

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Towles S8495

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/20/11

[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.]

State of Virginia Madison County SS

On this 13th day of July 1833 personally appeared before me Charles R Gibbs a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Madison in the State of Virginia now sitting to take the declaration of Henry Towles a resident of Madison County Virginia in relation to his serving as a soldier in the Army of the Revolution who by reason of bodily infirmity is unable to attend a Court of record aged Seventy-Seven years the 15th day of March last, 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. In the month of October 1780 I was drafted from the County of Culpeper Virginia where I then resided and still reside on the plantation on which I was born (Madison County taken from the Culpepper in 1792) to perform a tour to South Carolina with the Militia under the command of General Edward Stevens. The Company to which I was attached was commanded by Captain Edmund Terrell. I marched in great haste to Hillsboro and Charlotte in North Carolina, from thence to Cheraw Hills in South Carolina; after remaining there until the last of January or first of February 1782 [sic, 1781] the troops under the command of General Stevens were detached by General Green [Nathanael Greene] from the Cheraw Hills for the purpose as we afterwards supposed of conducting the prisoners taken by General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] at the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781], on our arrival at Yadkin River we were met by the troops under Morgan who had a Stout number of prisoners making their way to Virginia and the enemy in close pursuit, This retreat in consequence of the late heavy rains was a particularly hard service but with much difficulty we avoided giving battle and retained the prisoners. This tour closed the 15th of March making 4 1/2 months. The latter end of August 1782 or the first of September I was again drafted from the County of Culpeper (Virginia) for a Tour of two or three months, I am most inclined to the opinion that the draft was for only two months – however I well remember that I reached home the 8th day of November having been discharged at Winchester Virginia, a few days before, This my second and last tour I was attached to the Company under the command of Captain William Triplett and attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Jos^h Dark [sic, a mistaken reference to Lt. Col. William Dark?]. The troops with whom I marched after reaching Williamsburg (Virginia) and remained there eight or 10 days I marched to a place on James River called Truebells Landing where I was detached with others to make a trip to Maryland on board a vessel commanded by Captain Chiles for the purpose of procuring Plank & Scratling [?] wanking [?] for the Platforms in prosecuting the Siege of Yorktown. It was so managed that the vessel was unable to reach Yorktown with the Plank &c until the siege was brought to a close. The prisoners surrendered at Yorktown were on

the march when I landed. I however overtook them and guarded them to Winchester where I was discharged on the fifth or sixth day of November 1781. I claim a compensation of Soldier for seven months service. The discharges from these militia Tours long since lost, I refer to the Certificate of Adam Rouse and others herewith enclosed establishing my claim as fully as to the length of time will permit the proof of Militia Services.

I subjoined the names of several Gentlemen who have known me all their lives to which General William Madison, Colonel Linn Barks and William Kemp her. 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.

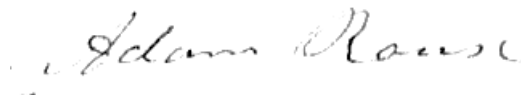
S/ Henry Towles

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

[A. H. Lamon, a clergyman, and William Finks gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Adam Rouse of the County of Madison in the State of Virginia aged Seventy years do hereby certify that Henry Towles of the County of Madison was drafted from the County of Culpeper in the fall of 1780 and that he returned the following spring the length of the Tour I am unable to state but I well remember that such was the length of it that it cleared him and others from two tours of the usual length. I was myself in service at the siege of Yorktown. The only tour I performed and well remember that Henry Towles, was a drafted soldier from the County of Culpeper at the same time the length of this last tour was two months. Given under my hand this 13th day of July 1833

S/ Adam Rouse

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

I John Garrell¹ of the County of Madison and State of Virginia aged eighty-five years late a soldier of the Revolution and at this time a Pensioner of the United States do hereby certify that in the fall of the year 1780 I think it was the last of October or first of November the Tour ended the following March, I well remember that Henry Towles of Madison County Virginia was a Soldier in this tour, In this Tour Henry Towles as well as myself marched as far South as the state of South Carolina and in the retreat was closely pursued by the enemy under Lord Cornwallis and we providentially escaped by the swelling of the Adkin [Yadkin River] and other Rivers, Given under my hand this 20th day of August 1833

S/ John Garrell

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 1/2 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]

¹ FPA W7874