

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Franks W4956

Christiana (Christina)

fn36PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/3/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Ohio Wayne County

On this third day of September A.D. 18 32 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Superior Court now sitting in Wooster in and for the said County of Wayne and State of Ohio, Henry Franks a resident of the Township of Chippeway in the said County of Wayne and State of Ohio, aged sixty-nine years, who being first duly sworn 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. Captain Michael Catt commanded the Company and Melchia Baker was the Lieutenant. This deponent was drafted on the 29th day of June 1781 (as near as he can now recollect) that he then resided in German Township Fayette County and State of Pennsylvania. That shortly after this deponent was drafted, he was marched with his company to Wheeling Virginia where he joined the Army commanded by General George Clark [George Rogers Clark] and proceeded down the Ohio River & with said Army as far as the little Kankway [Kanawha] River where this deponent was placed under command of Colonel Laughry [Archibald Lochry] and descended the Ohio under his command as far as the Big Miami River where the detachment consisting of about 300 men was attacked by the Indians and defeated¹ and this deponent made prisoner, on the 24th day of August 1781. Captain Thomas Stokely² of the regular service and Melchia Baker were with the detachment and taken prisoner at the same time and Colonel Lochry was killed.

After this deponent was taken prisoner he was taken by the Indians to Shawnee Town situated on the big Miami River, where he remained for several days and from thence to Zanes Town on the head waters of the Miami or Sandusky rivers and from thence to upper Sandusky and from thence to lower Sandusky where this deponent was adopted by the Indians by the name of Taton Kau Saw (The bone of a Bear) that sometime in the month of August 1782 this deponent was taken into possession of the British Troops at Detroit and was from thence sent to New York by the way of Montréal Québec and Halifax, in company with Jacob Lawrence³ and George Mason⁴ who were taken prisoners at the same time with this deponent. This deponent believes that Captain Stokely came home in the same vessel with this deponent – After this deponent was landed in New York he was furnished with a pass by some officer of the United

¹ An excellent account of the engagement known as Lochry's Defeat is posted at <http://boards.ancestry.com/topics.Military.amerrev.general/803/mb.ashx>

² [Thomas Stokely W4079](#)

³ FPA S4521

⁴ FPA S33053

States Army in command, to return home and also with an order which entitled this deponent to draw provisions on his way home. That this deponent arrived at home in Fayette County Pennsylvania somewhere about the last of March or the first of April 1783 as near as this deponent can now recollect. That this deponent was in the service of the United States and a prisoner about 21 or 22 months as near as he can now recollect. That this deponent never received any written discharge from the service of the United States.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court.

S/ Henry Franks

Sworn to & subscribed in open court 3rd September 1832

S/ [indecipherable signature], Clerk

[Nicholas Helmich and Jacob Mason Dave the standard supporting affidavit.]

By the Court

Where and in what year were you born

Answer I was born in Frederick town in the County of Washington and State of Maryland on the 29th of June A.D. 1763.

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

Answer, I have no record of my age in my possession but I have seen it as written in my grandfather's Bible in Fayette County State of Pennsylvania

Question by the court, Where were you living when called into service, and where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live

Answer, I was living in German Town Fayette County State of Pennsylvania when called into service, and after my return from captivity I resided there until about the year A.D. 1801 when I removed to the County of Columbiana in the State of Ohio where I resided about 12 years. I then removed to the Township of Chippeway in the County of Wayne and State of Ohio where I have ever since resided.

Question by the Court, How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer, I was drafted under the command of Captain [illegible]

By the Court State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services

Answer, Captain, Stokely was the only officer of the regular Army with whom I was acquainted Colonel Lochry's Regiment of militia is the only one I can now recollect, and Colonel Lochry, Major Charles Craycraft and General George Clark and Melihia Baker, Captain Michael Catt by the only militia officers that I can now remember. The Troops when assembled at Wheeling Virginia would I should suppose amount to about fifteen hundred and when we descended the Ohio River Colonel Lochry with his Command was left in the rear of the main Army.

Question by the Court Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given

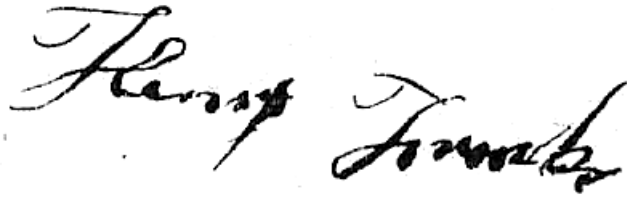
Answer I never received any written discharge to the best of my recollection

Question State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer Reverend Henry Wiygandt, George Wellhouse, Stephen Fisher, John Routson hand
General Reason Beall

Sworn to and subscribed the 3rd day of September A.D. 1832 in open Court.

S/ Henry Franks

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Franks". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[fn p. 29: Christian Fast FPA W4195 gave a supporting affidavit as to the services rendered by the applicant. The affidavit given by Fast is dated May 6, 1833 and given in Richland County of Ohio.]

[fn p. 10: On July 13, 1839 in Wayne County Ohio, Christiana Franks, 72, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Henry Franks a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him in April 1786; that he died May 5, 1836. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Facts in file: The widows maiden name was Mason; the date and place of her birth and the names of her parents on not stated in the file; the veteran and his wife had the following children

John born January 14, 1787

Michael born September 4, 1788

Elizabeth born October 12, 1791

Sarah born January 9, 1794

Henry born April 19, 1796

Abraham born February 9, 1798

Uriah born October 21, 1799

Abigail born February 14, 1802

Christiana born March 15, 1804

Catherine born August 17, 1806

Pheby born June 1, 1809

Michael Franks married Martha Thompson, January 14, 1813

Samuel Higgins married Elizabeth Franks the first Tuesday in December, 1810

John Franks married Polly Heckler or Leckler February 24, 1814

John Routzen [?] married Sarah Franks, February 28, 1816

Uriah Franks married Elizabeth Walls, January 30, 1823

Abraham Franks married Lydia Blacker, May 19, 1825

In 1832 Jacob Mason was a resident of Wayne County, Ohio, and stated that he was well acquainted with the soldier, Henry Franks; it was not shown that he was related to the widow, Christina Franks.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 21 months service as a private in the Pennsylvania militia.]