

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Rose W8554

Elizabeth

fn45NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 1/20/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

[fn p. 10]

State of Kentucky, Whitley County

On this the 19th day of November 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned an acting justice of the peace for Whitley County, William Rose a resident of Whitley County State of Kentucky on the waters of Cain Creek on the main road heading from Jacksborough, Tennessee to Barbourville Kentucky and about 22 miles from the latter place aged 76 years who being first duly sworn according to the law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated—that he volunteered in the State of North Carolina Granville County where he resided at that time in the Spring of 1780 for a tour of 8 months as well as I remember under Captain Bartlett Searcey, Lieut. Sims—he rendezvoused at Hillsborough—then he rec'd the appointment and commission of Ensign—we stayed here some little time—then we marched to Salisbury—Thence down Pedee [sic, Pedee] River, thence on the road to join Genl Gates [Horatio Gates], we was joined by Genl John Butler—where in about 7 miles of Camden we heard of the defeat of Genl Gates at that place and we retreated back to Hillsborough—here we staid a short time—and in Sept 1780 as well as I can remember we marched in the direction of Wilmington—and stationed at Col Roberts Burton's near a small village, name not recollected—here we staid some time—in November I was permitted to return to my family on account of the condition of my wife, on the first of December 1780 I had a son born whom I called William who is now living in 5 miles of me—when my wife got so that I could leave her—there having been a fresh call for men—those who volunteered with me at first having served out their term—Stephen Merritt was Captain, Joseph Langston was Lieut, I again was Ensign, but whether I rec'd a second commission or not I can not remember but am inclined to think I still held the first commission. I was constantly engaged with my company in scouring the surrounding country, disarming the Tories and marching against them when they collected in numbers-- I remember I was at Hillsborough when we heard of Tarlton's [sic, Banastre Tarleton's] defeat at the Cowpens. Cornwallis pursued Morgan [Daniel Morgan] but did not overtake him. Shortly after this, Cornwallis came to Hillsborough and there put out a “noration” (the old soldiers' word) for all to join him and receive protection—a great many did join him—at that time Genl Butler and the militia under him was in the lower end of Granville County—I was with him—after this—Cornwallis marched to Guilford as I understood—the company to which I belonged was never with the army of Genl Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] although we were often in a few days march of him—I remember nothing of importance as of my service being constantly engaged as before stated in endeavoring to put down the Tories until we were ordered on to join Washington at York Town. Before we got there Wallis [sic, Cornwallis] had surrendered and we returned to our native State—shortly after this I resigned my commission of Ensign and returned to my family—this commission has been lost for years—it was given by Governor Burke and Col Jo. Taylor hand it to me.

I twice hired substitutes during the revolution to serve in my place when drafted but being informed that I am entitled to nothing for this I do not mention this although to one of these Substitutes viz., John Tatum—I gave a Negro boy near 5 years old and about \$30 worth of property besides—my wife was in the family way which caused me to hire Tatum. I can not state the precise length of my service as an ensign owing to old age and bodily infirmity and the consignment loss of memory but from the best of my knowledge and recollection I served not less than eighteen months—I further state that I am and have been for four or five years unable to go to town where court is held. I employed a gentleman 12 or 15 months ago Dr. Kale of Williamsburg to draw up my claim—he left the country—and being unable to get about I have had great difficulty in getting someone qualified to draw up my claim which is now done at my own house written up on a clab [?] board by a pine knot light the best I had to offer him. I remember of no one living by whom I can prove my service except my wife who now sits by my side, nor have I any documentary evidence in my possession to prove my service—I entered the service in the spring I think March 1780 and except the time which I was at home with my wife which did not exceed 6 weeks and then with a furlough, I was in the service until November or December 1781 at which time I resigned. I do not remember the names of any of the continental officers with whom I served but Genl Gates—and he only for a short time—I was under Gov. Burke, Col Satterwhite—there was a power of officers with Gates but I had nothing to do with them.

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

Answers to inter [sic, interrogatories]:

Ques[tion] 1st. I was born in Granville County on Tar River the year 1757 according to the best information I have.

2nd. I have no record of my age

3rd. I was living in Granville County when called into the service. Since the Revolution I moved to Pendleton County, South Carolina—thence to Powell's Valley, thence to the County of Whitley (then Knox) where I have lived for more than 15 years.

4th. I first volunteered as a private, but when we rendezvoused I rec'd the commission of ensign.

5th. Genl Gates after his defeat was with the troops where I served—I do not remember the number of any of the Regiments not even my own. Thomas Satterwhite was Col. when at head quarters. I was put under Col. William Moore.

6th. I received a commission of Ensign by Governor Burke, I kept this paper with others in a bag—a part was burned in the house of my son Ephraim and part has been previously destroyed by the children—I do not know in which of these ways my commission was destroyed.

7th. It gives me pleasure to State that I believe all to whom I have been known would testify for my character for veracity and their belief of my service as a soldier of the revolution—in my present neighborhood, I can name William Crowley, Edward Bennett, Thomas Adkins, an old soldier himself, Rev William Siler—who I doubt not would testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution.

S/ William Rose, ^ his mark

I certify that I was the wife of William Rose the above applicant during his service in the revolution and the sister of Stephen Merritt one of the captains under whom my Husband served—the Lieut Joseph Langston was my step-father—I can not speak as to the dates with certainty but I know my Husband was an ensign when Gates was defeated—that he was at home when my son William was born which was on the first of December—I do not know the year—but in a month or two afterwards, I heard the cannon that was fired when Wallis [sic, Cornwallis] took possession of Hillsborough and invited the people to take protection under him which I understand a good many did—I know also that my husband continued to act as ensign until he went to join George Washington at York Town when he returned home he resigned.

I have often talked with my Brother Stephen Merritt about the services of himself, my step-father and Husband.

I know also that my husband hired a substitute, John Tatum, to go into the service in his room, he gave Tatum a Negro boy 4 or 5 years old, and \$ something in property.

I cannot tell how long my husband was in the service.

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Elizabeth Rose, \ her mark

[fn p. 15: William Crowley gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 5: on August 12, 1836 in Whitley County Kentucky, Elizabeth Rose, 78, a resident of Clear For in said County filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of William Rose; that she married him March 16 1774 as near as she recollects; that her husband died February 12, 1835; and that she remains his widow; that her son William Rose was born during the revolution and that her husband was in service but returned about that time, hired a substitute; that William was born December 1 [1780] after Gates defeat; that she was married in Granville County North Carolina by Robert Dickens; that she had 10 children the oldest of them is now 60 years of age and the youngest between 37 and 40.]

[fn p. 7: deposition of Ann Powell taken in support of her mother's application states that she is the daughter of William and Elizabeth Rose and is about 57 or 58 years of age.]

[fn p. 18: on March 27, 1857 in Whitley County Kentucky, J. W. Siler filed a claim stating that he is the administrator of the estate of Elizabeth Rose, in which he seeks an increase in the amount of pension that had been due Elizabeth prior to her death -- I did not see any documents in this file that disclosed the date of her death.]