

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Russell W5753

Comfort

f37VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/17/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

At a court held for Accomack County on the 28th day of August 1833 Robert Russell appeared in court and made the following declaration on oath in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of an act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832 viz.

State of Virginia, Accomack County SS

On this 28th day of August 1833 personally appeared before the Court of Accomack County Robert Russell a native born Citizen and resident of Half Moon Island in the County of Accomack and State of Virginia, aged Seventy-six 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 that he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 in Captain Thomas Snead's Company of infantry and moved in the ninth Regiment from Virginia under the following named officers, Thomas Fleming Colonel of the Regiment, the officers of the Company that he enlisted in were Thomas Snead Captain, Arthur Teackle Lieutenant and William B Bunting Ensign, the Captains of the Regiment where they marched from Virginia John Cropper, George Gilchrist, Thomas Snead, Smith Snead, Levin Joynes, John Blair, Captain Davis & John Poulson, Captain Walker, Lieutenants were Thomas Custis, George Oldham, Reuben Joynes, James Drummond, Nathaniel Wilkins & Samuel Waples & Thomas Parker & that at the time he left the service George Mathews was Colonel of the Regiment, Thomas Snead, George Gilchrist, John Cropper, Levin Joynes and John Poulson were Majors in the regular Army and George Morris was Captain, Thomas Martin was Lieutenant and Charles Stockley was Ensign. That he was a native of Virginia born in Accomack County and in the parish of Accomack where he enlisted and was eighteen years old when he enlisted and has resided in the said County ever since he left the service. That when he marched from Accomack he marched through part of the State of Maryland, part of the State of Delaware, & part of Pennsylvania to Philadelphia, then marched from Philadelphia and joined the Army under his Excellency General Washington commander in chief – he was at Trenton [February 26, 1776], Princeton [January 3, 1777] in the Jersey, that he was at the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Chestnut Hill, Iron Hill [Cooch's Bridge DE, September 3, 1777], and at the battle of German Town [Germantown, October 4, 1777] where he was severely wounded in the groin, and was taken a prisoner and was put in the new Jail in Philadelphia and from which place he was put on board a prison ship & taken to New York where he was kept until he was exchanged when he again went & joined the Brigade commanded by General Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg], and that he continued in service between 4 & 5 years when he was honorable [honorably] discharged, that he has not the discharge, it has been mislaid or lost – it was signed by General Muhlenberg.

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 of any State.

S/ Robert Russell, X his mark

And the Court do declare their opinion that the Applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier & served as he states – It was also proved in open Court by William R Custis (who is a son of Thomas Custis deceased who was an officer in the Virginia Continental Line in the Revolutionary War) that he has known this said Robert Russell four fifty years, and he has always understood & believed that he was a Revolutionary Soldier & served as he states. It was also proved by Levin S. Joynes & Thos. R. Joynes (who are sons of Colonel Levin Joynes deceased who was an officer in the Virginia Continental Line in the Revolutionary War) that they have known the said Robert Russell for more than twenty years & they have always understood & believed that the said Robert Russell was a Revolutionary Soldier & served as he states. It was also proved in open court by Thomas M. Bayly that he has been many years a neighbor to said Robert Russell & he has been acquainted with said Robert Russell from his (Bayly's) boyhood & he has always understood that the said Robert Russell was a Revolutionary Soldier & served as he states – and the Court certify that the said William R Custis, Levin S. Joynes, Thos. R. Joynes, & Thos. M. Bayly are credible persons, That said William R Custis, & Levin S. Joynes are Justices of the Peace &, Thos. R. Joynes is Clerk of this Court.

A Copy

Test: S/ Js J. Ailworth Dy [Deputy]

[f p. 5: On October 12, 1838 in Accomack County Virginia, Comfort Russell, 70, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Robert Russell, a soldier of the night Virginia Regiment and a pensioner of the United States; that she has been legally married to her husband about 50 years ago and about 6 or 7 years after the revolution ended but she cannot remember the day, month or year; that her husband died in May 1837.]

[f p. 9]

The deposition of Comfort Russell aged about seventy years who states that she is the widow of Robert Russell who was a Revolutionary pensioner late of Accomack County & that the paper attached hereto is the only family record of the ages of her children = that she has no record of her marriage whatever, & that belief or paper aforesaid was torn from the family Bible of her husband & the same was written by a man named John Hughes who is not now a resident of the County but resides in parts to this deponent unknown & was done according to this deponent's directions about twenty years ago or more & that the person at the top of the list named Leshea is now the wife of James Gootee (called Alesha Gootee in her son Thomas's deposition) & she was her first child & Thomas was her second child, and it appears Lisha or Alesha was born in 17 February 1792 & Thomas in October 1794 & she knows that those entries were correctly made when done as aforesaid – in the Bible from which the said leave was torn has always been in this deponent's possession = this deponent states that she was lawfully married to said Robert Russell & is now his widow.

S/ Comfort Russell, X her mark

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Robert Russell<br/> His Book in hand [?]<br/> His Childrens names</p> <hr/> Lisha Russell aged [?]<br>17 Feb'y 192 [1792?]<br>Thos. Russell aged [?]<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Octr 194 [1794?]<br>Robt Russell 196 [1796?]<br>Jno Russell 180 [1800?]<br>William Russell 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep <sup>r</sup><br>Elisabeth Russell 18<br>John Thomas ??? | <p>Robert Russell</p> <p>His Book in hand [?]</p> <p>His Childrens names</p> <p>Lisha Russel aged [?]<br/>17 Feby 192 [1792?]</p> <p>Thos. Russel aged [?]<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Octr 194 [1794?]</p> <p>Robt Russel 196 [1796?]</p> <p>Jno Russel 180 [1800?]</p> <p>William Russel 30<sup>th</sup> September<br/>Elisabeth Russel 18</p> <p>John Thomas ???</p> |
| <p>John Lewis the Son of<br/> William Lewis was born<br/> April the 9<sup>th</sup> 1823 and<br/> Lisha his Mother--</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>John Lewis the Son of<br/> William Lewis was born'd<br/> April the 9<sup>th</sup> 1823 and<br/> Lisha his Mother--</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

[f p. 13: On October 12, 1838 in Accomack County Virginia, Nancy Parks aged about 76 made oath that she is the widow of Solomon Parks,<sup>1</sup> a revolutionary soldier and pensioner who died about 5 years ago; that her husband was the brother of Mrs. Comfort Russell; that she has always lived a neighbor to Comfort Russell and her husband Robert Russell; that she, the affiant, married about 4 years after the war ended & Mrs. Russell was married about 6 years after the war ended; that she, the affiant, is well acquainted with Lisha or Alesha Gootee wife of James Gootee who she thinks is between 46 and 47 years of age; that Thomas Russell son of said Comfort is 44 years of age. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f p. 19: On October 12, 1838 in Accomack County Virginia, Thomas Russell made oath to an affidavit in which he states he is the son of Robert & Comfort Russell; that he was born October 12, 1794 as he has always been told by his father and mother; that his sister Alesha Gootee was born upwards of 2 years before he was born.

<sup>1</sup> FPA W5486

*Thomas Russell* ]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]