in March 1781 when he was discharged having been in this last mentioned service about three months, his discharge was given by Capt. Jacob Warwick who was appointed Capt. over our Company in the place of said Hicklin who was broke of his commission during the service.

He then returned to Augusta County, Virginia and not long thereafter in Rockingham County, Virginia, he took the place of Henry Swadley as his substitute in Capt. Houston's [sic: George Huston's] Company, his Christian name not recollected, for a two months tour. Capt. Houston's Company belonged to Col. [Benjamin] Harrison's Regiment; was marched through Albemarle County, Virginia and Richmond to James Town, Virginia and was at the battle at that place [Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781]. We joined on our way between Albemarle and Richmond Genl. [Peter] Muhlenberg's Brigade, during this service we were joined by Genl. Anthony Wayne and Genl. Lafayette, he thinks at Bottoms Bridge. He recollects that two men were shot at Bottoms Bridge, they belonged to Genl. Wayne's or Genl. Lafayette's troops. He also recollects that Genl. Campbell from Carolina [see endnote] took command in the place of Genl. Muhlenberg, he served out his time of two months and was at Bottoms Bridge discharged, his discharge was given by Capt. Houston.

He then returned to Augusta County, Virginia about September 1781 and soon thereafter took the place of George Puffingburry as his substitute. In Augusta County, we met at Staunton, Virginia and were received by Ensign Bush of a Virginia State Regiment for a six months tour. We were marched by our Ensign to little York, Virginia and placed under Capt. Ewell (his Christian name not recollected) of the Virginia State troops, one of the Lieutenants under Capt Ewell was named Slaughter, the other named

Mann, their ensign was named Bush, their Christian names not recollected. Their Company belonged to Col. [Charles] Dabney's Virginia State Regiment. He was at York Town at the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] and saw Genl. Washington, Genl. Lafayette and Genl. Wayne, after the "Siege of York" Col. Dabney's Regiment was sent to Portsmouth to level Genl. Arnold's batteries and he aided in leveling the batteries. Capt. Ewell's Company was then sent to subdue the Tories about Princess Anne County, Virginia. We then marched back to Portsmouth again when Capt. Ewell's Company was sent to Richmond to guard the Continental stores. We remained in Richmond until in March 1782 when he was discharged, his discharge was given by Capt. Ewell which with all his discharges were destroyed when his house was burnt as before mentioned.

[His] Service was about six months, making his entire service during the revolution about 17 months. During his service he got the camp fever, the effects of which he was never been rid of and for many years past has made him a cripple. He has no documentary evidence, but supposes that Henry Fansler and Jacob Leshner of Randolph County, Virginia and George Keller [pension application S5649] of the same County and Genl. William McCoy of Pendleton County, Virginia can testify to part of his services.

To the 1st question directed by the War Department to be propounded, he answers that he was born in Philadelphia, Pa in the year 1759. To the 2nd Interrogatory he answers he has no record of his age; his Bible in which his name and age was recorded was burnt when his house was destroyed by fire. To the 3rd Interrogatory, he answers that he has already stated that he was living in Philadelphia when he was first called into the service. Since the revolution he has resided in Counties of Augusta, Pendleton and Randolph, Virginia and at present lives in Randolph County, Virginia. To the 4th Interrogatory, he answers that he has as fully answered this question in his Declaration as his memory enables him to do. To the 5th Interrogatory, he makes the same answer. To the 6th Interrogatory, he makes the same answer. To the 7th Interrogatory, he states that he is known to Thomas O. Williams and Ely Butcher—in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the revolution.

He hereby relinquishes any 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/ Henry Whiteman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Whiteman". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Randolph County to wit

This day George Keller personally appeared before me the subscriber George Nester a Justice of the Peace for said County and Maid oath that he served a three mounths Tower with Henry Whiteman in Capt. Thomas Hicklins Company belonging to the Second Batalion of Augusta Militia in the year 178[?] Comanded by Col. Sampson Mathews and that said Whiteman was a Fifemajor in said company and was counted a valient Soldier belongin to said Richment  
Given under my hand this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of March 1834

Barkers Settlement May 14 1834

Personally appeard before me George Nester a Justice of the peace for the county of Randolph Henry Whiteman & made oath that he was Full Seventeen months in actual servis & was dureing that time was out six Towers & had [illegible word] battles each Tower & for which he never receivd no pay only for two months Tower in Pennsylvany against the Indians at Wyoma [near present Wilkes-Barre] given under my hand the year & date abov written  
George Nester JP

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton, who investigated hundreds of pension applicants in present West Virginia. For details see the appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Singleton wrote "Entitled" on the report.]

I the undersigned Henry Whiteman at the requisition of the Secretary of War give the following narrative of my age & my services as a soldier in the war of the Revolution to Wit.

I was born in Philadelphia in the year 1759. resided in Pennsylvania until I was upwards of fifty [sic] years old & then removed to Virginia in the year 1777. I was drafted for a two months tour & marched from Philadelphia to Willmington [sic: Wilmington], there the army threw up a breastwork & then went to Christian [probably Christiana DE] from there back to Willmington & then to Brandywine – and was in the engagement at that place in which the american army was defeated. My Captains name was Leshler. that was also the name of my Lieut. I was attached to Col. Smiths Regt. But dont recollects its number, whilst in this tour I was in the engagement at Germantown – I was discharge the day after the last mentioned Battle my time haveing expired – after getting my discharge I went to Chester County, and was hired by the Lieut Colonel of the County Andrew Boyd as a substitute and marched from Chester county and Capt. Anderson near to Philadelphia and joined the main army under Washington. I cant recollect the name of my colonel nor the number of my Regt. I was attached to Genl Erwins Brigade, whilst on this tour. I was at the Battle of Chesnut Hill in which General Erwin was wounded and taken prissoner. I served out the tour of two months got my discharge and went to Redding.

in 1778 I was again drafted for two months & marched from Redding under Capt Sabasten Miller, up the Deleware and joined the Brigade sixty miles above Easttown at Colonel Strouds. my services expired at Menesinck – whist in turn I was in an engagement with the Indians some of whom were killed – Genl Kasciusco [sic: Tadeusz Kosciuszko] commanded in this Battle – in the year 1780 I removed to augusty county va. and was drafted for a 3 months tour & marched under Capt Hicklan to Portsmouth. a Regt. from augusty started from Staunton under Colonel Sampson, we remained in Portsmouth and in that region of country until the time was out. Genl. Mulenburg commanded the brigade. in term I was a fife major. I returned to augusty county & in the summer of 1781 I substituted in the place of Henry Swadley of Rockingham county for two months and marched to Jamestown under Capt. Hasten. in this time I was in the Battle of Jamestown. returned near to Richmond and got my discharge, I returned directly & was immediately drafted for a six month tour marched from augusty county under Captain Earl to York town. was attached to Col Dabneys State Reg't. and was in the Battle of York town, My tour expired in the spring of 1782 and I was discharged at Richmond in the Month of March 1782, and thus ended my Revolutionary Services – Col. Gidan C. Camden [sic: Gideon D. Camden] wrote my Declaration. I gave him the same statement in substance I now give In Witness whereof I hereto subscribe my name  
Septer 10 1834      Henry Whiteman

A Copy

W. G Singleton

Note. this old Gentleman complain that he does not get as much as he is Entitled to (he draws \$50.) if he is Entitled to any thing – he in my opinion, is Entitled to seventeen months pay.

W. G. Singleton

State of Virginia, County of Pendleton

On this 6th day of September 1838, before me the subscriber a justice of the peace for the said County of Pendleton, personally appeared, Henry Whiteman, on his oath declares that he is the same person who formerly belonged to the company commanded by Captain Ewell in the Regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by Colonel Dabney in the service of the United States; that his name was placed on the pension roll of the State of Virginia; that he heretofore resided in Randolph County, Virginia and was attached to the agency at Wheeling, Virginia from whence he has lately removed to Pendleton County Virginia where he now resides, and where he intends to remain; that said County of Pendleton is attached to the agency at Richmond, State of Virginia and that he wishes his pension to be there payable in future. The following are his reasons for removing from Randolph to Pendleton County Virginia: he is becoming

old and helpless and his daughter, grandchildren and other connections residing in Pendleton County, he has removed to that County for the purpose of living with them.

Sworn and subscribe to before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Wm McCoy

S/ Henry Whiteman, W his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private in the Pennsylvania & Virginia service for 15 months.]

[The following are from [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Pendleton County]

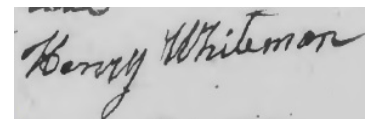
To the Gen'l. Assembly of Virginia

The Memorial of Henry Whiteman Humbly represent that During the Revolutionary War, he thinks in the month of August in the year 1777 when he was of age of Sixteen years, he Volunteered to serve in room of his father a Tour of Duty for him in the State of Pennsylvania in General Erwins Brigade and in Capt Lechlers Company of Philidelphia Militia for Two months. that during that service the was the Battles of Brandewine & German Town Took place. that after this service, his father Living near to Philadelphia & within the British lines he could not go home or hear what had become of his father & family. he entered by engagement with the Sub Leut. of Chester County to serve Two months Longer in room as he believes of a Quaker which Service he Perform'd under Capt. Anderson & in Gen'l. Erwins Brigade. during this time my father, after the British had taken all his property except his small Tract of Land, had removed up the country to the Town of Redding, when he this Deponant went home to him & was afflicted with a severe fever at the time. where lay with said fever until the month of april 1778 before he recovered & when he did recover his gen'l. health it was with a lame Legg of which the veins had bursted. & which has more or Less afflicted him ever since, & the older he gets, the worse, so much so that for five years last past, he has been unable to do little or nothing of Manual Labour. In Truth for the last Twenty five years he has not been able to support himself by Manual Labour.

that, in July 1778 he was drafted to go against the Indians at Wyoming which service he performed for Two months in Capt. Millers Company from Reding. after returning from the Wyoming Service he came to Virginia, to Augusta County, & shortly after coming there, he substituted himself to serve in the room of Philip Eckart for three months in Capt. Hicklins Company & Col. Mathews Regiment, which service he Perform'd, at Portsmouth in Virginia; in the year 1781 in the winter, & after that service he served in the sumer of 181 Two months in Capt. Hustons Company & Col. Harrisons Gegiment of Rockingham Militia in Va. and was in the Battle at Jamestown; after the last service stated he substituted in the room of George Pophenbery for six months, in the Va State Regiment Commanded by Colo. Dabney in the Company of Capt Newell or Ewel which service he performd & was at the Siege of Little York when Cornwallis was Taken. after that, the regiment was march'd to Portsmouth where the Company remained until about the 25<sup>th</sup> of Decem'r 1781 when we were march'd up to Richmond wher we remaind on gaurd of the Continental Stores. Until, he thinks, about the first of march 1782 when the six month men, of whome he was one, was Discharged by Capt. Ewel, Such & so much service your Memoriaist Perform'd in the revolutionary war. all of which he could have proved, but in the year (as he believes of 1793 or 1794 he had the misfortune to have his house burn'd, with all his papers and Household goods; that he is now destitute of Property of any kind & is entirely destitute of Relations in this state who Can Support him & utterly unable to support himself Longer by Labour & prays tha he may be alowed by the State such sum as will give him suport during the remainder of his days which cannot be long; that he now resides in Randolph County Va. but his general residence since the Close of the Revolutionary war has been in Pendleton County; that his Comrades in arms are chiefly dead, or live beyond his reach to obtain their Testimony, but such as he has been able to obtain he forwards with this memorial

Sworn to & subscribed this 15<sup>th</sup> Novemb'r 1830 before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for Pendleton County

Wm. McCoy November 15<sup>th</sup> 1830

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Whiteman". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

I William McCoy of Pendleton County Va. do testify & say that I have been intimately acquainted with Henry Whiteman who signs the foregoing memorial, ever since he came to Va. from Pennsylvania in the year 1781, that I distinctly recollect his substituting himself to serve the Tour of Duty for Philip Eckart and as Distinctly recollect that with the exception of short times[?] he was out in the Military Service Until 1782 when he states he was Discharged at Richmond; that although I did not serve with him, I was raised among those who did, who I have heard repeatedly state the facts of said service & of his Patriotism and good Conduct as a Soldier; of my own knowledge of his Patriotism, Both in the revolutionary war & ever since is such, that I feel assured no one deserves the aid of the state, better than he does; it is within my knowledge, that his house was consum'd by fire as stated by him, with the entire loss of all that was in it.

As to his services in the Militia in the State of Pennsylvania I know nothing, but have heard it frequently stated by others who serv'd with him, & I believe every word of his statement in relation to his service in that state

[signed] Wm. McCoy

Sworn To, & subscribed before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for

Pendleton County Va this 15<sup>th</sup> of November 1830. Geo. W. Amiss J.P.

November the 9<sup>th</sup> 1830

this day James Keister came before me William Dyer a justice of the piece for the County of Pendleton and made oath that Henry Whiteman sarved his tower in the army under Col Benjamin Harisson in capt George Heustons company from Rockingham County Va. in the year of 1781 at Jamestown battle

William Dyer

Pendleton County to wit

Frederick Crummet of Lawfull age of the County afforesaid Doth hereby Certify that he became acquainted with Henry Whiteman about the year 1780, and in the year 1781 he the said Crummet Marched with the said Whiteman as soldiers together under the Command of Ensign Bush to the City of Richmond where they were stationed for a short time; after which time the said Whiteman, was with a number of Others Removed to Yorktown, as he the said Crummet afterwards under stood, and the said Crummet believes, the said W. Whiteman remained Untill after the taking of Lord Cornwallis Sworn to and subscribed this 11<sup>th</sup> Day of November 1830 before me Frederick hisXmark Crumet  
Harmon Kiner J.P.

Dec'r. 8<sup>th</sup> 1830 ref'd to Rev'y Cl[ai]ms/ Rejected 6 Jay 1831

NOTE: Gen. William Campbell was actually from Washington County VA.