

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Robert George R14396

VA Half Pay

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 May 2015.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Goochland County]

To the honble the speaker and other members of the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of
Virginia

The petition of Robert George humbly sheweth That in December 1777 he was appointed a Lieutenant in the Continental service in the late war and that he continued in the said service until the 4th of June 1779 when your petitioner was promoted to the rank of a Captain of artillery in the service of the State raised for the defence of the western Frontier under the command of General Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark] That the men under your petitioners command were raised to serve during the war and did actually continued in service with your petitioner not only until the end of the war, but until the 14th of February 1784 by the special order of the State.

In consideration of which service your petitioner humbly conceives himself entitled under the spirit and words of the several Laws on the subject, to the bounty of half pay for Life, or the commutation for the same. Your petitioner therefore humbly prays the Honble House to take his case into consideration and that provision may be made for the satisfaction of his said Claim. and your petitioner shall ever pray &c.

Robert George

Octo 16th 1792 to Claims

[The following are from the federal pension file.]

Pension Office/ February 19, 1836

I certify that from an examination of the claim of the heirs of the late Robert George, dec'd. who was a Captain in the Illinois regiment, I am satisfied that he served to the end of the war; that he survived until the latter end of March eighteen hundred and four; that he died without issue; that A[?] F[?]on [page torn] and the other heirs mentioned in the accompanying papers, are entitled as such to the benefits of the act of July 5, 1832; I do therefore give it as my opinion that the claim should be paid to the heirs from the eleventh of April seventeen hundred and eighty-three, the termination of the war, up to the fifteenth of March eighteen hundred and four, at the rate of Two hundred and forty dollars per annum. I also certify that the Honorable John Carr, a Member of Congress from Indiana, as attorney for Henry Harrod of Clark County, Indiana, the Administrator, is duly authorized to receive the amount due.

J L Edwards/ Comm'r. of Pensions

[In the original table last names precede first names. In the transcript full names and pension applications are shown in brackets.]

Pay Roll Capt Robert Georges Company of Artillery in the service of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Illinois Department commencing the 4th June 1779 and ending the 3 December 1781

Names	Rank	Commencing	Ending
Robert George	Capt	4 June 79	3 Dec 81
Richard Harrison [R14762]	Cap Lt	do	do
James Robertson	Lieut	do	do
Thos Val Dalton [Thomas Valentine Dalton]	do	do	do
Edward Matthews	Sergt	do	do
John Walker	do	do	Disch'd 8 Octo 81
Joseph Anderson	do	do	Deserted 21 Octo 81
Lawrence Keinan	Bomb	do	do 14 Dec 80
Valentine Balsinger	Gun'r	do	do 15 Nov 81
Henry Haut	do	do	Killed 20 June 80
John Reiley	do	do	Deserted 14 Octo 80
Jacob Wheat [W6481]	do	do	Disch'd 20 Octo 81
David Wallace	Sergt	do	do 29 May 80

The foregoing is a true extract from a pay roll of Captain Robert George's Company of Artillery now on file in this Office. I further Certify it appears that Jacob Wheat received at the rate of Nine dollars per Month as a Gunner in said Company.

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office Richmond, this 6th day of January 1845.

Jas. E. Heath Aud Va.

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Addendum to Robert George R14396

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 15 Dec 2023.

[From [Virginia Half-Pay pension records on fold3.com](#). The 123-page file includes many documents of a legal nature that are not transcribed.]

State of Kentucky }
Jefferson County } I G. J. Johnston a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and state of
Kentucky do hereby certify that Capt Joseph Sanders [sic: Joseph Saunders
VAS4357] is a creditable Witness and that he personally appeared before me in my County aforesaid and
made Oath that he was well acquainted with Capt Robert George in the Virginia State line during the
revolutionary war and that he served during the war. That he belonged to the artillery regiment or Company
raised for the defence of the western frontier & was Commanded by George Rodgers Clarke.
Given under my hand and seal this fourth day of October 1833 G. J. Johnston J.P.J.C.

State of Kentucky } I George Bergen a Justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid and state of
Shelby County } Kentucky do hereby certify that Captain Benjamin Roberts [S31343] is a
reputable and creditable Witness and that he personally appeared before me in my County aforesaid and
made Oath that he was well acquainted with Capt Robert George in the Virginia State line during the
revolutionary war and that he served during the war.
That he belonged to the artillery regiment or company raised for the defence of the western
Frontier and was commanded by George Rodgers Clarke. Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of
October 1833. Geo Bergen

State of Kentucky }
Jefferson County } I G. J. Johnston a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Jefferson
and State aforesaid do hereby certify that Major John Donne is a creditable Witness and a man of the first
standing for truth and integrity, and that he personally appeared before me in my said County and made
Oath that he was well acquainted with Capt Robert George of the Illinois Regiment under the Command
of Col George Rogers Clarke. That the said George died in the State of Indiana about nine miles from
Louisville without Children he being an unmarried man. [see endnote]
The said Donne states he was acquainted with Capt George from his earliest recollection until his
death and that he knows him to be the same Capt George who served under Col George R. Clark. The said
Donne states that after he arrived at the age of maturity he had frequent conversations with Capt George
relative to his military services and especially the hardships endured at the Iron Banks while besieged by
the Indians in a fort or block house [Siege of Fort Jefferson on Mississippi River about 1 mi below present
Wickliffe KY, 25 Jul -12 Sep 1780]; the said Donne's Father, Mother and himself were in the fort at the
same time, and returned to Louisville in the year 1780 or 1781 as well as the deponent now recollects.
Given under my hand this 27th day of May 1834. G. J. Johnston J.P.J.C.

Commonwealth of Kentucky } SS.
Jefferson County }

Be it remembered that on this 7th day of July 1834 before me D. C. Banks a Justice of the
peace in and for said county, personally came John Donne who being by me duly sworn deposes and says
that he was acquainted with Captain Robert George, who was under command of Gen'l. George R Clarke.
That his acquaintance with said George commenced as far back as deponent can recollect say as early as
1781. That he (deponent) was in Fort Jefferson (The Iron Banks) in Kentucky at the time Capt. George
commanded there when the Fort was attacked by [Col. James] Colbert with the Chickasaw and Choctaw

nations. This deponent continued in terms of intimacy, uninterruptedly until his (Capt George's) death from 1781. After 1783 deponent well remembers that Capt George was not out of the Country. From the time of my first acquaintance with him he never had wife nor child, nor does this deponent believe that he (Capt G) ever was married or ever had issue. Captain George died in Utica in Indiana about 8 miles above Louisville Ky. but at what period this deponent does not recollect. Deponent well recollects seeing James Ferguson, now of Washington County Ind (and who is in attendance in taking this deposition) Captain George repeatedly recognized and acknowledged the said Ferguson as his neffew [nephew], as his George's) Sisters Son. Captain George appeared to take much pride in Ferguson which caused deponent to take more particular notice of it. Capt George was always very fond of deponent and often conversed with him on the subject of his early campaigns, and his connexions. From the whole of which this deponent has no hesitation is saying that he is the same individual who served under Gen'l. G. R. Clarke and that the said James Ferguson is one of his neffews. And further saith not. J. Donne

State of Indiana } ss
Clark County }

I Henry Shriver a justice of the peace in the County and State aforesaid do hereby certify that Martha Lewis is a creditable witness, and that she personally appeared before me in my county aforesaid and made oath that she was acquainted with Jane George who was the reputed Sister of Capt Robert George who was reputed to have been a captain in the Illinois Regiment That the said Jane married Thomas Ferguson, by whom she had seven children whom she left as her only heirs at law, to wit, John Ferguson, William Ferguson, James Ferguson, Margaret who intermarried with Hugh Kelley, Isabella who intermarried with James Sweeney, Jane who intermarried also with the said James Sweeney after the death of his first wife, and Nancy who intermarried with John Kelley. All these children except James Ferguson are dead; he lives in Washington County in this state. John Ferguson left two children his only heirs at law viz Thomas Ferguson of Louisville and Margaret the wife of George Ross now residing in Charlestown in this County. William Ferguson left two children his only heirs at Law to wit Robert Ferguson whose place of residence, if he is living, is unknown and Jane who is now the widow of Reason Haynes and living in Harrison County, Indiana. Isabella wife of James Sweeney left four children her only heirs at law, to wit Mordecai Sweeney living in Washington County, State of Indiana, Margaret the wife of Thomas Dorsey, living in said Clark County, Jane wife of Joseph Perry of same county, and Robert whose place of residence (if living) is unknown. Jane the second wife of James Sweeney left five children her only heirs at law, to wit Nancy married to William Brendel, Mary, William Sweeney, George Sweeney, and James Sweeney all of Utica in said Clark County (George being now absent on board a steam boat as mate). Nancy Kelley left two children her only heirs at law to wit Thomas who has since deceased without issue, and James S Kelley who resides in Morgan County in Indiana. Margaret wife of Hugh Kelley left two children to wit, Martha wife of William Patrick and Nancy wife of Nathaniel Haws, and their grandchildren the children of her daughter Issabella Blakley who died in her life time, to wit, John Blakeley Noble Blakeley and Greenberry Blakely. besides these the said Margaret also left a son born before her marriage and known by the name of Andrew Ferguson; the said Martha Patrick and Nancy Haws live in said County of Clark, and the said Blakeleys and the said Andrew Ferguson live in Louisville. And the said deponent further states that the above named children grand children and great grand children of the said Jane Ferguson the sister of the said Capt George are all the heirs at law of the said Capt George as she believes, and all she ever heard of. And she further states that James Ferguson Mordecai Sweeney Thomas Dorsey Nathan Haws William Patrick James Sweeney William Sweeney Mary Sweeney William Bundell and Nancy his wife Joseph Perry and Jane his wife James S Kelley Jane Haynes and George Ross who have executed a power of Attorney to John Carr dated July 8th 1834 are a part of the same persons who have been before named in this affidavit Given under my hand and Seal this 8th day of July 1834 Henry Shriver JP

[The power of attorney referred to is signed as shown below:]

thousand eight hundred and thirty four
 Signed, read and delivered
 in presence of —
 Martha Lewis
 witness to the first fifteen signatures
 Charles Fuller
 witness to the execution by Thomas
 Ferguson July 11th 1834
 Martha Lewis
 witness to the execution by
 Nancy Hays, Martha
 Patrick & Margaret Poff
 on 12th July 1834, and
 Margaret Dorsey July 14th

John Ferguson
 Mordcai Sweeney
 Thomas Dorsey
 Nathan Lewis
 John Sweeney
 James Sweeney
 Mary Sweeney
 Nathan Sweeney
 Nancy Sweeney
 Joseph Sweeney
 Jane Sweeney
 George Sweeney
 Thomas Sweeney
 Nancy Hays
 Martha Patrick
 Margaret Poff
 Margaret Dorsey

NOTES:

A 31 Aug 1782 muster roll for Capt. Robert George's company is transcribed at <https://revwarapps.org/b133.pdf>.

On 8 July 1834 in Clark County IN John McClintick stated that "he was well acquainted with Robert George that he was a Captain in the Illinois Regiment Virginia State line during the revolutionary war, and that he served to the end of the war; that the said Capt George died in the said County of Clark at a place then called Wood Ferry which is now within the town or village of Utica about eight miles above Louisville." McClintick then named some of the heirs of Capt. George as also given above by Martha Lewis.

The file includes a copy of the will of Robert George dated in April 1803 and proved on 26 May 1835 in Clark County IN devising large tracts of land to the following: James Noble Wood, Moses G. Wood, Nancy Smith, Samuel Hay, John Douthill, John Ferguson, Thomas Ferguson, William Ferguson, Francis McGuire, James Sweeney, Benoni Wood, George Woodson, Robert G. Ferguson, Nancy Wood, and Margaret Ferguson daughter of John Ferguson.

On 18 Jan 1834 in Rutherford County TN Leonard George, "aged about fifty seven years," certified that "from the often repeated declarations of his father Captain Robert George" he had "just

ground for believing that he was a Captain the Virginia line during the Revolutionary War.” He assigned power of attorney to John T. Gray to obtain benefits for the services of Capt. Robert George. That power of attorney was revoked on 7 Nov 1834.