Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Aaron Ogden S19013 NJ
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of an act, entitled “An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution,” approved on the 15th of May, 1828, I, Aaron Ogden of Elizabeth Town, in the county of Essex, in the State of New Jersey do hereby declare that I was an officer in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, and served as such to the end of the war at which period I was a Captain in the first regiment of the New-Jersey line.

And I also declare, that I afterwards received certificates (commonly called commutation certificates) for the sum equal to the amount of five years’ full pay; which sum was offered by the resolve of Congress, of the 22d of March, 1783, instead of the half pay for life, to which I was entitled under the resolve of the 21st of October, 1780.

Witness my hand, this thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.

Application of Aaron Ogden for an addition of sixty dollars semi annually to his pay certificate granted him under the act of Congress of May 1828.

The above act provides that all the surviving officers of the line of the army of the revolution should be entitled to receive full pay to commence in 1826 for and during life, provided however that no such officer be entitled to receive more than the pay of a Captain in the line of that army.

This act was construed to extend to Captains of Artillery and artifices according to their pay as such although the artillery and the artificers were not of the line of the army so also to field officers according to their pay as such as being within the spirit and meaning and equity of the Law, so also the benefit of the act has been extended to Aid de Camps according to their pay as such, and the rule seems to be that the allowance under this act is to be measured by the amount of pay received.

The subscriber was a Captain in the line of the army at the termination of the war, in the New Jersey Brigade and was Major of Brigade to that Brigade from January 1778 till May 1779 and acted as such on the lines with the Brigade and at the Battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778]. After May 1779 he was appointed Aid de camp to General [William] Maxwell and acted as such Aid de Camp in Sullivans expedition against the Indians [Gen. John Sullivan, summer 1779], and at the Battles of Springfield [23 Jun 1778] and continued to be such Aid de Camp untill General Maxwell resigned in July 1780 after which the subscriber resumed the Command of his Company and was appointed to the Command of a Company of Light Infantry in Light Infantry Corps Commanded by General Le Fayette [sic: Lafayette] in Virginia and at the head of such Company was at the battles of the Hot Springs [sic: Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781] and Jamestown [same as Green Springs Plantation]. and at the storming of the redoubts at Yorktown [14 Oct 1781] and at the taking of Lord Cornwallis and his army at that place [19 Oct 1781] and after the return of this Corps to the main army the subscriber commanded a Company of the Light Infantry of the Army. After which to wit in February1783 he was appointed and served as Brigade Major and Inspector to the termination of the war November 1783 in which services as Brigade major, Aid de Camp and Brigade Inspector he served more than three and was entitled to and did receive the additional pay of $10 per month which entitled him to the semi annual pay $300 under the act of 1828 whereas his present pay certificate is for the semi-annual pay of $240 and the subscriber now applies for this additional allowance according to the above statements.
NOTES:

On 7 April 1836 Ogden requested that his pension be transferred to New York for the following reason: “that he now resides in Jersey City opposite New York” and that “his business is in the City of New York as inspector of the Customs, and to obtain his pension at Trenton is attended with considerable expense and trouble and wishes to be paid in New York City.” He stated that the commander of his regiment was Col. Matthias Ogden.

A letter to the Pension Commissioner dated 9 Dec 1839 reads in part as follows: “You will please observe, that one of the children viz: Jo[page torn] R. Ogden, is an idiot, and there being no Guardian appoin[ted] for him, the other heirs claim the whole balance due the deceased.”