

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Neel [Neil, Neale] VAS1908

13

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/24/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Monroe County Legislative Petitions

At a Court held for the County of Monroe at the courthouse on 17 day of October 1820 – On this 17th day of October 1820 personally appeared in open court being a Court of record for the said County, Richard Neil [sic] aged about sixty-seven years and resident in the said County of Monroe who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820, that the said Richard Neil enlisted in the service of the United States a private soldier in the revolutionary war at Williamsburg State of Virginia for three years, that he was enlisted as well as he now recollects sometime in the year 1778 by Lieut. Millbanks [probably William Milbank] belonging to the company at that time commanded by Capt. Thomas Drew and attached to the Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. Charles Porterfield on Continental establishment; that he does not now recollect the number of Regiment only that it was in the State of Virginia Regiment or light infantry on Continental establishment that he faithfully served the said time term of three years in the service of the United States in the revolutionary war aforesaid against the common enemy, that he was discharged from the service of the United States aforesaid at the expiration of the said term at Cumberland Court house, State of Virginia, that he has since lost his discharge which was an honorable one; that he fought at the Battle of Gates defeat at Campden [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] North Carolina [sic South Carolina] in which battle Col. Charles Porterfield fell, that he has no further evidence now in his power of his said services.

That on the 23rd day of March 1820 he made a declaration upon oath before the said County Court of Monroe stating all the circumstances as fully as herein set forth but that the secretary of the department of War required proof of service of the said Neil and the credibility of witnesses must be certified which he supposes is the reason of his former declaration being returned without a certificate of pension. The County Court of Monroe do hereby certify that it does now appear to their satisfaction from the oath of Richard Neil and from the oaths of several credible witnesses (the Court know them to be so) who having deposed before them that the said Richard Neil did serve in the revolutionary war as stated in the above declaration. And now in conformity with the act of the 1st of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 – and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled an act to

provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18 day of March 1818 – and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, Contracts or debts due me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereunto annexed and by me subscribed; to wit: 100 acres of land lying on Swopes Knobs in this County; one mare & 1 yearling and colt, 3 cows 1 heifer 3 years old, one calf, 7 head of hogs, 2 years old, 5 pigs, one old loon, to old reads, 2 pair of headle, 1 pair of warping bars, 25 broken spools, one linen wheel, one old woolen wheel, one old reel, one old table, 4 old chairs, one old saddle, 3 old bridles, 2 old shovel ploughs, one mattock, one old axe, 4 old hoes, one iron poker, 1 pair of double trees, two old Cleavers, 1 pair of horse geers old, 1 cutting knife, one old broken back sythe, two old [indecipherable] hooks, 2 small iron wedges, 1 old auger, Chisel & Hammer, two four gallon pots, one small oven, one small old skillet & [indecipherable], 1 pair of pit [?] hooks, 6 pewter plates, 2 small pewter dishes; 3 pewter basons, one three pint basin, half dozen plates & small dishes, 8 spoons, 7 tin cups,

cup, 1e doz, cups & saucers three of them cracked, 1/2 dozen tea spoons 2 tin shugan dishes old, 1 pint tumbler, one salt cup, 1 tin paper box, one old tea pot, one old pint pitcher, 1 coffee mill, 1 old jug, one Butter crock, 3 pair of old cards, one pair candle moulds 1 tin candle stick one pair of snuffers, 2 small piggins, 2 pails, 2 old coolers, 1 churn, one butter pail, 7 knives & 8 forks, 1 lantern, 3 small Bottles, one small keg, one small washing tub one 1/2 bushel measure, one wheat sifter, one bread tin, 5 small tubs, 4 barrels, one tongue chain of waggon, one pair breast chains, 3 nails, one pair scissors, one old Razer, I have a quantity of broken ware which is of no use to me and to no person else. I have no

I have no trade or particular occupation, I am not able to work myself and have no family to aid in any support except my wife who is 68 years of age and very infirm and not able to do much work, I owe to several persons about the sum of \$20, and about \$1.50 due to me.

(Signed) Richard Neil, X his mark

value of property \$169

Cash \$1.50

To the Speaker & Members of the Senate and of the House of Delegates
The petition of Richard Neel humbly sheweth that he [word too faint to discern] in the time of the Revolutionary War under Lieut. Millbanks at Williamsburg the year he cannot distinctly recollect – but thinks it was in 1778. Millbank's was Lieut. in Capt. Thomas Drew's Company under Col. Charles Porterfield – He the said Richard Neel served three years in the War, was in Gates' Defeat where he got slightly wounded – He is now about 75 years old – in bad Health &

very infirm – Poor & Needy – He therefore prays your honorable Body to place him on the Pension list & grant him a small sum for his present relief and he in duty bound will ever pray – He the said Neel also served in Col. Posey's [Thomas Posey's] Regiment under Capt. Moss.

November 19, 1828

S/ Rich'd Neel

[Reverse]

Petition of Richard Neel for a pension

December 3rd 1828

Referred to Claims

Presented by William Vass

December 1828

Rejected 9th December 1828

Amended in H. Delegates 1829, January 14 Bill

[Note: the file contains a very faint copy of a letter dated in January 1825 [?] from J L Edwards, Commissioner of pensions indicating that this soldier was not eligible for a federal pension because he served in a Regiment of state troops as opposed to being in the Continental Army as required by the applicable federal laws.]

Auditor's Office January 11, 1826

Richard Neale [sic] a Soldier of infantry of the State Line in the Revolutionary war received on the 21 in July 1784 by William Ford to whom it was delivered a Certificate for the balance of his full pay or depreciation for £45.15.2

S/ Jas. E. Heath, Auditor