

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Allen Rece W5697      Mary Rece      PA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } Ss.  
Cabell County }

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the county court of Cabell county now sitting Allen Rece a resident of the said county & state of Virginia aged nearly seventy four years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated.

That in the year 1777 [sic] he served as a substitute in the army of the united States, his place of residence then being Bucks county Pennsylvania for one James Faris that he served in Captain Singer's company in the regiment commanded by Colonel Irwin [sic: Irvine]; that he marched from Bucks County Pennsylvania to Tawney town [sic: Taneytown] Maryland guarding the prisoners taken under General Burgoine [sic: Burgoyne, captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 but not marched south until fall 1778] and was discharged after serving three months.

That in the year 1779 he enlisted in the army of the united states in Buck's county & State of Pennsylvania under one Captain Forgegan that he took the bounty of Twenty dollars and was to serve for nine months, which time he fully served as a soldier in driving waggon, that during this Term of service he drove a waggon with provisions from Easton Pennsylvania to the Hudson or north river, that he went on a trip to Wyoming [in northeastern PA] for Baggage & after the expiration of the nine months he was discharged he was commanded by Col. Hooper. This applicant further states that he cannot be positive whether he enlisted in the regular troops of the United States, or in the State troops of Pennsylvania, but confidently believes it must have been in the regular troops from the fact of their being called continental waggoner's.

That in the year 1780 he was again drafted as a malitia man in Bucks county pennsylvania for the term of three months which time he served under one captain Thomas in a regiment commanded by Col. Robertson & Gen'l. Lacy [sic: John Lacey] commanded the Bigade & we were marched to Trenton in the State of New Jersey where he was discharged after having served for three months.

That in the year 1781 or 1782 one John Harkins was drafted as a militia man in Buck's county Pennsylvania, & that this applicant entered into service as his substitute under Captain Thomas & was commanded by General Lacy and that he served three months as a substitute for said Harkins & during the time they were marched to New town [Newtown] in Bucks County Pa. & were there discharged.

This applicant states that in all his military service during the revolutionary war, he was a private soldier and if there is any person now living who can testify as to the service of this applicant during the revolutionary war, this applicant has no knowledge of such a person as all his attempts to procure such testimony have proved unavailing, and his letters to persons who served with him at the time have never been answered but whether he failed to get an answer from the fact of the persons being dead to whom the letter was directed or that the letter never reached the place of residence of the sought for witness, are both alike unknown to this applicant.

This applicant further states that he has not his original discharges: if ever he got any; he does not now recollect positively whether he ever did get any: or if he did what became of them;

This applicant answers the interrogatories of the war department in the following manner.

1<sup>st</sup>. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Bucks County Pennsylvania in October Seventeen hundred and fifty nine.

2<sup>d</sup>. Have you any record of your age, and if so; where is it?

Answer. I have the date & record of my age set down in my own Bible. I set it down from information of old people who lived in the neighbourhood where I was born and to whom I was bound & raised by

them, this information I got upwards of sixty years ago.

3<sup>d</sup>. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war, & where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in Bucks county Pennsylvania when I was called into Service; I removed from Bucks county Pa. about the close of the revolutionary war, to Bedford County Virginia in which latter county I lived nearly seven years. I then removed to Kanawha Virginia about the year 1790 and lived there about eighteen or nineteen years & have lived in Cabell county Virginia for the last twenty four years; and still continued to reside in Cabell county.

4<sup>th</sup>. How were you called into service; where you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute? and if a substitute for whom.

Answer. I first substituted for one James Faris in captain Singer's company; in the next place I served as a regular soldier; in the third tour I was drafted and the fourth time I served as a substitute for one John Harkins.

5. 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, & the general circumstances of your services.

Answer. Col. Hooper, General Lacy, Col Lark, Col [Thomas] Proctor General [Israel] Putnam but this applicant cant say they were all regular officers. Some of them may have been militia Colonels & General. I do not recollect the number of any regular regiments at this time nor of the Militia Regiments, the principal part of the Service performed by this applicant was driving waggon while a regular soldier, but when in the militia service he was in the infantry, and guarded the british prisoners some time in Tawney Town Maryland, and when we were at Trenton we lived in our tents, this applicant was never in Battle

6<sup>th</sup>. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer. I do not recollect that I ever got any & if I did I do not know what became of them.

7<sup>th</sup>. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood; and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer. I can refer the Court to Vallentine Herndon James Cox the Reve'd. David Harbour, Col John Everett Sen'r. John L. Chapman, Thomas Maupin Sen'r. and to every man in Cabell County Virginia with whom I am acquainted.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Allen Rece

[On 16 Sep 1833 Allen Rece was issued a certificate for a pension of \$60 per year for one and one-half years of service. On 18 Aug 1840 the pension was reduced to \$42.33 per year for 12 months and 21 days service. The reduction in pension was due to the following report by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton, who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.]

Allen Rece – alleges in his declaration to have served 1 yr. & 6 mo. in the Pennsylvania Militia under Capt Singer & Col. Irwin. So says the abstract.

I the undersigned Allen Rece in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War make the following as a reDeclaration of my Rev'y services to Wit. I shall be 76 years old in October next. am a native of Bucks county Pa and resided thee until 1783 then moved to Virginia. Some time during the war of the Revolution I cant tell in what year I went from Bucks County as a Waggoner under Capt Green Waggoner Master. Joined Col. Prockters artillery at Philadelphia Col. Prockters troops set out for Egg harbour, on the way I was taken sick and returned to Philadelphia I remained there driving waggon for

some time. I think not less than three months.

At the time Burgoin's Hessian army was taken prisoners, I substituted in Bucks County was attached to Capt Singers company which with other companies guarded the Hessian Prisoners from the Delaware to Tanney town Maryland. at that place the Prisoners were taken of our hands and we returned home in doing so we crossed the Susquehannah [sic: Susquehanna River] on the ice. I was in this service more than one month but but not as long as two months Cant recollect the year in which it was done.

My next service was at Trenton New Jersey. I was drafted for 3 months marched from Bucks under (I think) Capt Thomas. "the Col. to whose Regt. I belonged (I think) was Robinson" we were discharged before our time was out. I think we were in service at least three weeks I cant recollect the year in which this tour was performed.

My next service was at Newtown Bucks county. I served as a substitute. Cant recollect in whose place nor the name of my Captain. I substituted for three months and [illegible word] the man whose place I took of a three months tour although I was not in service that long. I think I was in service on this occasion at least one month. I cant tell in what year this was.

My next service was under Capt Furgison Waggoner Master. I enlisted under him as a waggoner for nine months. Joined the Brigade at East town. was engaged in hauling provisions from that place to the Hudson River for the use of the American army. Whilst in this service we went with our teams to Wyoming and brought the Baggage from that place to East town. before my time expired I was taken sick and the col. permitted me to go home distant 26 miles and told me at the time that I must return when called on or sent for. I was not sent for and consequently did not return. My time was out within a month or two when I went home.

I dont now recollect of any other service. recently and since I made my original Declaration I have had a paralysis and my mind and memory is much affected in consequence thereof. the service done at Trenton & Newtown was under Genl Lacy – when guarding the Hessians I was under Col. Irwin.

In my original Declaration when detailing my tours as Militia man I [illegible word] that my tours were of three months duration whether in actual service that length of time or not because we were always called out for 3 mo. and I considered myself entitled for the whole time whether the service was actually performed or not. I cant now nor did I at the time of making my Declaration recollect how long I was in service in the whole. Mr. Samuels wrote my Declaration. he charged me nothing. In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name August 24 1835 Allen hisXmark Rece

Witness/ James M. McComas A Copy W G Singleton

Note – this old Gentleman sustains as good a character as any man in this county but it is manifest that in any view of his case he is not entitled to the amount awarded him. W. G. Singleton.

#### NOTES:

On 22 June 1846 Mary Rece, 82, applied for a pension stating that she had married Allen Rece in Bucks County more than 65 years before, and that her husband died on 29 Nov 1837. She stated that her oldest son if living would be 65, and that he was her only child when they moved to Bedford County VA. On 23 June 1846 Abia Rece, 62, certified that the family record from the Bible of his father, Allen Rece, included the following among the entries:

"Allen Rece was born in the year of Our Lord 1759 October the 7 day"

"Mary Rece was born in the year of Our Lord 1763 September the 9 day"

"Joseph Rece was born in the year of our Lord 1781 August the 27<sup>th</sup> day"

On an application for bounty land dated 3 April 1855 Mary Rece stated that as Mary Clymer she married Allen Rece in February 1780.

The file contains a letter dated 5 Oct 1846 from John M. Rece, grandson of Allen and Mary Rece, but the letter is mostly illegible.