Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Farley Obediah VA R3437 f12VA Transcription by Fred Weyler 26May2013

Transcription by Fred Weyler

Edited and revised by Will Graves [in italics]

[p2] State of Alabama County Court August Term 1832

Shelby County ss

On this 20th day of August personally appeared in open court before Leonard Tarrant judge of the County Court of the County of Shelby now sitting Obediah Farley a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged about seventy *five* 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 he was drafted in the militia in Virginia in the month of August 1777 under Edmund Booker as Captain, for a tour of three months, in Amelia County Virginia. ---

That in 1779 he joined the service as a volunteer under Col Lynch, Robert Lawson Brigadier General, and Thomas Arthur commanded the company to which he belonged. That the British Army under the command of Cornwallis was then between Portsmouth and Williamsburg. That applicant joined the service in Bedford County Virginia. That he marched to Petersburg. That news was received that the English army had embarked and sailed for Charleston. That the regiment to which he belonged was then marched back to Bedford County and all discharged. That he was out on that tour forty two days. Was in no engagement of any kind. That his discharge he gave up in the payment of his taxes. That is was under a law for the payment of the expenses of the war and that he got his allowance of six pence per day for his discharges.

That he was again drafted in September 1780 in Bedford County where he then resided. That John Trigg was his Captain. That the headquarters was then at Yorktown to which place they were ordered. That they joined a regiment under the command of Col^o Tucker in Gen¹ Lawson's Brigade. That Tucker's Regiment was a broken regiment and they were joined to it to fill it out. That the regiment crossed James River at James Town on the day that the Americans took Pigeon Hill. That previous to their being attached to Tucker's Regiment he was [p3] under the command of Col^o Leftridge [probably a mistaken reference to Lt. Col. William Leftwich of the Bedford County Militia]. That he had but four companies all of which was placed under Col^o Tucker and Col^o Leftridge left the service. That he was stationed on the southwest side of the river and continued there twenty two days and till the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19 1781]. That after the surrender he was one of twelve discharged on account of sickness and the remainder marched to Winchester. That this discharge he also gave up in the payment of taxes. That he was present at the surrender which took place in in [sic] old field about two hundred yards from the fort. That while they were building a battery four of his company was wounded by the bursting of a shell, and in a few minutes after fifteen men, regulars under the command of Gen¹ Wayne sent to relieve them were shot down. – Gen¹ Washington's head quarters was about two miles from the fort towards Williamsburg. Applicant was stationed about three fourths of a mile farther down. And the French troops under Gen¹ La Fayette rather between the two places. And Gen¹ Wayne commanded still lower down nearer the junction of the two rivers.

Applicant further states that during the siege of Yorktown the British troops under Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] were on the northeast side of the river and Cornwallis on the other side opposite. –

Applicant states that he has no documentary evidence by which to establish his claim, having given up his discharges as before stated. That he now knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. That his associates he left in Virginia and knows not if any are living. That he has a brother living but so feeble that he cannot get his testimony.

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

s/Ob^{ah} Farley

Sworn to and subscribed
The day and year aforesaid
[Routine county supporting statements and certificationJames Walker, clergy
O. B. Havis neighbor and clerk
Leonard Tarrant, Judge

[p4] interrogatories

Answer 1st I was born Mar 7 1757 in Amelia County Virginia.

Answer 2^d The record off my birth I have in my bible copied from an entry made by my father in his,

Answer 3^d When first called into service I was living in Amelia County Virginia. Afterwards in Bedford County Virginia. In 1789 I left Bedford County and moved to Washington County Tennessee and afterwards to Lewis County where I resided in 1819 when I removed to *Shelby* County Alabama where I now live.

Answer 4th I was drafted in Amelia for three months. For my second tour I volunteered in Bedford and was afterwards drafted and marched to Yorktown.

Answer 5th I knew Genl Washington, Genl La Fayette and Genl Wayne at the siege of Yorktown. During our first tour Genl Muhlenburg [Peter Muhlenberg] commanded. Gen¹ Rob^t Lawson the second and third. And at the siege of York. Doct^r Cogswell was our surgeon and in addition to my other service I was ordered to go but turned back by express from Genl Green [Nathanael Greene], Cornwallis having left the place. And immediately afterwards I was ordered to Guilford and had

[p5] drawn provisions and marched thirty miles and again stopped by express from Gen¹ Green, the battle having been fought the day before.

Answer 6th I was twice discharged. My first was signed by Capt Thomas Arthur. My second was signed by Capt John Trigg The last was at Yorktown. I gave them up in payment of taxes. Answer 7th James Walker, O. B. Havis, Saml W Hardin, Danl E Watrous [?]

Questions by the court propounded to the above named individuals [routine supporting statements and county certification] [p6] State of Alabama document Certification that Leonard Tarrant is county judge John Gayle, Gov.

James L Thornton, Secretary of State

[p10] rejection notice No county seal is affixed