

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of James Herring W11276

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia - Albemarle County

On the 19th day of October in the year 1832, personally appeared in open court before Lucas P. Thompson as Judge of the circuit superior court of Law and Chancery for Albemarle County, now sitting, James Herring, a resident of the County of Albemarle and State aforesaid, aged about 78 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.

The declarent states that he entered the service of the United States, as a drafted Militia man, he thinks in one of the first drafts of Militia made in the County of Albemarle, that he has not a very distinct recollection of the events as they occurred in the various tours he served. He recollects however that he was four times in service. He has no register of his age, as his parents were unlettered and kept none, and could give your declarent no education. He does not recollect the name of the captain under whom he served the first tour, but he recollects Henry Austin who is now dead was his Lieutenant and General [Thomas] Nelson was the General, that the tour was performed in the neighbourhood of Williamsburg Va and that it was of two months duration.

The second tour he was drafted under Capt. Miller and commanded by Colonel Matthews. He was marched to four mile creek [Fourmile Creek in Henrico County], thence to an old field near what were then called the [blank] Hills [probably Malvern Hill], where they were quartered some time. He recollects that at this place he saw the enemies fleet in the [James] River, said to be about seven miles off — thence they marched to a place near Richmond, thence to Brock's bridge [on North Anna River near Monrovia]. This tour lasted two months, and he was discharged at Brock's bridge. He had a written discharge which has been lost or mislaid. This tour was also of two months duration. The third tour your declarent was drafted and marched to Richmond, he was during this tour in the Redgment commanded by Col. Matthews, and at this the british forces were near Rocky ridge - that also was a two months tour. The fourth tour the declarent was called to Charlottesville to guard a tory whose name was [blank] and he was detained upon this service about one month.

The whole term of your declarents services were about seven months. He has no written discharge whatever of his service, and no documentary evidence to prove it. He says that he was born in the county of Albemarle and has lived therein up to the present period. The declarent states that he is well known to Samuel Austin & Nehemiah Greening who are his neighbours, and who will give their opinions as to his character and what they know of his reputed service in the war of the Revolution. He further states that Roger Thompson [pension application R10552] John Dowell and Jonathan Mundy [Jonathan Munday, S5795] all now alive, know different periods of his service. And that he is not on the pension roll or agency of any State, and he hereby relinquishes any right he may have to a pension other than the present.

James hisXmark Herring

There upon the following interogatories were propounded to the applicant by the court.

Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Albemarle County Va. about 1754.

Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

I have no record of my age.

Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live?

When I entered the service I lived in Albemarle County Va. where I have lived ever since the Revolution and where I now live.

How were you called into service? Were you drafted? did you volunteer or were you a substitute? if a substitute, for whom? I was drafted in every instance. State the names of some of the regular Officers who were with the troops where you served and the general circumstances of

your service?

In the first term he recollects Henry Austin was his Lieut. and General Nelson was the General. In the 2^d. tour was commanded by Col. Matthews.

Did you ever receive a written discharge from service and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it? In the 2^d. tour I received a written discharge but don't now recollect by whom it was given - it is either lost or mislaid. I received no written discharge for the other tours.

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution? I refer to Samuel Austin and Nehemiah Greening who know me and will testify to my character as to veracity and to Roger Thompson, John Dowell and Jona. Mundy who can testify as to my services.

NOTE: On 4 May 1846 Judy Herring, 82, applied for a pension stating that she married James Herring in 1784, and he died 16 June 1845. The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Orange County VA on 2 Apr 1784 by James Herring and Peter Rucker for the marriage of Herring to Judah Cafer.