Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Wonacott R11773 PA [VA] Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 2 Sep 2014.

State of Virginia

Montgomery County } Towit

On this second day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit Superior Court of law and chancery for Montgomery County now sitting Richard Wonicutt a resident of the County of Montgomery and state of Virginia aged eighty 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 the 7th. 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Henry Skippith [sic: Henry Skipwith of Cumberland County VA] was the name of his Colonel Benjamin Alan he thinks was the name of his Lieutenant Colonel. Epps [probably Eppes] was his Major. he served under three different Captains Captain Dugal, Captain Perkins, and Captain Richard Alan Cabbell Alan Cabell?] and Benjamin Allen were the names of two of his Lieutenants the name of the third he disremembers. he entered the service some time in the month of August 1772 [sic] he served in four different tours, he entered the first he thinks in November 1773, the second in November 1774, the third in January 1775. These three tours lasted six months each, the fourth in March 1776 as well as he recollects which was a tour of three months. he resided in Pennsylvania at the time he entered the service, the name of the County he has forgotten, he entered the service as a volunteer, he was engaged in the following named Battles, the battle of long Island [27 Aug 1776], the battle of Guilford [Guilford Court House NC, 15 Mar 1781], and a small battle by a scouting party at a place called the hundred [possibly Bermuda Hundred on the James River just below Richmond VA]. he marched from North river about one hundred miles from New York City to fort Stephens [Fort Stevens] near Portsmouth where he remained about four months, from there to old Cumberland Court house in Virginia where he remained about three months being placed as a guard over some prisoners and from Cumberland old Court house to the County of Buckingham in Virginia where he remained until the termination of the war. he served with a company of militia Commanded by Captain Evans, also in a Company of light Infantry commanded by Captain Cook, also a Company of militia Commanded by Captain Shelton &c. he only recollects the names of two regular officers Captain Anderson, and Captain Jordan he never got a discharge from the service, he knows of no person living by whom he can prove his services, He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Rich'd. Wonicutt

State of Virginia Montgomery County Sct.

On this 3rd day of June 1833 personally appeared in court before the Justices of the county court of Montgomery now sitting Richard Wonacott in his 81st year, a resident of said county & state who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement as an amendment to his declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service in August 1772 and served four different tours as stated in his former declaration, the three first tours lasted six months each, the fourth tour lasted three months making in all twenty one months that he served, all of which time he served as a private soldier. This applicant states that he never got a discharge from the services in as much as he knows of no person living by whom he can prove it, as he stated in his former declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Rich'd Wonacott

State of Virginia } SS County of Montgomery }

On this 3rd day of February 1834 personally appeared in open court, before the justices of the county court of Montgomery now sitting Richard Wonicott a residant of the county of Montgomery & State of Virginia aged eighty one 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 7th 1832. That he entered the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. Henry Skippith was the name of his col. Benjamin Allen his Lieutenant Col. — Epps his Major; he served under three differend Captains, Capt Dugate, Capt. Perkins, & Capt. Richard Allen, Cabbell, & Benjamin Allen were the names of two of his Lieutenants, the name of the third he disremembers; he entered the servise he thinks some time in the month of August in the year 1777 as a volunteer, & served in the capacity of a volunteer seven months, and afterwards to wit, in the month of April 1778 he was drafted, and served a tour of six months; he entered upon a second tour in November 1778 & served six months, he entered upon a third tour in June 1779 which tour also lasted six months; he entered upon a fourth tour in February or March 1780 which tour lasted three months, making in all twenty eight months your applicant served. He resided in Pennsylvania, at the time he entered the service, the name of the County he has forgotten, he was engaged in the following named battels, to wit: the battle at Long Island, the battle of Guilford, and a small battle, by a scouting party, at a place called the hundreds; he marched from Pennsylvania where he first volunteered, to the city of New York, from there across to Long Island, from Long Island, he marched to Fort Stephens near Pourtsmouth, from there to old Cumberland Curt house in Virginia, & from Cumberland Court house to the county of Buckingham in Va. where he remained untill he left the army. He served with a company of malitia commanded by Capt. Evans, also a company of light infantry commanded by Capt. Cocke, and a company of malitia commanded by Capt. Shelton, he only recollects the names of two regular officers Capt. Jordan & Capt. Anderson; he never got a discharge from the service; & knows of no living person by whome he can prove his services.

He hereby relinquishes everry claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name in not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Prof? Wonacot

State of Virginia, Montgomery County Sct

On this 16th day of June 1834 personally appeared before me John Grills a Justice of the peace in and for the said county, Richard Wonicutt a resident of the said county of Montgomery aged about eighty two years, who upon his oath makes the following declaration by way of amendment or [word illegible] of his declaration made before the county court for Montgomery in the state of Virginia referenced on the 3d day of February 1834 in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the state of Pennsylvania the name of the county he cannot remember about the 7th of June 1776 as a volunteer to serve no particular length of time, that he was to hold himself in readiness to march at a moments warning, that he volunteered under Captain William Evans, the name of the Lieutenant he has forgotten, he done no service except to exercise twice a week for about six weeks. they were then ordered to march and they marched to New York, from thence to Long Island, thence to a place called Piskiln or Pigskiln [possibly Peekskill NY] thence to Fort Stephens near Portsmouth [VA] where they remained about one month, they then marched to Cumberland old Court house in Virginia, this he thinks was in the month of January 1777, making a service of seven months. during the above named period he was marched to the places above named under different officers the names of whom he cannot remember, their determination was to pursue the British and to aid in defending the country whenever and wherever their services were wanting. He

thinks in the month of January or February 1777 at Cumberland old court house he entered the service of the United States under Captain Dugate, Benjamin Allen was Lieutenant in the regiment commanded by Colo Henry Skipwith, he served three months in the Virginia militia. the command of Lieutenant was changed during this tour to Lieutenant Cabbell, but Dugate remained his Captain. Epps was his Major. he served out this term of three months faithfully as a guard in guarding the Dutch [German, i.e. Hessian] prisoners which were then at Cumberland old court house. he was then discharged and after having worked about in the neighbourhood as a common labourer in order to procure some clothing, he again entered the service in Cumberland he thinks in the month of June or July 1777 – under the following named officers, Henry Skipwith his Colo. Benj. Allen Lieutenant Colo. ____ Epps his Major and Rich'd Allen his Captain, to serve a tour of six months, they were marched to North Carolina, but on their way Captain Allen was taken sick and the command of Capt was assumed by Perkins who continued to serve until Capt Allen recovered his health and undertook them again. this tour of six months was fully performed by this applicant, and was discharged in Carolina, and returned to Cumberland again in Virginia. In the month of April as well as he can remember in the year 1778. He entered the service again in the county of Cumberland in Virginia, under the same Colonel as herein before stated. Perkins his captain the balance of the officers he has forgotten, to serve another tour of six months, he was marched through the county of Buckingham to the county of Albemarle, where he was engaged in guarding prisoners until his tour expired, at which time he was again discharged & returned again to Cumberland. In the month of November 1778 he again entered the services in the said county of Cumberland under the same Colo - But under Captain Richard Allen, to serve another tour of six months. he was marched to a place called the Hundred on James river to defend the encroachment of the British scouting parties where he remained until the said tour of six months expired and he again returned to Cumberland. He has now no recollection of having again entered the service, except a short time before the taking of Cornwallis. Capt Allen received orders to march to York Town, which orders he attempted to obey, and on his way to that place him and his men (this applicant being one of them) met a party returning who informed them of the surrender of Cornwallis. they then returned home; From the foregoing statement it will be seen that this applicant served in all twenty eight months, of which he is positive. It may seem from this statement and the one made in the former declaration that there are some discreppancies, but those discreppansies are entirely due to old age and consequent loss of memory and not from a wish to depart from the truth. the aggregate is the same altho the dates are a little different, but it cannot be expected that an individual of the age of the applicant without education and who hath no memorandum or register of those events can at this late period give them in detail. Since his papers were returned the last time he has given the subject much reflection and the above are the results of his most mature deliberation. He was in the Battle of Long Island, Guilford and a small battle at the Hundred, and a skirmish with the British and Tories at the Piskiln or Pigskiln [possibly Battle of Peekskill, 23 Mar 1777]. he only received two discharges in writing one was given by Capt Evans when he left his company at the Piskiln or Pigskiln, and one from Capt Perkins which was destroyed by fire. He can only recollect the names of two regular officers Capt Jordan & Capt Anderson

Answers to Interrogatories

- 1st I was born in the year 1752 in Linconshire [sic: Lincolnshire] in England.
- 2nd I have no record of my age.

3rd I lived in Pennsylvania _____ county, at the time I entered the service and lived since the revolution in Cumberland, Buckingham, Prince Edward, Amelia, Bedford & I now reside in Montgomery

- 4th I first volunteered.
- 5th I was acquainted with Capt Jordan & Capt Anderson who were I understood regular officers. The continental & militia regiments he cannot now state particularly, & for the general circumstances of his services reference is made to this declaration

 6^{th} He received discharges from Capt Evans & Perkins which are destroyed by fire.

7th The Rev. John G Cecil and Mr. Thomas Ingles are persons of my neighbourhood who have testified as to my veracity and Mr. William Adams is also a citizen of my neighbourhood who can also

testify as to my veracity and his belief of my services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state.

Rich Wonard