

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Gregory S31712

Transcribed by Will Graves

f33VA

rev'd 10/29/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

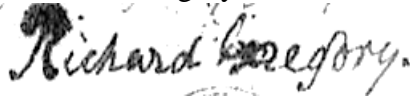
Georgia, Oglethorpe County: Sc

On this 3rd day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Inferior Court of said County & State while sitting for ordinary purposes, Richard Gregory, a resident of the same place, aged seventy four on the 14th November next, 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 on the 7th of June in the present year entitled an act supplementary to the act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the revolution. That he entered the American service against Great Britain in the year 1776, under such officers & served in such manner as is hereinafter stated.

That he was born in Gloucester County Virginia on the 14th day of November 1758 according to the family record, from whence, & from his parents, he has derived his information. That after a lapse of between 50 & 60 years it is impossible for him to remember one half of the different tours of military service performed by him or the length of their duration in either case. That he performed many, very many, he well remembers, they were generally short, say from one to six weeks. Our County of Gloucester being peculiarly situated, bounded on the E. by the Chesapeake, on the S & SW by York River & on the N. by Piankatank [River], besides four other rivers which intersected the County, all navigable & all subject to the intrusion of the enemy, the County militia was almost constantly on duty, & at all times in readiness. Deponent's services during the years '77, '78 & '79 were confined exclusively to his native County in guarding the mouths of the different rivers, above mentioned, against the depredations of refugees & Tories, with whom the Chesapeake abounded. For 7 or 8 months in the year 1780 he served as a volunteer horseman in a troop commanded by Capt. Dixon. The services before mentioned were performed under the command of Capt. Mordecai Cooke. As a volunteer horseman he furnished his own horse & arms, & paid every expense out of his own pocket. Sir John Peyton was the Col. Commandant of the Militia of the County of Gloucester during the whole of the Revolutionary war. From the Fall of 1780 till the capture of Cornwallis in Yorktown [October 19, 1781], the command of a militia company devolved on him as its first Lieutenant, the Captain (Robt. Cary [Robert Cary]) being unable to perform efficient service in consequence of a deficiency in one [of] his legs. He recollects distinctly that on the first day of August '81 the orders from the Colonel were addressed to the deponent in person, requiring him to march to a place called Hubbard's Fields, where the whole militia of the County were assembled in order to guard against the predatory incursions [sic, incursions] of Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] as this deponent understood. Here we were visited by General Lafayette. At this time he was in constant & active services under the command sometimes of Col. John Page of Rosewell, Col. John Taylor of Caroline County at another time, & perhaps some other officers not remembered by him, till after the capture of Cornwallis. The whole of the militia and especially that part of the County where he lived (about 6[?] miles from New Point Comfort) constantly acted as minutemen, always ready to hasten to any place when so ordered by the

colonel of the County so that in fact this might be considered continual service during the whole of the Revolutionary War. This deponent does not know of any man living who can testify accurately concerning these services. A certain John Owen,¹ living in Greene County in this State, who was under his command in part of '80 & the whole of '81 was acquainted with this part of deponent's services, but he (Owen) is said & believed to be incapable of testifying on account of mental derangement. He believes he may safely appeal to any of his neighbors to establish his character for veracity, & will venture to name the following, the Honourable William H. Crawford, the Honourable George R. Gilmer, Maj. John J. Moore, John Moore, Esq. of Lexington, & the reverend Benjamin Blanton, a venerable Minister of the Methodist Church, all of Oglethorpe County, & as deponent lived several years in Greene County, he will without hesitation refer his character for truth to Col. Thomas F. Foster of Greensboro, an acting delegate in Congress of the State. This deponent next moved to this State in 1800 & has lived in Oglethorpe & Greene & now in Oglethorpe. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State in the Union, and never did receive a cent for all his services.

S/ Richard Gregory



Sworn to & subscribed the day & year first above written.

S/ William H. Smith, Clerk

We, Benjamin Blanton clergyman residing in the County of Oglethorpe & Joseph J. Moore residing in the same place; hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Richd. Gregory who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be of the age therein stated, that he is reputed & believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution, & that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William H. Smith, Clerk

S/ Benj. Blanton, MP

S/ Joseph J. Moore

[p 5]

Amended Declaration of Richard Gregory

Georgia, Oglethorpe County

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in & for said County & State, Richard Gregory who being duly sworn, deposes & says that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades, For eighteen weeks he served as a private under the command of Capt. Mordecai Cooke, three tours of six weeks each, in the year 1777. The whole eighteen weeks service were rendered in Gloucester County Virginia, the nature of the service was guarding the country from the depredations of refugees & Tories who infested the Chesapeake bay & Ware & Piankatank rivers. His memory fails him as to the precise periods of the year when these tours were respectively commenced & ended; they were performed in fact as a militiaman. He also performed several short tours of the same kind of duty in the years 1778 & 1779, but his recollection is too vague & indistinct as to their duration to State any further concerning them. In 1780 he served at least seven months under Capt. Dixon as a volunteer horseman. His services in the horse were generally performed in Gloucester County Va., but once he recollects in particular part of the company including himself were out upon dispatches to a place near Bottoms Bridge about ten miles from Richmond. From thence we continued to Williamsburg about the time that

¹ [John Owen R7843](#)

Philips [William Phillips] & Arnold [Benedict Arnold] retreated from Virginia to New York. Between the Fall of 1780 & the first of August 1781, he performed several tours of duty of a week each at Gloucester Ct. house with the whole of the militia of the County. Two of which he distinctly recollects from circumstances that occurred during these two weeks, the command of the company of footmen devolved on him as 1st Lieutenant & he continued to command for two months & nineteen days more during the expeditions to Hubbard's fields described in his original declaration. After the capture of Cornwallis he returned his commission to Sir John Peyton as the custom was. It is now impossible to establish the fact that he acted under a commission for two reasons – because Sir John Peyton & all his comrades are dead or removed he knows not where, & if there was a record of Commission kept in the County the office was burnt some years ago & all the records consumed, as deponent ascertained when he revisited Gloucester County Virginia in the Spring of 1826. So he distinctly recollects fourteen months & nineteen days, besides a great deal more time which he cannot specify, for which fourteen months & nineteen days he claims a pension.

S/ Richard Gregory

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 12th day of April 1833.

S/ Henry Jordan, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80.59 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in both the cavalry and Infantry as well as a Lieutenant in the Virginia service.]