

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Russell W5755 Sarah E. Russell VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 March 2021.

District of Virginia } Sgt.
Loudoun County }

On this second day of September in the year 1824 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record, and the 10th Judicial Circuit of the Superior Court of Law for the Commonwealth of Virginia John Russell aged sixty eight years and eight months, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of congress of the 18th of March 1818 & the first of May 1820

that he the said John Russell enlisted for the term of two years on the [blank] day of [blank] in the year 1781 in the state of Virginia in a company of Horse commanded by by Capt Thomas Hughes in the Regiment commanded by Col. Anthony White [Anthony Walton White W6477] in the line of the state of Virginia on the Continental Establishment that he continued to serve in the same corps until the close of the revolutionary war, when he was discharged from the said service, by the said Col. A White near to the City of Charleston in the state of south Carolina that he was at the siege of York & Gloicester [sic: Yorktown and Gloucester; 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis in 1781 and was severely wounded with a Bayonet in the right leg – that he was subsequently in the battle fought by Gen'l. [Anthony] Wayne against a Body of Indians on the 24th of June 1782 [at Ebenezer] in the neighbourhood of Savannah in the State of Georgia – that he feels no inconvenience from the wound he received at York Town that he received an honourable discharge but having unfortunately lost it, he was ignorant that the laws of his county [sic] had provided a way by which he might in such case set forth his claim and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the affidavits of Paul Shry and John Harris [S37998] hereunto annexed and the affidavits of sundry persons neighbours of the said Paul Shry testifying to his fair Character which paper is also hereunto annexed and the said John Russell further declares that at the time he was discharged he did not receive any pay for his services nor has he received any since that his employment has been that of a farmer in the County of Loudoun and State of Virginia where he has continued to reside since the peace of 1783

Sworn to and declared on the day and year above written before me in Open Court Robert White
Judge of the 10th Judicial Circuit of the Superior Court of Law for the Sate of Virginia

And in pursuance of the act of Congress of the 1st of may 1820 the said Declarant has taken and subscribed the following Oath and schedule in Open Court —

I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed —

Schedule of the property of the declarant Viz Real property none personally property, 2 hoes 2 mattocks 1 set of shoemakers tools – Debts due to him none — his Occupation A farmer his ability to pursue it is very feeble from the increasing infirmities of old age and the consequences of an injury received by falling into a well while on duty in Georgia in the service of the United State his family consists of himself and wife who is 54 years of ages and is infirm of health. they are resideing with their five children Emily age 37 Jane age 35 Sally age 33 (who is married and has three children Thadeus age 25 and Anthony age 18 – these children and their mother live upon a small farm in Loudoun County left in trust for the benefit of the mother and children exclusively and after the death of the mother the land to vest in the children. The property is in the hands of the trustee and the declarant has no Curtesy or other interest in it

John hisXmark Russell

Loudoun County to wit

John Harris of Hardy County came before me a justice of the peace for the County of Loudoun and made oath that John Russell of Loudoun County was a regular soldier in the troop of horse in the army of the United States under the Command of Colo Anthony White and served in the same regiment that the said John Harris served in Given from under my hand and seal this 5th day of October 1822

Loudoun County State of Virginia

This day Paul Shry personally appeared before me a justices of the peace for said County and made Oath that he entered into the service of the United States in the year 1781 and at the time he joined Colo Whites Reg't. of horse in Petersburg Virginia he then and there met with a certain John Russel who was at that time in the service of his country and belonged to the said Colo Whites Reg't of horse and he was informed that the said Russell had assisted in the Capture of General Cornwallis then proceeded for Petersburg with General Wayne to South Carolina and continued in the service with him about Eighteen months and were both discharged at the same without receiving any pay and he further states that the bearer of this certificate is the same John Russell who served in the army with him and rec'd his discharge Given under my hand this 8th day of June 1824

Loudoun County } Sgt.
State of Virginia }

On this 14th day of February in the year 1825 personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of record for the County of Loudoun and Commonwealth of Virginia John Russell aged sixty nine years and one month who being first sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following declaration (in addition to that made on the 4th day of September 1824 and hereunto annexed) in order to obtain the provisions made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first day of May 1820 First that he the said John Russell cannot be positive of the exact date of his enlistment into the Army of the United States but he believes it was in the Spring of the year 1781 Second, that he the said John Russell is a resident of the County of Loudoun and State of Virginia, Third, that since the 18th day of March 1818 no changes have been made in his property for he has had none to dispose of, he has been maintained by the Charity of his Children and Occasionally doing a little work when able

Signed John hisXmark Russell

NOTES:

A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Albemarle Old Courthouse lists John Russell/ age 21/ height 5' 10¼"/ black hair/ black eyes/ dark complexion/ planter/ born and residing in Loudoun County where he was drafted for 18 months on 19 Mar 1781. Sized 28 May 1781.

The same size roll lists Paul Shrye/ age 17/ height 5' 4¼"/ white hair/ blue eyes/ fair complexion/ planter/ born in Pennsylvania/ residing in Loudoun County where he enlisted as a substitute on 19 Mar 1781 for three years. Sized on 22 May 1781.

Among [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) is a file for John Russell that consists of copies of the above federal pension applications.

On 15 Feb 1843 Sarah E. Russell, 74, applied for a pension stating that she married John Russell in May or June 1789 or 1790, and he died 22 Sep 1842. Sarah Weeks, about 73, stated that she "saw them married, the marriage took place at the house of Olliver Weeks a baptist preacher who married them, to the best of her recollection it was in May 1789." The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 30 May 1789 by John Russell and Joseph Moore for the marriage of Russell to Sarah McCarty, spinster, of Shelbourne Parish. On 2 Sep 1843 she made a similar declaration witnessed by "Thaddus Russel."