Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Beatty S19203

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Frederick County Ss.

On this 4th day of March 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Frederick County now sitting, Henry Beatty a resident of the County of Frederick in the State of Virginia aged seventy four 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 under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. He entered the service in Frederick County in the state of Maryland in the latter part of the month of June in the year 1776, in what was called the flying camp, under Capt. Meroney [sic: Philip Maroney], in Colonel Griffiths [Charles Greenbury Griffith's] Regiment and General Bealls [Reazin Beall's] Brigade. [Henry] Shryock was the Lieut. Colo. in Colo. Griffiths Regiment and Peter Manby[?] the Major and the subalterns in Capt. Meroneys company were Lieut Beall and Ensign Beatty - that he soon after rendezvoused at Fredericktown in the State of Maryland and marched from thence in the month of July in the same year through Yorktown and Lancaster to Philadelphia where they were joined by some other companies and from thence marched through Trenton, New Brunswick and Elizabethtown to New York City. at New Brunswick they heard of the defeat of the American troops on Long Island [27 Aug 1776] - they were stationed some days in New York where some other troops joined them. Orders were then received to march to the lines near Fort Washington, where we joined the main army under the command of General Washington, and remained there some weeks near Head Quarters we then received orders to march and moved to the White plains, where considerable works were thrown up before the arrival of the main army. After being at the White plains a few days the British Army appeared in front of the works, and the next day [28 Oct] made an attack on our right and front with a superior force, and compelled our troops to retire. The ensuing night the flying camp under the command of Brigadier General Beall received orders to march to Croton's bridge, and some days after marched to the North river, and crossed at Kings Ferry and hastened our march to Fort Lee, where we were in full view of the investment and surrender of Fort Washington [16 Nov]. Soon after the fall of Fort Washington, the British crossed the North river below Dobbs Ferry and marched to Fort Lee from which our little Army had to retire in great haste [20] Nov], leaving all their baggage but what we carried on our backs - we then crossed the Hackensack bridge and march to New Brunswick in Jersey where we were discharged of the 1st of December 1776 and marched from thence to Philadelphia to receive our pay and deliver our arms, which detained us about a week, when I returned home about 220 miles from New Brunswick. Soon after arriving at Fort Washington Capt. Merony left the army and the company was commanded by the first Lieutenant Beall.

On arriving at home I found great exertions were in making in raising and forwarding the militia, and I entered the service under Capt. Stoner as a substitute in the winter of 1776 and marched from near Fredericktown, through Philadelphia to Baskinridge [sic: Basking Ridge] in New Jersey about seven miles from Morristown the headquarters, and remained thereabouts, being frequently sent out in large detachments to break up the British foraging parties, until the beginning of April 1777, when we were discharged, having served a tour of three months, besides the time in marching home.

In the early part of the month of July 1780 I removed to Winchester in Virginia, and was called into service by Colo (now Gen'l.) John Smith [pension application S6114] in the beginning of the year 1781 on a tour of ten or twelve days.

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

And in answer to the interrogatories presented by the War Department he says as follows:

To the first interrogatory. I was born in Frederick County in the State of Maryland in the year 1760.

To the second. I have my fathers family record in which my age is recorded.

To the third. I was living in Frederick County Maryland when called into service for the two first tours, from whence I removed to Winchester in the summer of 1780 and was living there when called into service by Colonel Smith as I have stated, and live in Winchester now

To the fourth. I went as a volunteer the first tour; as a substitute the second and was called out by Colo John Smith the County Lieutenant the third.

To the fifth. Being young at the time I can recollect but few of the regular officers. I well remember seeing Gen'l. Washington and Gen'l [Charles] Lee, and many officers whose names I do not recollect.

To the sixth. I never received a written discharge that I recollect. I served out my tour and was discharged verbally.

To the seventh. I am known to all the citizens of Winchester, and generally to the people of the County. I can name Gen'l. John Smith, Rev'd. Doctr. Wm. Hill and Colo James M. Maren and many others, if necessary, who can give full information as to my character and standing.

[signed] Henry Beatty

Frederick County Virg'a Dec'm 9th 1833

This day personally appeared before me General John Smith of the County & State aforesaid, who being duly sworn, states that early in the winter 1781 he had orders to raise a body of mounted militia, somewhere between one hundred & one hundred & thirty Horse, to oppose the march of Gen'l. [Benedict] Arnold who had on the begining of the year 1781 Marched to Richmond, where he destroyed much public & private property. The troops above stated were in great hast marched on near to Stanton [sic: Staunton], to protect the retreat of a body of British prisoners from Albemarl [sic: Hessian prisoners being held at Albemarle Barracks]. From neer Stanton, we marched threw Rock-fish gap, from thence we marched to Orrange [sic: Orange] Court House, & then to Frederickburg, from which latter place we returned home after a tour of 10 or 12 days. From the declaration as herein stated by Henry Beatty, he states that he performed the tour as above stated, findeing his own Horse, & never received any compensation for the tour as above stated.

I cannot at this late day state precisely wether the above Henry Beatty was one of the Horsemen who marched out under my command, I can onely say, that I new him to be a residenter of Winchester Virga, & from the facts he states, I have no doubt but he was one of the Horsemen who marched out under my command as above stated. I will farther state that the object of our march to Fredericksburg was to protect the publick works at Falmouth then called Hunters works. Given under my hand the day & year above written

John Smith

County Lt. of Frederick during the war of the revolution