

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Peter Edwards S8398 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Frederick County State of Virginia

On this 13th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the subscribers Justices of the peace in & for said County Peter Edwards a resident of the Town of Front Royal in the Cty & state aforesaid aged Seventy 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 under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

The aforementioned Peter Edwards states that he was enlisted in the service of the United States in the month of January or February 1779 by Captain John Roberts [pension application W2347] & that he left the service some time about the last of March or the first of April 1781. That he was enlisted in the Cty of Culpeper state of Va. his company officers were John Roberts Capt. James Purvis Lieut. John Slaughter Ensign, his field officers were Col'n. [Francis] Taylor & Major John Roberts (he Roberts having been promoted)

That after entering the service he was stationed at the Albemarle Barracks where he remained about Two years that the troops were marched from that place to Winchester in Frederick Cty they crossed Rock Fish Gap [Rockfish Gap] through Augusta Rockingham & Shenandoah Counties, that during the time he was stationed at Albemarle barracks Col'n. [Joseph] Crockett's reg't. wintered there [April 1780 - Feb 1781] That some of the company officers with which he served were Capt. Porter [Thomas Porter VAS243] Capt. Burton [James Burton S48412] Capt. Burley [sic: Garland Burnley BLWt1885-300], Lieut. Taylor that whilst at Albemarle Barracks the regt was engaged in guarding the convention troops of Burgynes Army [see endnote] about One hundred of those troops deserted one night were pursued overtaken & brought back and put in close confinement. The Convention troops were not confined their officers [illegible word] responsible for their good conduct that he has no documentary evidence to prove his service that there is no person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except Major Roberts whose certificate will accompany this. – 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 Peter hisXmark Edwards
quest. Where and in what year were you born. Ans'r. I was born in the Cty of Culpeper & State of Va. & I think about the year 1762.

Ques'tn. have you any record of your age, & if so, where is it. Ans'r. None.

Ques'n. where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war, & where do you now live.

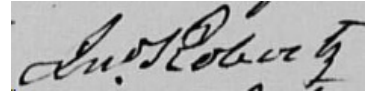
Ans'r. I was living in Culpeper Cty when I enlisted & lived in said Cty a short time since the War of the revolution and I now live in Frederick Cty. Ques'n. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom. Ans'r. I enlisted in the service as before stated

Ques'n. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops where you served, such continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect, & the general circumstances of your service.

Ans'r. Col'n. Taylor, Col'n. Crockett, Major Roberts, Capt. Purvis, Capt Burley, Capt. Porter, & Capt. Burton I served with Col'n. Taylor's & Col'n. Crockett's Ques'n. did you ever receive a discharge from the service, & if so, by whom was it given, & what has become of it Ans'r. I did receive a discharge but do not recollect by whom it was given and I have lost it. Ques'n. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, & who can testify as to your character for veracity, & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution. Ans'r. John Stephenson and Isaac Trout.

At the Request of the bearer Peter Edwards I Certify that I inlisted him as a Soldier during the Revolutionary War, some time in the latter part of the year of 1778 or in Jan'y. 1779 and that he served as such in guarding the Convention Troops of Burgynes Army, at the Barracks in Albemarle County state of Virginia untill some time in the spring of 1781. I think he was discharged about Ap'l. or May of the latter year. Given under my hand this 12th day of Dec'r. 1831

Jno. Roberts Maj'r./ Late Reg't. Guards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jno. Roberts". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

NOTE: The Convention Army refers to Hessian and British troops under Gen. John Burgoyne who surrendered to Gen. Horatio Gates at Saratoga on 17 Sep 1777. Under a "convention" arranged by Gates and Burgoyne, the prisoners were to be returned to England, but Congress objected and kept them in Cambridge MA until late in 1778. They arrived at Albemarle Barracks 4 mi NNE of Charlottesville in Jan 1779 and were moved to Winchester Barracks in Feb 1781 to prevent their liberation by Cornwallis's troops.