

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Randall W26359 Deborah Randall MD
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Maryland Anne Arundel County Sc.

On this eighteenth day of September in the year One thousand eight hundred and thirty nine before me the Subscriber one of the associate Judges of the third Judicial District of Maryland of which the County aforesaid is a part, personally appears Mrs Deborah Randall widow of the late John Randall a Resident of the City of Annapolis in the County aforesaid, aged about Seventy Six years and being by me first duly Sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed seventh day of June 1838 entitled "an Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of the late John Randall who about the twelfth day of February seventeen hundred and seventy eight was by the Executive of Maryland appointed appointed a Commissary of Stores or Supplies to the Maryland Troops of the Revolutionary Army, and about the twelfth day of May in the year following was, by the same authority, appointed Sub- or State-Clothier to the said Troops – that when he received these appointments he resided in the City of Annapolis – that he entered upon the duties of these two offices on the respective dates of their appointments and continued to discharge them or one of them as late as the year seventeen hundred and eighty one that during the period of his services aforesaid he was at various times in Camp with the Maryland Troops also at the following places the Camp 12 miles east Fishkill, Wilmington, Middle Brook [Middlebrook NJ], Annapolis, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Petersburg [sic: Petersburg VA], Hillsborough, Halifax Court House, Hicks Creek on the Pee Dee, Morristown, Prince Edward Court House, Peytonsburgh [Peytonsburg in Pittsylvania County VA], Camp Ninety Six, and Fort Mott [sic: Fort Motte SC]. That these particulars of his services she obtains from his accounts, correspondence and papers now in his late residence (some of which may be important and will be herewith produced [see endnote]) and from statements made by him in his life time.

She further declares that she was married to the said John Randall on the seventh day of January in the year seventeen hundred and eighty three and that her husband the said John Randall died on the twelfth day of June in the year eighteen hundred and twenty six at Annapolis. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz: at the time above stated – and that she has never been married since.

[signed] Debby Randall

NOTES:

The file contains a list of documents that were sent to the War Department on 16 Jan 1913, presumably for archiving. Some or all the places listed in Deborah Randall's application appear to be places from which letters were sent to John Randall – not necessarily where Randall served. Another list and other documents suggest that Randall served at the following locations:

Wilmington DE during much of 1778
New Hackensack NJ, 24 Oct 1778
Morristown NJ, 19 June 1779
Annapolis MD, Petersburg VA, Hillsborough NC, May 1780
Hillsborough, 15 July 1780
Petersburg, 27 Sep through 10 Oct 1780
Annapolis, 22 Dec 1780

Also in the latter list is the following, dated 17 April 1780: "Extract from Gen'l. Orders dated Hd. Quarters Morris Town & signed by N Gilman [Nicholas Gilman] Ass't. Adj't. Gen'l acquitting J Randall State Clothier from the State of Maryland with honor (on his trial before a Gen'l. Ct. Martial) of the 'charge of unofficerlike behaviour in distributing Cloth sent by the State of Maryland for the use of her

Officers in an unjustifiable partial manner in consequence of which many Officers are injured' & also is enclosed Certificates of the Officers of the Maryland Regiments approving the conduct of John Randall as State Clothier & particularly in the distribution of the Cloth in question."

The file contains the following obituary published in the Maryland *Republican* at Annapolis on 17 June 1826: "Died on Monday night last, JOHN RANDALL, Esq. Collector of the Port of Annapolis, after an illness of a few hours. Mr. Randall was a native of Virginia, but become an inhabitant of this city before the revolution, and in that eventful struggle acted as commissary of clothing to the Maryland line. He was appointed Collector to this Port by General Washington, in 1794, and in 1810 received the appointment of Navy Agent, the duties of which he continued to fill to the period of his death. In all the relations of life, Mr. Randall was much respected, and after attaining the age of seventy-three years has been gathered to his father: his memory and his virtues will long remain and be cherished amongst us."

The file includes the following extract of a family record cut from a New Testament and certified as being in the handwriting of Capt. John Hamilton of the Maryland Line by Alexander Randall, executor of the estate of John Randall: "John Randall and Deborah Knapp were married Tuesday 7th January 1783."

Also in the file is a letter dated 3 Nov 1848 by A. Randall of Annapolis, addressed to "My Dear Brother," Henry K. Randall, 3rd Auditor's Office, Washington, DC., referring to the application by their mother.

A power of attorney signed by Alexander Randall on 2 Feb 1855 indicates he was executor of the estate of Deborah Randall, deceased.