

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Harry W24407 Rachel Harry MD  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

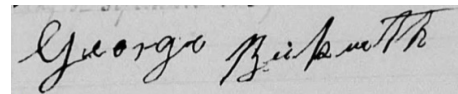
Declaration

Made this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June 1837 For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the Laws of Congress approved 4<sup>th</sup> July 1836 & 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1837 By Rachel Harry of Montgomery County State of Maryland who declares that she is the widow of Richard Harry a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and who was in the war 4 to 6 years. He served to the North, and was at the Battle of Yorktown in Virginia [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], soon after which he returned Home, on a farm which he rented of Warren McGruder in Montgomery county where they continued to live untill the death of her Husband where she has remained & in Washington City to live a widow, with a Daughter at each place untill this day. She further states that her Husband Rich'd. Harry enlisted in the company of Capt Betty of Georgetown, (Tho. J Betty she thinks) [sic: Thomas Beatty] of Col. Smallwoods [William Smallwood's] Reg't. of Maryland , there returned with her Husband from Virginia after the Battle of Yorktown Mr. James Fulton [possibly James B. Fulton, pension application W8835] a Taylor from Georgetown. Her Marriage took place at the House of William Hunt a parson in Montgomery county, and the Licence she thinks was obtained at Georgetown but she does not read and write, & therefore cannot say positively as to dates, but this fact she is positive in, that she was married by Parson Hunt as above stated and at least two to 3 years before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781], and she distinctly remembers hearing him say that he was on Furlough & came home by the way of Annapolis. He remained after their marriage but about 3 weeks & returned to his duty, after which she states that she saw him no more untill after the Battle of York, bringing with him his discharge, which she often heard read but what was done with it cannot now say, nor has she any documentary evidence of his services left. given under my hand & seal this day & year above written. added before signed that, she is 84 years of age

Rachel herXmark Harry

Washington county  
District of Columbia} Sct.

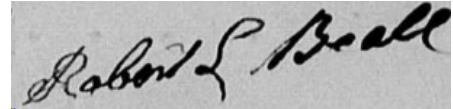
Appeared personally before me a justice of the peace for the county aforesaid, George Beckwith [W9355] a pensioner of the Revolutionary War aged 77 years who being duly sworn, deposed & said that he had been well acquainted with Richard Harry since the year 1777 & that he knew him at the white planes [sic: White Plains NY] and at Trenton & other places at the north, that Harry returned home to Montgomery county from whence he enlisted, before the expiration of his time, & married Rachel Lingo with whom he remained but a very short time and proceeded on to the South, where he remained until after the surrender of Cornwallis & until the expiration of his enlistment, that then he returned home & settled with his wife the present applicant, to whom he was Legally Married by Parson Hunt in the year 1779 on a farm of Warren McGruders Father in the county of Montgomery, where he remained until his death, & raised a large Family, all of which time he knew both him & his wife Rachel, as he the deponant settled in the same county. the deponant will not speake positively as to the company to which Harry belonged, but thinks it was Tho. J Betty's of Smallwoods Reg't, he himself belonged to Cap George Beckwiths comp'y & went from Fred'k [Frederick] County Maryl'd but his intimate acquaintance with Harry from the period before mentioned justifies him unequivocally in the declaration that Harry served many years in the regular army & that he was married long before the expiration of his service, subscribed on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1837.



District of Columbia } Ss.  
Washington County }

Personally appeared before me Ch's R Belt a Justice of the peace in said county, Robert L. Beall [S12164] aged eighty years, who being first duly sworn according to law testifies that he was well and intimately acquainted with Richard Harry during the revolutionary war and had a personal knowledge of his service in 1781 as follows: that early in that year he and others with Richard Harry, were drafted to serve nine months; that they were marched from Georgetown D. Col'a. under Cap Selman [possibly Jonathan Sellman] to Annapolis and were there placed under the command of Captain Lynn [David Lynn W9151], that after remaining there some considerable time the said Harry was marched with his company for Yorktown. I did not go with our company to Yorktown, having been furloughed at the time the company was marched there, but saw the said Harry immediately after his discharged, which was in December, 1781, after having served at least seven months. I was well acquainted with said Harry from that time to the time of his death, and knew his family.

Sworn and subscribed this twenty seventh day of May A.D. 1843



Land Office, Annapolis, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1843.

Dear Sir [William J. Allison, agent for Richard Harry, Jr.],

I have just received your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst., and In reply have to state, That I find upon a List a roll of discharged Soldiers of two Battalions of Militia raised to serve in the Continental Army in the year 1781, the name of Richard Harey or Harvey, to have received £10.5.0 and to have been discharged on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, 1781. These Battalions of Militia, were raised under an act of Assembly of May session 1781, Ch'r. 15, to serve until the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1781, and were in service I should presume some six or seven months, the name of Robert Beall, I do not find upon the roll, but the name of "Harey" is entered as above "Richard Harey or Harvey," whether it was intended for Richard Harry or not, I am unable to say, but I do not find the name of Richard Harry upon any of the Militia rolls, the amount paid Rich'd Harey or Harvey at the time of his discharge, I presume was the balance of pension [sic: pay] due at the time of his discharge on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec'r. 1781. I can furnish you with a certificate of "Richard Harey or Harvey," if you desire it. Very respectfully, Yr. ob't. sr./ G. G. Brewer

P.S. I do not know what other person you could write to in Calvert, for information respecting the marriage of Mrs. Hall, the Clerk of the County, Mr. Hanee. G. G. Brewer

NOTES:

On 30 June 1837 Winefred Allen, 83, stated that Richard and Rachel Harry had seven or eight children. On 2 June 1838 James Day, about 76, stated that Richard Harry married Rachel Lingo before 1780. Rachel Harry's application was suspended for insufficient proof of the date of marriage.

On 13 March 1843 Richard Harry applied for the pension due to his mother, Rachel Harry, for the service of Richard Harry in the Maryland Continental Army and in the Militia. He stated that his parents were married in March 1786, that his father died in September 1828, and his mother died on 25 Feb 1839 leaving himself and two other children, Eliza Creamer and George Harry. As proof of the date of marriage he provided a family record written in a Book of Common Prayer, but the record was not found in the file. On 3 May 1843 Eliza Creamer, 40, stated that she delivered the book to her nephew, John Harry. This application was witnessed by John O. Harry, referred to elsewhere as between 32 and 33 years old on 20 May 1843 and a son of Thomas Harry, the oldest child of Richard and Rachel Harry.

The claim of Richard Harry, Jr. was suspended because the date he gave for his parents' marriage was inconsistent with the date given by his mother, and because there was no proof that Richard Harry, Sr. served at least six months. However, a pension certificate was eventually issued on 14 Sep 1844.