

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

Pension Application of Littleton Adams W5597

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Fauquier County To wit –

On this 3rd day of January 1834, personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, Littleton Adams, a resident of said Count and State of Virginia afors'd – aged 81 years and upwards, who being first duely sworn according to Law, doth, on his oath, make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832 – That he volunteered in the Minute service in the s'd. County of Fauquier in the latter part of September in the year seventeen hundred & seventy five (the precise day of the month not now remembered) and with the s'd. minute troops first rendevoused in the County of Culpepper [sic: Culpeper], and from thence proceeded to the neighbourhood of Williamsburg, and was thereabouts detained in s'd. service till the [?] th December of that year. That the minute Company in which he volunteered was commanded by Captain Scott (his christian name not distinctly remembered, but believed to have been James) [James Scott]. Col'n. Taliaferro (christian name not remembered) [probably Walker Taliaferro] commanded after the troops met together. That at the same period of the year as nearly as he can at this distance of time remember he again went in the minute service & returned home at the same period as above stated ([?] th December) as nearly as he can state at this time. That on this latter trip he was commanded by Captain Elias Edmunds from the s'd. County of Fauquier. That is the troops with which he then went proceeded on to Williamsburgh and marched into and occupied the ground from which a regiment had been then recently marched for the northern service in the regular Army. That this s'd Elias Edmunds was the same who afterwards became an officer in the regular service. He states that as well as he now recollects the place on which the troops were encamped as above stated was called Spring Field not more that two or three miles from Williamsburg –

That on the 1st Sep't. seventeen hundred and seventy seven he enlisted as a substitute for one John Davis for the remainder of s'd. Davis's unexpired term of two years, for which he had enlisted, and served thro' the s'd. remainder of s'd. term and was discharged at Valley Forge in Pennsylvania, in March 1778 – and then returned home. He states that one Valentine Peyton was his Captain in the s'd. regular service. That besides Gen'l. Washington who was at Valley Forge – there was one Maj'r. Welch and Col'n. [William] Heth a one eyed man that he recollects. That there was great scarcity of provisions at that period in the American Army at that place. That after his return from Vally Forge he was not called into service again untill one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, and at that time was voluntarily enrolled with the Malitia – marched to Fredericksburg, and there drew arms – proceeded thence to Richmond Town – thence to York, and there remained until within 15 or 17 days of the Capture of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] – and with other troops were near Williamsburg, and afterwards were called on to guard some English prisoners, amongst whom he recollects there were many Hessians, which he did to Nolands Ferry on the Patomac [sic: Potomac] River and was afterwards fully discharged at Warrenton in the s'd. County of Fauquier at Christmas of that year (1781) and was never called on afterwards. That he was not in an engagement during the times he was in service, though several times he expected one, but from causes which he as a private had no knowledge of, battles which were expected to take place, did not. That the whole time that he was in service was more than eighteen months. He, the said Littleton Adams hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. [signed] Littleton Adams

NOTES:

A letter from the Commissioner of Pensions states that the name of Littleton Adams had been

found on the pay roll of the Virginia Continental line showing that he had served 8 months and 24 days in addition to his militia service, making a total of 12 months and 24 days.

On 6 Sep 1834 Harriet W. Adams, 70, applied for her husband's pension, stating that Littleton Adams died on 7 Feb 1834, and that he was a native of Maryland but had lived in Fauquier County for 63 years. On 11 Oct 1839 she applied for a pension of her own, stating that she married Littleton Adams on 5 Mar 1793. A copy of the marriage record from King George County VA states that Lyttleton Adams married Harriet W. Smith on 4 Mar 1793.