

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Massy (Massey) W9536 Elizabeth Massy f60VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/17/13

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

State of Indiana Monroe County: On this twelfth day of July in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared before me (the undersigned) Abram Buskirk – one of the Associate Judges of the Circuit Court of said County being a Court of Record composed of a President and to Associate Judges, Charles Massy a resident of said County of Monroe in said State of Indiana aged about seventy-four 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 Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit.

He was born in the year 1760 as near as he can recollect & from the information given him by his father. His father, having died the year after that of the capture of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] at York, and having no record of his age now nor never heretofore nor not knowing that his father ever kept any. He thinks from information from his father the day of his birth was the twenty eighth day of February in the said year 1760. He was born in Prince Edward County in the State of Virginia and continued therein until the time of entering the service as herein stated.

1st Tour. Sometime in the latter part of April or first of May in the year of Gates Defeat [August 15-16, 1780] at Cambden [Camden], his best impression is that it was in the year of our Lord 1780, he entered the Service at said Prince Edward County in said State in the service of the United States as a Private Soldier in the militia of said State of Virginia being drafted to serve a period of five months. In about two weeks after being drafted as above, he was mustered into the Service and rendezvoused at Moore's Tavern in said Prince Edward County in the Company of Foot man commanded by Captain Jesse Owen [Jesse Owens] in which he served and was thence marched (after a few days) across Staunton, Barrister, Dan & Hico Rivers to Hillsborough in the State of North Carolina. Said Company was marched by itself and was not joined to any Regiment under a field Officer until it arrived at said Town of Hillsboro where it joined a Regiment numbered he thinks the 4th, he may be mistaken. He does not recollect the name of the Colonel who took the command of said Regiment. The Major's name was Morris [perhaps Nathaniel G Morris of Goochland County] his first name he does not know and perhaps never did. The Lieutenant's name in said company was Dudley McDearman. The Ensign's name was Joseph Rutledge who was sickly and shortly after arriving at Hillsboro was on that account permitted to return home. He recollects that a Colonel's name who was in the Army was Faulhner [probably Ralph Faulkner]. He served in said Tour in the Brigade commanded by General Stevens [Edward Stevens] whose first name he does not know. He was marched in said Brigade to join General Gates Army in the South crossing in no River at Hillsboro, thence to and across Haw River, Deep River and Pedee. He was left with others (some of whom with himself

were on the sick list, & some worn down by the forced march) about eleven miles below the fork of the Yadkin and some other stream, which form the Pedee. In consequence of being left at this place he did not with the body of General Stevens troops joined General Gates and engage in the Battle at Camden when General Gates was defeated. In a short time after the Battle of Camden, this declarant joined the main Army and was marched up the Country to a place in North Carolina called New Gardin [New Garden], where they remained among the Quakers getting provisions, foraging &c about four weeks. From said place they with this Applicant marched down to a Creek below Guilford Court House called Hogan's Creek, where he remained serving on fatigue parties, foraging &c until the expiration of his said five months. He was then dismissed, and received a Discharge in writing which he left in the possession of his father and which he supposes is long ago lost. He served out the full period of said five months engagement to the satisfaction and acceptance of his Officers. His said Dismissal was about the last of September or first of October in the year 1780. He cannot state the names of any other Militia nor any of those of the Regular Officers in said Army. His said Discharge was given him by said Captain Jesse Owen. He returned home to said Prince Edward County where he lived until as herein after mentioned he was called out as a substitute for his Brother.

2nd Tour. In the year 1781 at said County of Prince Edward in the said State of Virginia in the month of May he entered the service of the United States in the Militia of the said State of Virginia as a Substitute for his oldest Brother (whose family required his presence) in the Company of infantry commanded by Captain Ragsdale, his first name he has forgotten. He entered said service for a tour or period of engagement of two months. Said Company did not join any Regiment nor was it put under the command of any field Officers until he joined the main Army. This Applicant with said Company was mustered and rendezvoused at Prince Edward Court House, immediately after his engagement as such substitute, and was marched to the main Army. Said Captain was assisted on the march in conducting said Company by Major Overstreet, it being difficult and requiring skill to take such a route as would evade the British. They [This] said Company including this Applicant reached and joined the main Army in Culpeper County Virginia under the command of Lafayette or some other French General. Upon joining the main Army said company with this Applicant was placed in a Regiment the number of which and name of its Officers he has forgotten. He recollects that he was in the Brigade commanded by General Nelson who in a short time was elected Governor of Virginia and left the Army to take said office.

The main Army with this declarant in a short time after this marched to a place near the head of Pamunkey Creek where this applicant with about one hundred other soldiers were left as a Guard to keep an old Magazine, under Captains Anderson and Upshaw, and Major Higgins. Their first names he has forgotten. This applicant whilst stationed as a soldier of said Guard was under the command of Captain Anderson. He continued to serve in said guard at and keeping said Magazine until the expiration of his said two months engagement. The full period of which he served out faithfully to the satisfaction and acceptance of his said Officers. He was dismissed in the month of July in said year. He cannot state the names of any other officers, owing to his not being well acquainted with them in camp and to his being detached as said guard. After his return home perhaps several weeks he received a Discharge in writing from said Captain Ragsdale which he left in the possession of his father and which is long since lost. His said Brother's name for whom he served as a substitute in said tour was Thomas Massy.

3rd Tour. In the month of July in the year aforesaid of 1781 and within a few days after his return home from his said second tour he again entered the Service of the United States in the Militia of

the said State of Virginia in the Company commanded by Captain James Allen in the 4th Regiment commanded by field officers whose names if he ever knew he has forgotten except that he has an impression upon his memory that his Major's name was Martin. He may be mistaken in his belonging to his Regiment. He recollects to Colonels Holt and Richison [perhaps in erroneous attempt to identify Colonel Holt Richardson] but does not know what regiments they belong to nor whether either of them commanded the Regiment to which he belonged or not. When called in this tour of service he lived in said Prince Edward County Virginia. He was drafted in said service in said tour. He was mustered for said tour and rendezvoused at Prince Edward Court House Virginia. Thence he was marched to and joined the Army at Head Quarters at Morben Hills [Malvern Hills] sixteen miles (as it was said) below Richmond. He was in said Regiment at this place put in the Brigade commanded by General Lossen [Robert Lawson?]. He entered this tour or campaign for a period of two months. He with the main Army remained at Morben Hills a few days and marched thence by Richmond & turned down to Pamunkey in Hanover County Virginia. Thence they crossed Pamunkey and went over to Johnston's old fields. They then recrossed Pamunkey and marched to Minn's Ferry on James River, across said River and marched down to another ferry officer to James town and were set across by the wench over to the North side of the River. Thence they marched down through Williamsburg, down to what was called the Springfield camp. Then they marched back to a place two miles above Williamsburg. There they were stationed for some time and until his said period of service expired. He was there dismissed and received a discharge in writing from said James Allen Captain; which discharge he left in the possession of his father, and which is as he supposes long ago lost. He was discharged a few days before or about the commencement of the cannonading at the siege of Yorktown in Virginia where Lord Cornwallis was taken. He served out his said tour fully and faithfully to the satisfaction and acceptance of his Officers. The time of his said dismissal was about the first of October 1781. He does not recollect the names of any of the Officers serving with him either Continental or others nor does he recollect the first names which are of omitted herein.

In all said Tours he served faithfully in the War of the Revolution in the service of the United States in the said Militia of Virginia under the aforesaid Officers to their satisfaction and except it's, in all at least nine months. He lived in said Prince Edward County when called out in each of said tours. The reason why he did not volunteer instead of suffering said drafts, he was all the son who generally resided with his father who was old and needed his help. He had three brothers, one younger and two older than himself. His said two older Brothers were both in the service during a considerable part of said War one in the Militia & the other in the Continental Army. One of them was taken a prisoner at Charleston South Carolina [May 12, 1780] & was fifteen months a prisoner most or a part of the time in a prison ship. He received at one time some pay in Continental paper money or Prock [? proclamation money?], he does not recollect the sum or its value in good money. He recollects that it was of none or very little value to him. He never received any other pay than that in said prock which was a small sum. He has no documentary evidence that he knows of. And he knows of no person whose evidence he can procure of a personal knowledge of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He would have volunteered, and without some accident or occurrence of which he had no control would have been at the Battle of Guilford in North Carolina had it not have been for an attack of the Small Pox at the time his countrymen turned out volunteers to serve in the expedition to said part of the

country.

After the War he resided two years or upwards in Prince Edward County Virginia one year after which in Pamelia County [Amelia County?] in the same State, then again he resided in said Prince Edward County Virginia about four years, then about four years in Campbell County Virginia, He then removed to the State of Tennessee and resided in the Counties of Knox, Jefferson and Cocke in said State about thirty-two years or upwards. He then removed to Orange County in the State of Indiana where he resided upwards of four years. Then he removed to Monroe County Indiana where he has resided upwards of two years and now resides.

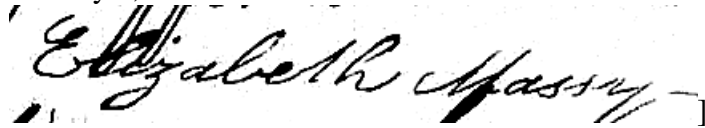
He is known to Solomon Phillips, Robert Hamilton, James Shipman and others in the neighborhood where he now resides and is also known to Joseph Maxfield, John Myers Esquire, postmaster at Orleans, Isaac Campbell and others in the neighborhood where he resided in said County of Orange Indiana who can testify as to his veracity and reputation of having been a revolutionary Soldier. There are others he has no doubt in all the neighborhoods in which he has resided since the War who would testify their opinion to same effect. He states that he is very in farm and almost totally blind eating only able to discern the shadow of a person entering the door of a room in which he years (by reason of which he was not able to attend the Court of said County at its last Fall term nor does he apprehend that he will be able to attend the first Spring term of said Court without considerable inconvenience and suffering nor at any subsequent term.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Charles Massy, X his mark

[Solomon Phillips & Robert Hamilton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 15: On September 21, 1839 in Monroe County Indiana, Elizabeth Massey, 70, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Charles Massey, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him on the ___ day of March 1789; that he died January 2, 1839 and that she remains his widow.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Massey". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. The first letter "E" is large and prominent. The signature ends with a small flourish.

[p 18: copy of a marriage bond dated March 5, 1788 issued in Prince Edward County Virginia to Charles Massey and Charles Selbee conditioned upon the marriage of Charles Massey and Elizabeth Davis, spinster daughter of William Davis of Prince Edward County.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia militia for 7 months. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]