

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Philip V. Vass S19493

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } SS.
County of Spotsylvania }

On this third day of March 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Spotsylvania County now sitting Philip V Vass - a resident in and of said County aged seventy 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 service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated.

That in the year 1781 he was drafted as a militia man in Spotsylvania County under Capt Thomas Towles in the month of January the day not recollected and marched down to New Kent County. Then I was called back to guard Fredericksburg under Gen [George] Weedon. I was there discharged having been in this tour 2 months. the next tour I was drafted in same county in June 1781 under Capt Frank [Francis] Coleman, and marched down to Hanover Court house, and then retreated up the country in what was called the Marquis' [Marquis de Lafayette's] retreat. On this tour I was out two months. I was again in service and marched down to Yorktown and halted about two miles from Yorktown where our time being out we were discharged, having been on this tour two months.

And he further states that from old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot more particularly set forth his services but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods and in the following grades For Six Months I served as a militiaman and for such service I claim a pension

And the Court then proceeded to put to said applicant the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, which are here set forth with his several answers thereto

Question Where and in what year were you born

Answer. I was born in Spotsylvania County 17th Feb 1763

Question. Have you any record of your age

Answer I have none, our Bible is lost

Question Where were you living when called into service - Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War. and where have you always lived.

Answer Always in Spotsylvania. Born and lived there

Question How were you called into service - were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom.

Answer As I have stated before - On my last tour I was a substitute for Harry Chew [see note below].

Question. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served - Such continental and militia regiments as you recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Answer Col. Meriwether & Major Hardiman. Capt Frank Coleman.

Question Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it

Answer Yes! but I have lost it

Question 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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer Oscar M Crutchfield, Edward Tunley, Philip Pendleton.

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 the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] Philip V Vass
[Certified by Philip Pendleton, clergyman (pension application S18157) and Richard Steers (S6163).

NOTE: J. T. McAllister's *Virginia Militia in the Revolutionary War* includes an abstract of a pension application by Harry Chew filed in Spotsylvania County on 7 Aug 1832, but I could not find a copy of the original.