

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Holman S8738

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/14/14

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia County of Cumberland: SS

On this 23rd day of February A.D. 1850 personally appeared before me a justice of the peace for the County of Cumberland and State of Virginia John Holman a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged ninety-two 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated viz. Captain of the company, Richd Allen [Richard Allen] Major Garland Colonel Downman [perhaps Lieutenant Colonel Raleigh or Rawleigh Downman] and Brigadier General Mulenburg [Peter Muhlenberg]. I entered the service of the United States on the first of January 1781 as a volunteer and remained in the service until the 8th of April of the same year. The company marched from Cumberland Court house down to the seacoast halting for a short time at Smithfield we then marched from Chuckatue Mills [?]¹ where we were encamped for some time I do not recollect how long – we were stationed the greater part of the tour about Norfolk and below that place – we marched from Edmund's Hall into [indecipherable word or words]² North Carolina to a little town called Peacock during this tour we were engaged in some skirmishes with the enemy at the great falls on Nansemond River. I think in this skirmish I was under corporal Tom Moody. About this time Philips [William Phillips] and Arnold [Benedict Arnold] had joined their forces they cut off our march and we had to cross the Dismal Swamp on the logs. I was discharged by General Muhlenberg as before stated on the 8th of April 1781 at Cooper's Mill. I was a resident of Cumberland County at the time of entering the service and have continued so ever since. I was born on the 21st of April 1757. I have no documentary evidence, and I know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify to my service. I have long since lost my discharge not regarding it as of any use to me.

I was next drafted into the service sometime about the middle of April (I cannot recollect the day, as a militia man of the same year) the officer commanding the company was Captain Alex Guthry [probably a mistaken attempt to identify Capt. Alexander Guttery of the Cumberland militia], Major John Overstreet commanded the Battalion, the Battalion was not full

¹ *Chuckatue Mills*

² *Carrington*

but we had a Major. In this tour we marched from Prince Edward Courthouse to Culpeper to join General Weden [George Weedon] (regular) our line of march lay through Cumberland, Goochland and other Counties. I do not distinctly recollect now, we fell in with the Marquis Lafayette before reaching Culpeper at Sharpe's Ordinary in Spotsylvania, from Culpeper we marched in the direction of the Point of Fork to [indecipherable word]³ Cornwallis and as he receded towards Jamestown we pursued, sometimes during this march we were thrown with Brigadier General Lawson [Robert Lawson] and constituted a portion of his brigade, during this march we had frequent skirmishes with the rear guard of the enemy we were encamped some time about 15 miles above Jamestown, during this time a battle [July 6, 1781] was fought at James town between Wayne [Anthony Wayne] and Cornwallis – about James town I was not in this engagement. Our brigade was sent for, we reached the battleground the day after the engagement – I was discharged from service again on the 8th of July 1781. I have not the discharge in either case, I recollect I received it from Colonel Skipwith [Henry Skipwith] in the last instance I know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify to my services nor have I any documentary evidence of it. My register was contained in a book which was sold at my father's sale and I do not know what became of it. I referred to the judge of the County to justices of the peace and to my County men generally for testimonies of character, credibility &c. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State/

S/ John Holman



[J S Armistead, a clergyman, and John E Crowder gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: A note in the file indicates that the veteran died January 29, 1852, place not stated. The file contains no family data.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]