

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Middleton W7464

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }
Harrison County } To Wit

On this 25th day of August 1832 personally appeared John Middleton now a resident of the same County Aged nearly 71 years in Open Court before the County Court of said County now sitting who first being 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 7th 1832.

That he was born in Loudoun County in the state of Virginia has no record of his age but understood from his parents he was born on the 20th of November 1761 and resided in that County until in the year 1796 a well as he now remembers when he removed to the County of Harrison in the same State (where he has ever since resided

That while a resident in the said County of Loudoun in the State of Virginia he was a substitute for John Buford[?] in a volunteer company of militia in the service of the United States as well as he now recollects in the month of September 1780 under Capt. Daniel Figgins [sic: Daniel Feagan] 1st Lieut Matthias Rust [Matthew Rust]. 2nd Lieut. John Russel [John Russell] & Ensign Samuel Oliphant. the company to which he belonged as aforesaid marched immediately after being enrolled in the said month of September to Fredericksburg, Richmond, Petersburg thence to Sack point on the Nansemond River and there remained until their time of service expired and was honorably discharged by Baron Steuban [sic: Baron von Steuben] from thence he returned to his home in Loudoun County. he cannot at this time remember the name of the Col. of the Regiment nor can he recollect the period of his said Tour of service. said applicant further states that he received no written discharge from his Captain or any other officer for his said service but his company was addressed by Gen Steuban at the time of their discharge in the following manner - "Boys our term of service has expired. go home and when I call for you come again like good boys for you are the best set of troops I ever commanded" [see endnote]

That in the April of 1781 he was again called into the service of the United States as a Substitute for a man named Hellems whose Christian name he cannot recollect and served under Capt. Francis Barry [sic: Francis Berry] a Militia Captain of Frederick County Va. This applicant at that time was a resident of Loudoun County and lived near the line of Frederick County cannot remember the Lieutenants name. The Ensign was named George Barnet - Col. Elias Edmonds commanded the regiment under whom he served - This Applicant cannot recollect either the name of his lieutenant or Ensign but well recollects that the Regiment he was attached to was commanded by Col. Elias Edmonds That after being enrolled in the month of April aforesaid his Company marched to Fredericksburg Richmond, Petersburg thence intending to go to Sack point on the Nansemond river were compelled to retreat towards the upper Country passing throug Hanover in the direction to Fredericksburg until they reached Corbin's bridge [Corbin Bridge on Po River] in Spottsylvania [sic: Spotsylvania] from thence to Culpeper County near the Raccoon ford on the Rapid Ann [sic: Rapidan] river where they were joined by Gen [Anthony] Wayne with his brigade thence towards Albemarle Old Courthouse where Lord Cornwallis again moved towards the lower Country and was followed by the American Army until they reached Louisa their this applicant was taken sick and there was discharged by the Commissary Philips who receipted for his arms with his comrade (who rec'd said receipt) Samuel Davis [pension application W2534] which he has since understood from s'd Davis has been lost or mislaid Gen Lafayette commanded the army - this applicants memory having become by time very much impaired he cannot state the precise period of either of his said services he did not impress it upon his memory as it is likely he otherwise would have done but from convulations he has since the passage of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 with some of his former Comrades in his last tour of service he is lead to believe that they were each tours of three months - That he has no documentary evidence of his said services but refers to Samuel Davis and John Romine [S6008] both of whom reside in the said County of Harrison and who the resided in the same neighborhood with this applicant who can vouch for his being in the service

at the time he states they being acquainted with at the time he was in the army and the said Samuel Davis being in the service at the time of his last tour and in the same company under the same Captain and was a substitute for Thomas Shepherd as he understood from him the said Samuel Davis

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

John hisXmark Mideton

State of Virginia } To wit
Harrison County }

on this 12th day of January 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace of Harrison County and State of Virginia John Middleton who being duly Sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less then six months as a privet soldier in the War of Revolution under the foresaid officers mentioned in his former Declaration and for such services I Clam a pension

John hisXmark Middleton

Sworn to the day & year aforesaid Jacob Coplin JP

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners of Harrison and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]

John Middleton. draws \$20.

on July the 9th Mr. Middleton gave the following narative. was born Nov. 1761. resided in Loudoun County until after the R. W. closed. about two years before the surrender of Cornwallis in the fall of the year. (cant say what year) he hired as a substitute in the place of John Butcher in a company under Capt John Butcher, John Russel & Matthew Rust Lieutenants. marched to Fredericksburg thence to Richmond thence to Petersburg. he was marched and countermarched from place to place. thinks Genl. Mullenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] commanded. not certain. was reviewed by Barron Steuban discharged & returned home having been in service three months.

in the year 1780 [sic] a served a nother tour as substitute in the place of one Helms, of three months. in this term he was under Capt. Francis Berry. Col. E. Edmonds. marched from Winchester to Richmond, then to the Rapahanock river. it was called the running tour marched day & night. Saw the Marquis Lafayette, about the time the Marquis joined them [at Richmond, 29 Apr 1781]. [two illegible words] got sick, his time expired before he got sick and his company was discharged whilst he was sick

[illegible word] comprises all his services. Jacob Coplan wrote his declaration. told him same he now tells.

the above statement was made in the presence of Gustavus Harrison.

A Copy. W. G Singleton Nov. 17, 1834

NOTE: Middleton's first tour must have ended after 15 Mar 1781, which was about the time Gen. Steuben began his service in Virginia.