Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Wyatt Revere (Riviere) VAS4198 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 16 Feb 2021.

[From bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia indexed as Revere, Wyatt.]

I do certifi that Wyatt Revere Enterd in the Virginia Navy as Armorer the first day of Feb'y 1778[?] & was discharged the first day Jan'y 1781 he having served out the time he enterd for (Copy) J. Pendleton Jr James Markham [R72]

[From bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia indexed as Riviere, Wyatt.]

Land Office Virginia

I certify that a Land Warrant No. 4698 for one hundred acres in favor of Wyatt Rivere, of the state navy, issued from this office bearing date the 8th of July 1796; and that no other warrant has issued on account of the services of the said Wyatt Rivere as Armourer of the Virginia State Navy. As Witness my hand the 9th day of June, 1831. Wm Selden R L office

At the instance and in behalf of the heirs of Wyatt Riviere dec'd the following application & statement is most respectfully submitted to the consideration of the Executive of Virginia.

Wyatt Riviere (as appears from evidence on file in the Council chamber) was an armourer in the State Navy of Virginia, during the war of the Revolution and served in that capacity for the period of three years. He obtained a certificate from the executive on the 13th of October 1783[?] stating that he was entitled to receive the proportion of bounty land allowed an armourer in the State Navy for three years service. Upon that certificate a warrant issued from the Register's Office in favour of the said Riviere for one hundred acres of land, and no other warrant has ever issued on account of his said services as an armourer in the State Navy as appears from the certificate of the present Register herewith filed marked (A) The said Riviere was evidently, by the laws of the State, entitled to receive on account of said services a warrant for 2666²/₃ acres of land instead of 100 acres. The records of the Register's office abound with instances in which warrants for 2666²/₃ acres have issued to carpenters, gunners mates, boatswains mates & other petty officers in the State Navy for three years service and according to the present regulation of the US Navy, I have ascertained from reference to the Register containing the names rank &c of US officers that an armourer ranks as high as any of the above mentioned class of officers, and in confirmation of the opinion that an armourer should hold the same rank, and receive equal compensation with any of the class alluded to, I would mention the case of Moses Saulsbury [Moses Saulsberry (Saulsberry, Salsbury) VAS667] an armourer in the State Navy who on the 24th March 1831, received a certificate from the Executive allowing him land bounty for three years service in that capacity, on which certificate the Register issued a warrant on the 26th March 1831 for 2666²/₃ acres of land. That case is precisely like the present in every respect except that Saulsbury [undeciphered word] received 26663/3 acres, whilst Riviere has only received 100 acres. They were both armourers in the State Navy, and both served three years; and the present Register if the two certificates from the Executive had been presented to him at the same moment, would have been bound to issue warrants for the same quantity of land to each; and no doubt would have done so; but he does not feel authorized to correct an error of the former Register, however palpable that error may appear to him, without the direction of the executive.

The case of James Burk [S6649] gunner in the State Navy for three years, is very similar to the present one of Riviere. On the 30th March 1831 the executive certified his claim to the Register and allowed him land bounty for three years service deducting one hundred acres already allowed. The Register thereupon issued a warrant for 2566²/₃ acres. That is all which the heirs of Riviere desire the Executive to do in the present case. They do not consider that a certificate authorizing the Register to issue

a warrant for such quantity as their ancestor may have been entitled to, deducting 100 acres heretofore allowed, would be to reverse or change the decision of the former executive, but merely to correct an error of a former Register. The executive in their certificate do not designate any particular quantity of land. The executive in the case of Moses Saulsbury were no doubt satisfied that an armourer who had served three years was entitled to the amount for which his warrant issued, and there is no earthly difference between the two cases with respect to rank and duration of service. The paper marked (B) herewith filed, is an abstract from the Register's office made by me of cases in which the compensation sought by the heirs of Riviere was made to persons standing upon no higher if as high ground. The paper marked C [not found] is a certificate properly authenticated of the death of Riviere, and shewing who are his heirs. All which is most respectfully submitted by Robert C. Nicholas for the heirs of Wyatt Rivier dec'd June 10th 1831

Philip Evans [VAS2521] entitled to the proportion of land allowed a carpenter of the State Navy for three years service. Certificate dated Nov'r 7th 1787. A war't issued for 2666²/₃ acres to P. Evans Nov 9th [87[?] John Burk [VAS2785] Carpenter in State Navy certificate March 30 1831. War't issued 4th April 1831 for 2666²/₃ acres.

James Burk [S6649] Gunner in state Navy. Certificate March 30 1831 Allowed Land Bounty for 3 years service, deducting one hundred acres already allowed. War't issued for 2566²/₃ acres.

Moses Saulsbury [VAS667] allowed land bounty for three years service as armourer in the Va. State Navy March 24 1831. War't Mar 26 1831 for 2666²/₃.

Jacob Phillips [VAS177] boatswain in State Navy certif March 18 war't issued 26 March for 2666²/₃ acre. John Field steward State Navy allowed 26 Feb 1831 War't 2666²/₃ same date.

Morris Loyd [Morris Lloyd VAS956] allowed May 30th 1788 proportion of bounty land as Gunner's mate in State Navy for 3 yrs service War't for 2666²/₃ June 1st 1788.

1831 July 20 Allowed Bounty of 26663/3 acres instead of 100 acres the latter to be deducted