

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Farnsler S15829 PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

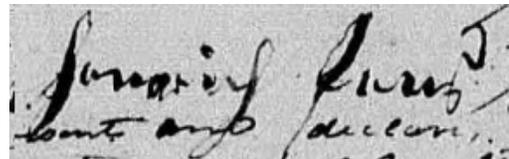
State of Virginia } Ss
Randolph County }

Personally appear before me the subscriber an Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Randolph and State of Virginia on the 4 day of November 1833 Henry Farnsler a Resident Citizen of the said county of Randolph and state of Virginia aged 72 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 7, 1832 That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated That in the year 1777 in the County of Berks in the State of Pennsylvania. That in the month of September 1777 he was drafted for a Tower of two months and placed under the command of Captain Dark We had no Lieutenant with us, as our Lieutenant had been broke by a Court Martial before we started Our Ensign was by the name of Abram Whitman Our company first rendezvous was at Redding [sic: Reading] in the County of Berks From thence we ware march'd to a place or village call'd The Trap [Trappe] near the River Schuylkill. At this place we were joind by a company of the regulars commanded by Captain Seley [sic: Isaac Seeley] who took the command; at this place a number of prisoners was put under the car [care?] of the said Captain Seley If I recolect right the number of the prisoners was about 680 – From the Trap we march'd with the prisoners to Bethlehem. From thence to Redding in Berks County and from thence to Lancaster from thence to York Town in the County of York At this place my services expired and I was discharged having served out my term of two months

Some time in the month of November of the same year I volenteered as one of the guard, to guard the removal of the money press from the town of Redding to Little york. This guard was commanded by a Sargent, whos name I cannot recollect After a service of two weeks we ware discharged by the commander of the guard

In the month of April 1778 I was again drafted for a tower of two months This tower I was employed in guarding the powder magazine at the town of Redding. During this tower we ware commanded by Lieutenant, Carper. We remained as a guard untill the magazeen was removed when the guard was discharged having served out our tower. In the month of August of the same year I was again drafted and placed under the command of Captain Adam Spoon for a tower of two months. The Indians having become troublesome in the western parts of Pennsylvania we ware march'd to Salsbury [probably Salisbury] to put a check on their inroads At Salsbury I was detail'd from my company and place upon the guard call'd the provision guard in which service I was imployed the latter part of the tower at the expiration of which I was discharged after having served out my tower of two months. All the above services I well recollect. I also recolect of sundry other services rendered but do not recolect the date or the length of time imployed. It was chiefly in driving team as the neighbourhood in which I lived was a long time in the vicinity of the Regular army. When the British Army lay in Philadelphia [26 Sep 1777 - 18 Jun 1778] It was the fortune of my neighbours to have to furnish supplied for the army on such occations the waggons of the farmers ware impress'd & I was often press'd as a Waggonner on those occations. We ware generally imployed from six to seven days But I cannot possibly recollect the number of the trips we made with provisions to the army. Subscribed & sworn to the day and year first above written

[signed in German heinrich farns'r]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Henry Farnsler" with some illegible text below it. The ink is dark and the paper shows some texture and slight discoloration.

he relinquishes all 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

I was born in Berks County state of Pennsylvania in the year 1761

I have the date in my Hymn Book which I transcribed out of my farthers family record.

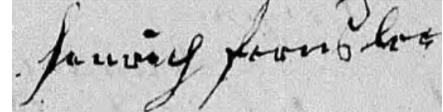
I was living in Berks County Pennsylvania. I removed from my place of nativity to Pendelton County, V.a. [sic: Pendleton County in present WV] from there to Shenandoah County Va. From thence to Randolph County where I now reside

I was drafted three times for two months each time I once volenteer'd for a short time, and after press'd to drive team

As I never joint the main army and was very young when I was call'd into service I did not become acquainted with any officers but those under whos command I was

Mr John R. Goff and Barney Karren

[signed heinrich farnsler]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Henry Farnsler". The ink is dark and the paper is aged and slightly textured.

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Singleton write on this report "Cant decide."]

Henry Farnsler – draws \$21.55

on the 3rd of November 1834 Mr Farnsler made the following statement of his age and revolutionary services. was born in Berks County Pen. in 1761.

in the year 1777 his Father was drafted for a two months tour. marched from Redding under Capt. Darke to Battleham, then joined Capt Seeleys regulars. at that place they received 685 British Prissoners & guarded them back to Redding to Lancaster and Yorktown. remained with the Prissoners at the latter place untill his two months was up. got is discharge & went home, a few days after he returned home, he volunteered under Sergeant Hartman, with 10 or 12 others to guard Baggage Waggons up to York town. was in this service 10 or 12 days

In March 1778 he was drafted for two months & marched under Lieut. Carper (with 30 others) to Redding, was there guarding the Magazein for the two months.

in the next succeeding year (as well as he recollects) himself and five others were drafted out of his company and were sent on to Col. Cruss who was commissary at the time. Cruss sent us on to Sawnsbury, where I served out my three months & went home – he also served several other short tours but cant now recollect particulars – "it would have been better for him if he had never given in his services for that Rascal Beard cheated him out of his money. he kept all the money except \$20 – he states now what he stated to Beard.

Mr. Kerns says that he saw Farnsler at the Vally Forge [sic: Valley Forge]

A true copy/ W. G Singleton/ Nov. 27 1834

NOTE: On 28 Feb 1834 a certificate for a pension of \$21.55 per year was issued to Farnsler for six months and 14 days of service.