Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Robey S6020 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. MD

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7 1832. State of Virginia, Corporation of Fredg [Fredericksburg]; to wit

On this the 10 day of Jany 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Hustings Court of Fredg now sitting Richard Robey a resident of the said Corporation in the County of Spotsylvania and State of Virginia aged seventy two 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 7 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a private under the following named officers and served as herein stated. viz that some time late in the month of June, (the precise day not recollected) in the year 1781 he entered the service of the United States as a private and for 6 months in the character of a substitute; that at that time, he resided in Charles County in the State of Maryland, when and where a draft was made, that he stood his own draft, and getting clear hired himself as a substitute for six thousand pounds of tobacco, that the draft was made for six months, and that shortly after being enrolled, he marched from Chas. County to Annapolis and there joined the 4th Regiment from Maryland. From Annapolis he marched to York Town passing through George Town [Georgetown] D.C. [sic] Fredericksburg in Va. & Williamsburg. He states that he reached York on the first of October and that during all this time, he was attached and belonged to the company under the Command of Capt John Mitchell. Lt Thomas Dyson [Thomas A. Dyson] and Ensign Hanson - that whilst he was in the encampment at York Town, the regiment to which he was attached viz the 4th Maryland Regt was posted on the left of the 3rd & on the fourth or fifth night after reaching York Town the 4th Regiment commenced an entrenchment between Pigeon Hill and York Town, where there was a small Battery. On the 15 or 16 of October the night on which the two redoubts were take [Redoubts 9 and 10, 14 Oct 1781], the 4th Reg't. was under the Command of our Colo. Stewart & Major Oxburg [sic: Alexander Roxburgh], and he does not recollect the names of the Field officers by whom it was commanded prior to that time this Regiment was marched to or near the redoubts to begin a new entrenchment, and he states that he distinctly recollects being in the Second platoon on the right and in front, carrying a fascine, spade gun and knapsack (the fascine was delivered to the Engineer) The regiment there remained, until the English army marched out and grounded their arms [19 Oct 1781], the French Army occupying the south side of the road and the American Army the north. after the surrender of the British, he was employed for some days in filling up some of the entrenchments. about this time that is about the last of October the 4th Regiment to which he was attached marched to the South. Those who had either volunteered or had been drafted for six months (save a few who had enlisted in and joined Colo. [William] Washington's Regt of Horse) returned bringing to Fredg. Va the last of the prisoners from York and Glocester [sic: Gloucester], they were there delivered to the Militia of the neighborhood. From Fredg he proceeded to Annapolis in the State of Maryland where he was discharged the last of Decm making a period of service of six months. He further states that he has forgotten the names of nearly all of the officers in command at York Town, he however recollects in addition to those before named viz his Captain, Lieutenant & Ensign Mitchel, Dyson, & Hanson, and Colo. Stewart & Major Oxburg, Genl Geo Washington, Marquis La Fayette [Lafayette], Brigadier Genl Guess [sic: Mordecai Gist] from Maryland, Genl Steuben, Capt Gaiter [sic: Henry Gaither] and Capt Duarche[?]. He further states that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. The following questions were propounded by the Court and answered as follows. viz Where and in what year were you born? Ans. I was born in Charles County in the state of Maryland, and on the 26th of April 1760. Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it? Ans. I have none. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live? Ans. I lived in Charles County Maryland from the time of my birth until 1792. in that year I moved to the County of Stafford in

the State of Va. where I resided for rather more than six years. from thence I moved to Fredericksburg in the County of Spotsylvania State of Va. where I remained until 1811, in which year I removed to Albemarle County in the same state, there I lived about 7 years, and from thence I came to this place & county where I have resided ever since. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? and if a substitute for whom? Ans. I was a substitute, but am uncertain whether it was for a man named Smith, or for one Smallwood, after I had stood my draft, and finding that I was not to be called into service, both Smith & Smallwood who were in the same class but different from mine, contracted with me to perform the service of the one who should be compelled to go into service. I accordingly went in the place of one of them but cannot recollect which, they both united (one as the security of the other) in the obligation to me for the six thousand pounds of tobacco stipulated for. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops, where you served, such continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service. I beg leave to refer to the foregoing declaration as containing the only statement I can give, my recollection is very imperfect, and the great length of time has elapsed since my service. I was but a private, and did not personally know any of the regular officers. I have given the names of those whom I recollect. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Ans. I rec'd. a written discharge, but it is lost or mislaid. I do not know what has become of it. State the names of the 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 I would refer to the Rev. Edward C. McGuire, Mr Geo Cox, Mr Thos. Goodwin, Mr Jno Scott, Major Hugh M. Patton, Dr Jno H Wallace and also Reuben T. Thorn.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year first above written

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He the said Richard Robey 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 afsd.

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