

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

Pension Application of Samuel Wood S7959

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 Sep 2015.

Virginia

At a circuit superior Court of Law and Chancery held for Culpeper County on Friday the 14th day of June 1844

Samuel Wood a soldier of the revolution came into court and made his declaration in writing and filed the same, which are in the words following to wit;

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832

State of Virginia }

Culpeper County } SS.

On this 14th day of June 1844 personally appeared in open Court before the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for Culpeper County, now sitting Samuel Wood a resident of Medway[?] in the County of Culpeper and State of Virginia aged eighty six years (the 14th day of April last past), 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; first under Colonel Armstead Churchwell [sic: Armistead Churchill], Major Picket [sic: Martin Pickett], Captain [Francis] Atwell & Lieutenant Blackwell into which service he was drafted from the body of the Fauquier Malitia (of which malitia he was one) in the early part of August in the year 1777. That he marched under these officers to the north as far as the State of Maryland when Colonel Churchwell returned to Fauquier, the rest of the said Malitia of which this declarant was one, marched further to the North into the State of Pensylvania and joined the grand army under the command of General George Washington. that he said Woods with the rest of the said Malitia and other troops were moved to Chesnut Hills [sic: Chestnut Hill] (in Pensylvania) and were there stationed some time ten miles from Philadelphia. The said Wood and other troops were in Lancaster when the wounded soldiers were brought there. He remembers the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] GermanTown [4 Oct 1777] and Mud Island [Siege of Fort Mifflin on Mud Island, 10 Oct - 15 Nov 1777], but was not in either [any] of them. After remaining sometime in camp at Chesnut Hills He was marched into winter quarters at Valley Forge where he remained in service until his tour of service was out & he was discharged – which discharge he has lost or mislaid. and he declares that he actually served four months in camp and on duty to the north in this tour and two months in Virginia and Maryland in that tour before reaching Pennsylvania making in all for that tour, he served as a drafted Malitia man from Fauquier County the period of six months at least to the best of his recollection and belief.

The said Samuel Wood further declares on oath that he served as a drafted malitia man in the summer fall & winter of the years 1778 & 1779 under Captain Tunnerlane of the Fauquier Malitia, the space and term of five & a half months four months of which service he rendered as a drafted malitia soldier in guarding the prisoners taken with Burgoyne at Saratoga [17 Oct 1777] & which prisoners were in barracks in Albemarle County Virginia [Jan 1779 - Feb 1781], & this declarant served as a guard for them with other malitia. Colo [James] Wood & Colo [Francis] Taylor and late in his (said Sam Woods service) Major John Roberts was among the field officers in said Redgiment of guards at Albemarle barracks. He was four months & more at the barracks & five & a half months in that tour as a drafted malitia man. He also declares that he was drafted from his said Fauquier Malitia in 1778 in summer or 1779 in summer, he is not certain which to guard some highland Scotch prisoners that were marched from the north to Fauquier Courthouse (now Warrenton in Virginia) and he served as a drafted malitia man in that service as a guard to those Scotch prisoners four months. Colo Churchwell was the officer in Command & afterwards Colo M Pickett [Martin Pickett] had Command as he believes; The prisoners

were highland Scotch and were the Kelts [sic: Celts]. His said declarants memory is uncertain as to the year 1778 or 1779 by reason of its waste by old age but the facts and length of his service in this duty he well remembers.

In 1781 the declarant Samuel Wood says on oath he served another tour of duty as a drafted malitia man from Fauquier in the spring at or about Richmond a tour of two months – and in the month of July of the said year 1781 he said Wood was drafted & sent on to Yorktown in Virginia, under Captain Walker Grayham [Walker Graham], of the said Fauquier malitia, and was under command of Colo Elias Edmunds & Major Nath'l Welch [Nathaniel Welch]. & that this service included the whole of the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] to the surrender of Cornwallis and after his surrender said Samuel Wood was one of the guard commanded by Colo Edmunds & Major Welch, & a soldier in that guard who marched & guarded the British prisoners taken at Yorktown to four miles beyond Winchester in Virginia and near the Romney Road to the left hand of that road where said prisoners were encamped or barracked and then he said Wood was with others discharged and returned home. In this tour he served more than four months for it was in cold weather before he returned & snow was on the ground but he sets it down as four months to be within the time, & he is confident it was more than four months. Colo Edmunds and Major Welch were of the State line & regular officers in that line as he understood and believes. Colo Churchwell Colo Pickett afterwards major Pickett Colo Brooks, Capt Atwell, Lieutenant Blackwell, Capt Scott, Capt Wal Graham were of the malitia of Virginia. He also knew Colo James Barbour of the Culpeper Malitia & Major Wm. Roberts [William Roberts], both of whom went to the north in the fall of the year 1777. Said Wood also knew Gen'l. Washington, Gen'l Edward Stevens, Colo Thomas Marshall, Captain John Marshall [pension application S5731], afterwards Chief Justice. Colo John Green of Culpeper and he saw said Green after he was wounded to the north in the fall of the year 1777. part of the time he was in service as a drafted malitia man at York he was detailed & assisted for a while in baking & other duties, but it was a service he performed as a detailed soldier of the line, under orders from the military power. He knew Colos Taylor, Wood, Major Roberts and many others 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 & year aforesaid. Samuel hisXmark Wood

The following questions were then put by the Judge to Samuel Wood and his answers following each question

1st. Where & in what year were you born

Answer. In Fauquier County Virginia about two miles from the Fauquier Springs on the 14th day of April 1758.

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

Answer None now it is lost or destroyed My father had a record, I was always told & believe I was born the 14 day of April 1758.

3 Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live

Answer. In Fauquier County. I moved over to Culpeper County some years after the close of the Revolutionary War; and have lived in Culpeper more than fifty years and I live now in Culpeper

Question 4th. How were you called into service were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute if so for whom were you a substitute.

Answer I was drafted every time.

Question 5. State the names of some of the officers of the Regular army and who were with the troops where you served I mean Continental & Malitia Regiments as you recollect & the general circumstances of your service

Answer. I knew Gen'l. Washington & the Marquis Lafayette Gen'l [George] Weedon Gen'l W Woodford [William Woodford] Gen'l. [Daniel] Morgan Gen'l [Anthony] Wayne, Gen'l Stevens, Colo John Green, Colo Thomas Marshall, Colo Edmunds Major Welch Capt J Atwell Capt Marshall and many others. The names of the Redgments I cannot tell Scotts Regiment

[Charles Scott's] Greens, Stevens, in 1777 of the regular army. I also knew the Redgments of Malitia from Culpeper commanded by Colo Barbour & the Fauquier Malitia under Colo Churchwell that I remained with in 1777 my services are detailed in my declaration with its circumstances as well as I now recollect those circumstances

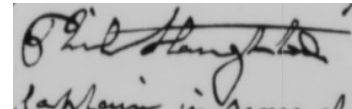
Question 6th Did you ever receive a discharge & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it
Answer. I remember very little of it, all that I received is lost or mislaid. I know I have got none now

7th Question State the names of persons to whom you are known in you present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for varacity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer I have known the Judge of this Court for more than twenty five years. I have known John Shackelford Esqr the att of the State in this Court for more than fifty years, Captain Philip Slaughter [W29886], Captain A P Hill Judge Scott of Fauquier & the whole neighbourhood in which I live some of whom are present and the Judge of this Court among my nearest neighbours.

I Philip Slaughter of the County of Culpeper & State of Virginia in the eighty six year of my age formerly a Captain in the Virginia Continetel line do hereby Certify that I have been acquainted with Samuel Wood for upwards of seventy years – that we were schoolmates while boys, that He was of sufficient age to be a soldier in the Revolutionary service. I well remember when we were at school He was Considerably larger than myself I suppose was one or two years older than I was & went into the Eleventh Virginia Continental Regiment in the year 1776 & had served one tour in the Volunteer Minute Man in the year 1775. Samuel Wood says he was with the Virginia Militia from virginia in 1777 & was with them in pensylvania in the year 1777. I well Remember that the Virginia Militia Joined the Continental army in Pensylvania in the month of October 1777 a few days after the Battle of Germantown Wood has made oath that he was in pensylvania with the Virginia Militia & that he served several tours in the Malitia dureing the American Revolution. I have been acquainted with him from the time we went to School together up to the present time & am decidedly of opinion he ought to be believed on his oath given under my hand this fifth day of September 1844

Phil Slaughter formerly a
Captain in army of the Revolution



State of Virginia

County of Culpeper Sc:

This day [10 Sep 1844] Reuben Rosson [Reubin Rosson (Rossin) S6016] an aged man now ninety two years of age a Soldier in the war of the Revolution & now a pensioner of the U. States made oath before me a Justice of the peace for the said state & county duly authorised in virtue of my office & the laws of the land to administer oaths; that he the said Reuben Rossen was in the Militia service of this State in the fall of the year 1781, ag't the Common enemy, that he was at York Town in Virginia during the Siege thereof & until the surrender of Cornwallis & his forces to the allied arms of France & the United States: that after the said surrender the British prisoners were marched under a guard from York Town to Winchester: that this guard was of a large body of militia, part of which was commanded by Colo Edmunds of Fauquier & Major Welch of that part of Culpeper which is now Madison County; that they guarded & marched the said prisoners to Winchester & about five miles beyond it on the Romney Road, where they were stationed in barracks & after a while the militia was discharged from the service. The Fauquire Militia were there & at York Town during all the time & doing service; and he does verily believe that Samuel Wood then of Fauquire was a militia Soldier from Fauquire in all that service. That he became well acquainted with said Wood some years after when he removed to Culpeper County, where he has lived (as he believes) some fifty or sixty years, and moreover he gives full credit to whatever said Wood says on oath to his service in the Revolutionary War

[The handwriting in the following is difficult to decipher.]

State of Virginia } Eleventh Circuit and Sixth Judicial District
County of Culpeper }

Supplemental Declaration made on oath by Samuel Wood of Culpeper County Virginia before the Honb^{le}. Richard H Field of the Eleventh Circuit & Sixth Judicial district of the Commonwealth of Virginia, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th June 1832 the said Samuel Wood on his Corporal Oath in due form of Law administered him, declares that he was Eighty Six years of age on the 14th of April of this year as he is firmly persuaded & verily believes. That in the year 1777 he was absent from home in the Militia Service in the tour of duty with the revolution as set forth in his former declaration the full time of six months; that four months of that time he was in actual military duty as a soldier, that for at least two other months in that tour he was engaged by order in the other duties of Suttler & purveyor of supplies out of camp & cooking & washing within the camp. That being familiar by practise with the business of baking he was detailed for that duty & he did much of it. He was under the Military how[ev]er, subject to its orders & woud doubtless have been punished for disobedience, had he failed to serve in the capacity of suttler & purveyer of small supplies as he was commanded. And the said Samuel Wood says he was often sent out to purchase supplies of [illegible word] & the like, and this duty he performed besides that of baking under military orders from Valley Forge where the troops were put into Winter Quarters under Gen^l Geo Washington. He is satisfied & declares on Oath that he was one month or more in this particular service at Valley forge & over it. It was military service under military orders in addition to his other tour of duty with the Fauquier Militia and it was useful service & service dutiful & obedient to the military power. His whole service from late in the summer of the year 1777 to his discharge from Valley forge was more than six months. Whether it was militia duty or baking duty or purveying for small supplies it was under military orders all of it, and more than three months on it was as a soldier, besides the other military duties, which were rendered under & by military orders put on him for the duties aforesaid & for which he was detailed from the line of the Militia & in which he did continue & did serve as he herein states. His service in the first tour of the year 1781 on the invasion of the British was under Captain Atwell of the Fauquier Militia. the whole of the Militia or nearly all of it was in service below tide water & between tide water & the blue ridge of mountains. after they got to Camp Colo. Edmunds who was a regular officer of the State line & Major Welch a regular officer of the State line, as he believes, took[?] command & he verily believes those officers were in command of militia from [undeciphered word] 1781 to the Siege of York, & afterwards until they guarded the British prisoners to Winchester which service of guarding the prisoners to Winchester he has before mentioned in his Declaration in June last made in open Court. In this particular tour he names Captains Atwell Major Welch & Colo Edmunds as his officers, (wherein it is said he failed to name his officers) & which failure must be the errour he supposes of the writer of his declaration. The Scottish prisoners confined at Warrenton (Fauquier Virginia) were around fifty or sixty in number. They were prisoners with the familiar dress, manners, dialect & behaviour which was said to mark the highlanders of Scotland. These prisoners were guarded at Fauquier C House Warrenton & fed there. Said Wood was in that service more than four months & he believes on his Oath more than six months. He put it at four months in his declaration by advise of the gentleman who wrote his declaration; but he then believed it six months; & all his recollection confirms him in it. Major Martin Pickett of the Fauquier Militia commanded that guard as the principal, & Capt Scott, and Lieut Blackwell were also in service, & one of the Brooke's was also in Command, who was afterwards Clerk of the Senate in Virginia, for he saw him afterwards in Richmond city as clerk of the Senate. This was many years after when Beverly Randolph was Governor of Virginia [sic: Beverley Randolph, 1788-1791]. The said Wood says that after this great lapse of time, he narrates with caution (& with difficulty which that caution increases) events so far back. He is now very old with a wasted & waning memory, but the facts he narrates he well remembers where distinctly stated by him. He served the full time he stated in his former declaration & reiterates & enlarges in this. He was a healthy hearty young man in the vigour of life, & if he could have escaped service in six years of service & fighting, he must have been both a coward & a

Tory; & lucky enough to evade all the penalties for dereliction of duty & all the scorn & anxiety to draw into the service every capable & excellent man. and he declares that this was & is his own suggestion & not the suggestion of the person writing his declaration or any other person, than his own, for old as he is, that matter is too plain to him to escape his thoughts for he remembers seeing the officers in pursuit of [illegible word] soldiers of the militia who were hiding & shirking from duty, when wanted.

Subscribed by me as witness my hand this 7th day of Octo 1844.

Samuel hisXmark Wood

Note. Colo Wood, Colo Taylor & Major Roberts were the officers in the regiment of guards at Charlottesville which it is said cannot be clearly decyphered – after being there in the guards five & a half months his brother John Wood took his place & he returned home to Fauquier. Colo [Theodorick] Bland was also there at one time. S. X W

NOTES:

The file includes an extensive correspondence, not transcribed here, arising from the Pension Commissioner implying that Wood had waited until all the potential witnesses against him had died.

An extensive correspondence ensued, not transcribed here.] On 26 May 1855 Marshall Wood, son of Samuel Wood, deceased, assigned power of attorney to obtain a pension or bounty land.