

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Henry Shipley W6046

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Ohio }
Knox County }

On this first day of October Anno Domini Eighteen hundred & thirty Eight personally appeared before the Judges of our Court of Common Pleas of the County of Knox aforesaid Ruth Shipley a resident of Monroe Township in the said County of Knox & State of Ohio age 73 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836. That she is the widow of Henry Shipley who was a soldier in the Revolutionary war in which he performed the following services to wit. In the spring of 1776 he enlisted for six months and served his time under Capt Joseph Burgis [sic: Joseph Burgess] in the Maryland Line, during which time he was at the battle of Long Island [27 Aug 1776]. In June or July 1777 he enlisted under Capt. Charles Hammond

When this last term of service expired he enlisted under Capt. Woodward formerly Lieutenant under Capt. Hammond for three months. the next enlistment was in the summer of 1778 for four months under Capt. Wadkins which period of service he served at Fort Severn [sic: site of Fort Severn, constructed 1808 at present United States Naval Academy]. In the fall of 1779 he entered the service for during the war. in May 1782 he was furlowed to go home for the purpose of recruiting and was discharged at the General Discharge at the City of Anapolis [sic: Annapolis] on the 3^d of November December A.D. 1783.

Deponent has often heard these things & statements from her Deceased husband & others & she has often heard him state that he held some office in the War but does not remember what it was

She further declares that she was married to the said Henry Shipley on the 11th day of August A.D. 1782; That her husband the aforesaid Henry Shipley died on the 11th day of February A.D. 1828; and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. Ruth herXmark Shipley

I Adam Shipley of the County of Aleghany [sic: Allegheny] & State of Pennsylvania solemnly swear that the late Henry Shipley of the County of Fayette & State of Pennsylvania was my brother that we were raised in the County of Arundel [sic: Anne Arundel] & State of Maryland. That in the Spring of the year 1776 he this s'd. Henry Shipley enlisted for six months to serve in the American War and served his time under Capt. Joseph Burgis in the Maryland line during which time he was at the Battle on Long Island. This company he said belonged to what was styled a "Flying Camp." Deponent thinks they were commanded by Major [William] Smallwood but being a supporting party they served under different field officers.

He next enlisted for four months in June or July A.D. 1777 under Capt. Charles Hammond also of the Maryland line. The field officers Dept thinks were Gen'l. Smallwood Thomas Dansey [sic: Thomas Dorsey] 1st. Col. & John Dansey [sic: John Dorsey] 2nd Col. The Troops in which sd. Henry was ranked were called at that time the "Elkridge Battallion" — During this period the s'd Henry with the Company to which he belonged marched into Pennsylvania. After the expiration of this period the s'd. Henry volunteered under Capt. Woodward (formerly Lieutenant under Capt. Hammond) for 3 or four months. under Capt. Woodward marched to Vally Forge [sic: Valley Forge PA] and was in the engagement at Germantown [4 Oct 1777] at which place Capt. Woodward was mortaly wounded.

Afterward in the summer of A.D. 1778 the s'd. Henry volunteered for three or four months under Capt. Wadkins in an artillery Company Leven Lausman[?] Lieutenant and served his time a Fort Levins[?]. Dept thinks that John Shipley or Hide was Col. at that time. after this tour of service and in the fall of the year A.D. 1779 the s'd. Henry entered or joined the American service for five years or during the War. at some time in this latter service the s'd. Henry was invested with an office & Deponent thinks it was that of Ensign. But at what exact time he received this office Dept. does not know.

In the May 1782 the s'd. Henry was furlowed to go home (about 15 miles from Baltimore) on the Recruiting service and on the 3^d. Nov. or December 1783 the s'd Henry was discharged from the service at the General Discharge of the American Troops.

And I the said Adam Shipley do further solemnly swear that the said Henry Shipley was joined in marriage in my presence, to Ruth Howard by Parson West a parson of the Episcopal Church commonly called the Church of England. The said marriage was solemnized at Baltimore in the month of August A.D. seventeen hundred and eighty two (1782) and before the expiration of the last period of service of the s'd. Henry Shipley in the Revolutionary War. And I further state that the s'd Ruth Shipley who has subscribed the foregoing Declaration is the same person to whom the s'd. Henry Shipley was married in Aug. 1782 and that she has not been married to any person since the Death of her s'd. husband

I further state that I am a pensioner under the U. States [pension application filed as Adam Shepley S6077] and that my brother Henry never applied for or received a pension and served much of the aforesaid time serving (excepting the last) in Company with my brother - not in the same rank or military Company but in the same [illegible word]

[signed] Adam Shipley

Adam Shipley of lawful age being first duly sworn deposes and says that he was the brother of Henry Shipley deceased. That the said Henry was a Revolutionary Soldier. That he first enlisted in the latter part of the year 1775 in Capt. Wadkins Company, Lieutenant Lewis Lawrence Artillery - and served for about 4 months at Fort Severn in the City of Anapolis. In the spring of the year 1776 he enlisted in Capt Stricker Company a Rifle Company and marched to Long Island. This deponent was a musician in Capt. Wadkins Company first mentioned at the same time his brother Henry was a private.

At Long Island Capt Stricker was taken prisoner and his Company except 17 of whom Henry was one. This deponent saw Henry in New York after his escape from Brooklyn. From this place they went to Fort Washington. But previous to the Capitulation at this place [16 Nov 1776] this deponent and the said Henry were sent over to Fort Lee and were not actually made prisoners. From this place they marched to Pennsylvania. The said Henry was commanded by Capt Smalwood and this Deponent by Capt Jason Dansey a capt of volunteers. Henry was still serving out the balance of his time for which he enlisted under Capt Stricker. Soon afterwards Henry's time expired and he returned home. This deponent also went home soon afterwards. In July or August 1777 the said Henry and this deponent both joined Capt. Charles Hammond Company and Lieutenant Woodward. They were united in the Elkridge Battalion - commanded by Col. Dawsey - who also commanded the Montgomery Battalion. They marched then to meet General Washington and crossed the Susquehannah [sic: Susquehanna River] at Havre de Grass [sic: Havre de Grace MD] but did not participate in the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777]. From there they were ordered to join General [Anthony] Wayne at Peola [sic: Paoli PA]. From Peola we marched and joined General Washington and remained with him in winter Quarters [at Valley Forge]. This deponent was a musician. Soon after the Battle of Brandywine Henry joined Capt. Woodward's Company - Capt. Hammond being gone home. Capt Hammond's Company was called a Draughted Company. Before going to winter Quarters in the fall of 1777 the said Henry was in the engagement of Germantown. After Winter Quarters were broken up in the Spring of 1778 Henry went home and this deponent accompanied him. In the fall of the year 1778 according to the best recollection of deponent said Henry enlisted in the artillery in the United States Troops for five years or during the War - in the Company of Richard Dawsey [sic: Richard Dorsey] and marched to the South and was as this deponent always understood in the Battle of Camden [SC, 16 Aug 1780]. When he returned from the South He obtained a furlough and went home accompanied by this Deponent.

This deponent further states that in August or September in the year 1772 [sic] the said Henry was married at Baltimore by Parson West to Ruth Howard. This deponent was present at the marriage. He further states that the said Henry Shipley departed this life about eleven years ago. That he left Ruth Shipley the woman to whom he was married in 1772 his widow and that the applicant in this case is the same person. This deponent further states that about 4 years ago he saw in the possession of one Col. Brewer at Anapolis certain Rolls appearing to be Rolls

of the first service alluded to in this Deposition and that the name of Henry Shipley was then on the said Rolls immediately after that of this Deponent - and also on the pay book.

He further states that the said Ruth Shipley is now unmarried & has not been married since the death of her husband Henry Shipley. [signed] A Shipley

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court June 22nd 1839

Land Office, Annapolis, 23rd Sept'r, 1839,

Sir, Your's of the 18th Inst, with the papers in the case of Mrs. Ruth Shipley, widow of Henry Shipley, dec'd., enclosed, was received. I have again very Carefully examined the rolls of the revolution in this office, and they afford me no proof of his service. It is alleged, that he enlisted in Capt'n. Stricker's Company in the Spring of 1776, — the muster roll of Capt'n. George Stricker's Company, which was made out, or is dated the 10th June, 1776, is on file in this office, and the name of Henry Shipley or Adam Shipley, does not appear upon it. — It is also alleged that he served under Capt'n. Charles Hammond, — Capt'n. Charles Hammond commanded a Company in the Elkridge Battalion of Militia in Anne Arundel County, — there being no muster or pay roll of his company to be found. I am unable to say whether he was enrolled in his Company or not. — It is further stated, that Adam Shipley, "when in Annapolis four years ago, saw in the possession of one Col. Brewer, certain rolls of the revolution, upon which he saw the name of Henry Shipley," - I do not know what Col. Brewer he alludes to, but certain it is, that he saw his name upon no rolls in my possession. the papers are herewith returned;

Very respectfully, Yr. Ob't. Sv't. G. G. Brewer

J. L. Edwards, Esq'r. [Commissioner of Pensions]

Land Office, Annapolis, 30th Sept'r., 1839,

Sir, In reply to your letter of the 23rd Inst. I have to state, That Captain Richard Dorsey, under whom it is alleged that Henry Shipley served, Commanded a Company in the Maryland Artillery, — there are no muster rolls to be found of the Maryland Artillery, I am therefore unable to say whether he served or not, there are two or three pay rolls of the Maryland Artillery, upon which the name of Henry Shipley does not appear — The Maryland Artillery, before the close of the war of the revolution, were attached or transferred to the Virginia line, and their services terminated in that State. It is therefore probably, that the record of the Virginia troops may afford some evidence of his service.

Very respectfully, Yr. Ob't. Sv't. G. G. Brewer

J. L. Edwards, Esq'r.

Adam Shipley being duly sworn to speak the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth touching the matters and things herein after stated deposes and says that Henry shipley enlisted in the fall of the year of seventeen hundred and seventy five in Captain Stricker's Company in the Frederick County. The said Henry lived in AnnArundele County Maryland for the term of one year to serve in the war of the American Revolution. That he marched that same year to Long Island according to witness recollection. That he joined the Rifle Regiment but witness does not remember the Commanders name. The Company to which Henry belonged was broken in August Deponent thinks of the following year (1776) by reason of the Defeat at Long Island. But Henry then went to Fort Washington & afterwards to Fort Lee about November of that year (1776) This deponent knows for he was an eye witness that the said Henry did serve on this tour the full period of one year and two or three months more.

The next service rendered by the said Henry in the war aforesaid was at Fort Severn He enlisted at that time in the month of February 1777 for three months under Capt Wadkins. Levin Lawrence Lieut Colonel. Deponent knows that the said Henry did serve on this tour or service three full months and is quite certain that he served four —

The next service rendered by the said Henry commenced in August of said year 1777. This was a Volunteer Service for four months the enlistment was taken in the month of July previous - and this service was rendered by the said Henry under Capt Hammond Thomas and John Dawsey were Colonel and Lieutenant Col but Deponent does not remember which one of them was Colonel. Smalwood was General. Immediately after this enlistment the said Henry

Shipley marched into Pennsylvania - and this four months service was fully performed by the said Henry. After the expiration of this last four months service the said Hammond Capt. returned home and the said Henry - then at Vally Forge - volunteered again for two months and became one of a company who elected Woodward Captain. This period of two months was also fully served and performed by the said Henry —

In th the fall of the year AD seventeen hundred and seventy-eight the said Henry enlisted for five years or during the war in a company then commanded by Joshua Burgess and joined the fourth Regiment of the Maryland line United States Troops Commanded by John Eager Howard. soon after this enlistment he went to the South and returned about three years afterwards [two illegible words] the Recruiting Service and was discharged at the General discharge.

This Deponent further states that he well knows the facts by him stated as above and that he is and can not be deceived in the length of time of the actual service rendered by the said Henry Shipley in the War aforesaid. Owing to age he may be mistaken in some unimportant particulars but the principal & main facts he knows to the true as stated above

Sworn to & subscribed }
in open Court this 24th day of October AD 1839 } [signed] Adam Shipley

NOTE: The file includes a record of the names and dates of birth of the children of Henry and Ruth Shipley. In 1855 Ruth Shipley applied for bounty land, giving her age as 91.