

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Sights R6341

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Punctuation partly corrected]

State of Illinois Montgomery County Sct

Court of County Commissioners (Special September Term 1832

On this seventeenth day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared before the County Commissioners Court of the County of Montgomery in the State of Illinois Jacob Sights a resident of Bosticks Settlement in the County of Montgomery and State of Illinois, aged 77 years and 2 months who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States A.D. 1776 under Captain John Reese as a recruiting Serjeant. And transferred to Capt. Plunketts [David Plunkett's] Company of 4th Reg't. of light dragoons of the Pennsylvania line and continued in that Company and Reg't. until he was taken prisoner in the latter part of July AD 1778. He states he served under General Washington himself during the whole of the Revolutionary War except the time he was a prisoner of War. And did not leave the Service until the close of the war. He served the whole time under one enlistment He resided in the City of Philadelphia when he enlisted. He was in the Battle of the White Plains [28 Oct 1776] Trenton [26 Dec 1776] Princeton [3 Jan 1777] Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] Germantown [4 Oct 1777] and Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] before he was take Prisoner. After the Battle of Monmouth Gen'l. Washington detached Blan's & Whites Regiments of Dragoons [sic: Col. Theodorick Bland's 1st Regiment and Col. Anthony Walton White's 4th Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons] to guard the lines between the White plains and New York. After arriving at the place of destination Serjeant Engard was detached with a Serjeant Corporal and twenty four men near Kings Bridge, being halted at a house near said place. The said Jacob Sights being one of the twenty four men and taking some refreshment the whole company were surrounded by the British and made prisoners and taken to New York and put in prison for about nine months. and then put on board a prison ship and sailed for Charleston South Carolina. On arriving at s'd place the came to anchor in the mouth of Stono river. While there the said Jacob Sights being sent out for wood made his escape through the swamps and traveled three days without food of any kind except swamp berries and after much toil and suffering was taken prisoner on Broad River by the Tories. And was carried to Fergusons [Maj. Patrick Ferguson's] Camp on King's Mountain and there put in the Bull pen and was taken with the rest of the Prisoners after Ferguson's defeat [Battle of Kings Mountain SC, 17 Oct 1780] to the Moravian Town [Salem, Bethabara, or Bethania NC] and liberated by Major Smith of the Militia a former acquaintance. He marched through New Jersey and Pennsylvania &c was with genl Washington every day from the Battle of Monmouth and was not absent one single day. He never received any discharge in Consequence of being unable to rejoin the Regiment to which he belonged. He was born in Philadelphia. I Jacob Sights do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or an Annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

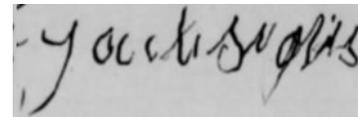
Jacob Sights

State of Illinois Montgomery County ss

Probate Court October 1843

on this 30th day of October 1843 before the Probate Justices Court for the County aforesaid personally appeared in open Court Jacob Sights a resident of said County of Montgomery – aged Eighty eight years the 4 day of July last who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed on the 7th day of June 1832 entitled an act [not completed] that he enlisted into the service of the United States in the City of Philladelphia about January 1777 (or 5

or 6 months after independence was declared) under Captain Charles Reece for the term of one year. was marched to lake Champlain and to the Seven Ilands. At the expiration of his said 12 months service he was discharged at Philladelphia and got a discharge, and on his way home when Crossing the Schuylkill river he came near being drowned and got his discharge destroyed
about three months thereafter he enlisted for during the War in Phillidelphia under Capt Pluncket and served in the 4th Pennsylvania Reg't. of light dragoons commanded by Col White
about two years thereafter (during the whole of which time he was in service) he was taken prisoner by the Brittish at a place called the saw pits in the state of New york [Saw Pit, now Port Chester, 15 mi NE of Kings Bridge] and remained a prisoner nine months – was taken while a prisoner to Charleston SC and run up Stono river in a prison ship some 30 or 40 miles perhaps – that him and another soldier had liberty to go out to gather wood to cook and they made their escape they traveled untill they came to Broad River when they were retaken by the tories and taken to Salem and Moravian town in North Carolina where he met with a Major Smith who he had known in Lancaster County Pensylvania who took him home with him after which the aforesaid Col White came past that way on his way from Charleston and he made himself known to him and told him his situation and that he did not wish to serve any longer and the War being nearly over [see endnote] the Colonel gave him a discharge – which discharge was destroyed by fire when his home was burn last November at which time all his household furniture was burned.
Should the enquiry be made why he has thus long delayed his claim to a pension the answer is that he employed a Mr Boyle of Henderson County Kentucky to make or prepare the necessary declaration which he was informed was put in to the hands of a member of Congress by the name of Young who shortly after died and there the matter ended
he then moved to this State of Illinois and settled in this County of Montgomery where he has resided for the last thirteen years – since he has resided here he employed a Lawyer by the name of Fisk to get his pension the said Fisk has removed to the State of Missouri and he has never been informed why he did not succeed in obtaining the pension. he declares that his name is not on any pension List Roll of any state and he hereby relinquishes his claim to any other pension than the present



NOTES:

Col. William Walton White left South Carolina soon after his defeat at Leneud's Ferry on 6 May 1780.

Sights's claim was rejected for the following reason: "Not on the rolls--no proof of service."