

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Jacob Rich W26380

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 27 Feb 2012.

State of Tennessee, Franklin County

On this 31st day of August 1832, personally appeared before the Worshipful, the County Court of the County & State aforesaid, Jacob Rich, aged about 70 years, and a resident of the County and State aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to Law, makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832–

I was born on the 16th day of December 1762 or 1763, in the County of Orange & State of North Carolina. I have no record of my age. The family record of my fathers family was burnt by the Tories during the Revolutionary War. My father was killed in Gates defeat in 1780 [Battle of Camden where Gen. Horatio Gates was defeated, 16 Aug 1780] or taken prisoner & afterwards died. My information in relation to my age is derived from my mother.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers.

After Gates' defeat near Camden in South Carolina, I volunteered to serve a term of 3 months as an artificer under Capt. John Woods, near Hillsboro' [Hillsborough] North Carolina. This service was performed, during which time, we were engaged in Shoing Horses & Waggons for the Army for which I received a regular discharge, but presume it was taken from my fathers House by the Tories, as it was afterwards robbed by them.

In a very short time after the above service was performed, as well as he recollects, in the year 1780 or 1781 he volunteered as a private soldier, in Capt William Rogers Company of mounted volunteer militia, in the County of Orange & State of North Carolina, provided my own horse, saddle & arms. Served occasionally under Colo. William O'Neal, & Maj'r Edward Guinn, all of the County of Orange and State of North Carolina, & continued in service till the close of the War – operating principally against the Tories in North & South Carolina. I was in the battle fought in Orange County North Carolina, between the American & British in which Colo. Piles, who Commanded the British & Tories was defeated. Colo. William Washington Commanded the Americans at that time [see endnote], the British army Commanded by Lord Cornwallis, was lying at Hillsboro'; from thence the British Army marched to Guilford in the same State, where the battle was fought with Gen'l Green [sic: Battle of Guilford Courthouse with Nathanael Greene, 15 Mar 1781]. In the Summer of 1781 there were a number of Prisoners of War confined in Jail at Hillsboro'. At that time I was in the service as a Lieutenant in the Company Commanded by Capt. John Clendenen, who was a Continental officer, had been taken prisoner at Charleston South Carolina was paroled, returned home, broke his parole [see endnote] & raised a Company of Volunteers. The town of Hillsboro' was attacked by the enemy [12 Sep 1781], our Company was encamped about one mile therefrom. We marched hastily to the relief of the place & soon became engaged with the enemy, who had a superior force. Our Company were all killed or taken prisoners except five. I was wounded in the hip, having received two balls in the right hip, which has greatly disabled me ever since, & from which I now suffer constantly great pain – & also a severe wound in the right shoulder in the same action. I fortunately was able to sit my Horse, & was aided in making my escape by my friend & brother soldier Joseph McAdams [pension application S33081] who resided in the State of Illinois, at the last account I had of him. The same evening after the above battle, another detachment of the American Army had an engagement with the enemy – the Americans being commanded by Gen'l. [John] Butler & Colo. Mayben [sic: Robert Mebane; Battle of Lindley's Mill NC, 13 Sep 1781]. I understood there were a good many killed & wounded on both sides – but the enemy made good their retreat with the Prisoners taken from Hillsboro'. I lay confined with my wound for near 6 months & immediately after, resumed active service, being engaged until the Close of the War. He did

not receive any regular discharge in writing owing to the very loose manner in which business was done in that day. He has no documentary evidence of his services in his possession or power to produce; nor does he know of any person within his reach by whom he can prove any part of his service. I continued my residence in Orange County, North Carolina, until the 4th day of October 1804, I removed from thence to Rutherford County in this State where I resided until the year 1807, when he removed to this County, where he now resides. He is known to Robert Dugan [sic: Dougan], a Clergyman, Jacob Vanzant Esq, David O. Anderson & others who can testify to his character for veracity. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Jacob hisXmark Rich

State of Tennessee, Franklin County Sct

On this 29th day of May 1833, personally appeared before the Worshipful the County Court of the County & State aforesaid, Jacob Rich aged about 71 years and a resident of the County & State aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to Law makes the following Amendment or addition to his original declaration hereunto annexed made in the Worshipful Court, on the 31st day of August 1832, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

The first tour of duty he served as stated in his original declaration was three months In the year 1780 or 1781 he does not recollect which, he volunteered as a private in Capt Rogers Company of mounted Volunteer Militia in the County of Orange & State of North Carolina & served at least six months as a private.

He was then Commissioned a Lieutenant in Capt. Rogers Company, & as such continued in service until the end of the War as stated in the original Declaration, having served the United States as Lieutenant afterward, the full term of at least Eighteen months.

To the 7th Interrogatory prescribed by the War department, to be answered, he answers & says, that he did receive a Commission as Lieutenant of Capt. Roger's Company of North Carolina Militia, that the said Commission was signed by Alexander Martin, the Governor of the State of North Carolina; that the said Commission was retained by him until within a year or two past – it was filed with some old papers, which he considered of no use in value & threwed with them into the fire.

he states that altogether he was in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War for the term of One year and six months as a Lieutenant of the Militia, for which he claims a pension; & also for the period of nine months, as a private soldier for which he also claims a pension.

[signed] Jacob Rich

State of Illinois } Ss.

Bond County } Personally appeared in open Court Joseph McAdams who being duly sworn according to law makes oath and says that he is well acquainted with Jacob Rich a resident of Tennessee who has applied for a pension under the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 That he was knowing to his being in the service of the United States During the war of the Revolution and well recollects his being in the engagement at Hillsboro at the time he mentions in his declaration that he was there wounded in the hip. That the company was commanded by Captain John Clendenen who was a continental officer and that he (the captain) was taken in the battle at Hillsboro and that the company was a company of volunteers as stated in the said Rich's declaration. But whether the said Rich was a Lieutenant or not this deponant cannot say as he never saw his commission as he recollects But that the said Rich was wounded at Hillsboro and was confined as this deponant believes for some time from his wounds where this deponant did not see him and the company was broke up and perhaps might have had a commission of Lieutenant and this deponant not have knowing it
Subscribed and sworn to in open Court this 8th day of October A.D. 1833 Joseph hisXmark McAdams

NOTES:

The "battle fought in Orange County North Carolina, between the American & British in which Colo. Piles, who Commanded the British & Tories was defeated" probably refers to the skirmish on 25 Feb 1781 south of present Burlington NC in which loyalists under Dr. John Pyles were taken by surprise. The Americans in this action were under Lt. Col. Henry Lee, not Washington.

Continental soldiers captured at the surrender of Charleston on 12 May 1780 were generally not released on parole. Compare John Clendennan (Clendenin, Clandannen, Clendenan, BLWt1803-300), who was a Lieutenant when paroled in Beaufort SC on 29 Oct 1781.

On 24 June 1846 Rosanah Rich applied for a pension, stating that she was the widow of Jacob Rich who died 14 Aug 1838. John Silas and Sarah Silas, the sister of Rosanah Rich, deposed that they witnessed the marriage of Jacob Rich and Rosannah Counts in Lincoln County TN on or about 15 June 1810. On 5 Apr 1855 Rosanah Rich applied for bounty land, giving her age as 73.

I thank Mr. Terry Rich for assistance.