State of Virginia Greenbrier County: SS

On this first day of April 1834 Personally appeared before me Henry Erskine a Justice of the peace in and for said County Pleasant Waid of said County and State aforesaid aged seventy-five 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 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated.

1st that he entered the service as a substitute for one Thomas Mathews in the County of Henrico & State of Virginia for one month under Captain Robert Price and was marched to Williamsburg he thinks in the year 1776 and in the fall of that year and was stationed at Williamsburg for one month that he was in no engagement while he was in this service. That he was discharged at Williamsburg that he received no regular discharge but was told to go home a relief having come.

2nd Shortly afterwards he was called on to go and serve a tour for himself and that he was drafted or detailed in the said County of Henrico and was put under the command he thinks of one Captain Sharp and marched to Williamsburg he thinks this time he was detailed for three months and he served three months but from old age and loss of memory he cannot tell positively whether it was three months or less and from the same cause he cannot now recollect his General & field Officers he states there was no engagement this tour & that he was discharged from service after he had served out his tour that he received no written discharge that he recollects of

3rd. He again (he thinks) in the year 1777 substituted for the above named Thomas Mathews in said County of Henrico and was put under the command of __ was marched to Williamsburg & was stationed there and served out his tour and was discharged from said service but does not recollect of receiving any written discharge from old age & loss of memory he cannot now recollect his officers & does not recollect of any engagement while on this tour. He served out his tour & thinks it was three months.

4th. He again entered the service by draft about one year afterwards to serve a three month tour for himself in the said County of Henrico and was marched to Sandy Point on James River and was stationed at said Point and served out his tour there and while there the Army engaged a British vessel that was aiming to go up the James River and took her with some prisoners and that he was discharged after having served out his tour which he knows was three months. In fact he thinks that all the tours after the first were three months as he well recollects. That objections were made to only one months at a time as it consumes so much time in going and returning and from old age and loss of memory he cannot state any of his Officers he
recollects that there were only two companies at Sandy Point and no Field officers.

5th. He was again detailed at the time Arnold [Benedict Arnold] took Richmond and served a tour at that time and was under Captain Richardson and was kept reconnoitering through the counties of Henrico and Hanover and as Arnold left Richmond there was an attempt on his vessels as he was going down James River at Turkey Island Bridge. But he thinks there was but little damage done on either side. That he recollects of some of the Americans being wounded. That he thinks General Lafayette commanded the Army about Richmond at that time – that he was discharged in Richmond after having served his three months tour.

6th. He was afterwards detailed and sent with the horses belonging to the Public up the Country from Richmond to aid in taking care of said horses – and was stationed for that purpose on James River in Cumberland County and was engaged in that service three months.

7th. In the year that Cornwallis was taken [1781] he was again detailed in said County of Henrico to serve another tour and was marched to Morbin Hills [Malvern Hill in Sussex County] about 15 miles below Richmond and while there was joined by General Washington But as the main Army had not arrived from the North Washington in life he had retreated before the British Army until they met the main Army at Raccoon Ford on the Rappahanoc [Rappahannock River] under the command he thinks of General Wayne. Then the Army turned and made the British retreat back to their shipping but after marching a short distance from the Raccoon Ford he was discharged on account of sickness he was one month & a half in service at this time.

8th. After he got better and returned home he again substituted and served six months for Thomas Mathews and was marched on to York and was at the siege there, the firing had commenced before he got there. After Cornwallis surrendered he was marched to Portsmouth and remained there for some time and was then marched to Richmond and there discharged in the month of March following that he did not serve out his entire six months but that he could not back more than one month of the time and thus ended his revolutionary services.

9th. He removed to the County of Greenbrier he thinks in 1784 and remained in said County until the spring of 1788 and then enlisted for six months to guard the frontier settlements against the Indians and was put under the command of Captain William Clendenan [William Clendenin?] – Alexander Clendenan [Alexander Clendenin?] was his Lieutenant and was stationed at a Fort at the mouth of Elk River on the Kanawha were Charleston now stands and served out his six months of the enlistment. The next spring following he again enlisted and served at the same for six months more under the said Clendenans – and the next spring the same in all under Clendenans he served eighteen months. During this service he was stationed in the Fort at the mouth of Help except when reconnoitering up & down the River to watch the movements of the Enemy. That in the year 1793 the spring of that year he entered the service again under Captain Moses Mann and was stationed at the mouth of the Kanawha on the Ohio River – and while in this service he was attacked by the white swelling in consequence of which he was discharged before his time was quite how but he is satisfied he served at least 5 months.

Sworn and subscribed before me the first day of April
S/ Henry Erskine, JP
S/Pleasant Waid, X his mark

[fn p. 5: James Gregory gave a supporting affidavit as to having served with the veteran under Captain William Clendenin]

1st Where and in what year were you born?
Ans. I was born in Hanover County I believe in the year 1759
2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?
Ans. I have not and only know my age from Information of my parents

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?
Ans. I lived in the County of Henrico when called into the service of the Revolution and in Greenbrier County when called against the Indians and now live in Greenbrier County

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?
Ans. I was always drafted it having come to my turn only as stated the times I substituted for Thomas Mathews the last service it will be seen I enlisted

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.
Ans. I have given as full a statement in my declaration as I can recollect. From old age and loss of memory I cannot give any better statement that I have given in my declaration

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?
Ans. If I did receive a discharge I do not now recollect it and if I ever had a discharge I cannot tell what has become of it.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.
Ans. Thomas Perry and John Hampongstall can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

S/ Pleasant Waid, 0 his mark

[Thomas Perry and John Hampongstall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]