

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Absalom Flowers S8494

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 Dec 2010.

The State of Virginia and County of Sussex SS

On the second day of May in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the Court of Sussex County in the State of Virginia now sitting Absalom Flowers a resident of the said County and State in the seventy fifth year of his age, who being first duly sworn according to Law, on his oath doth make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7 June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States during the Revolution under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. vizt.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Tour was called into service as a Militiaman by his division – that is, by the number from 1 to 10 which each private draws on being first enrolled in the militia, and which designates the order in which they are ordered into service. The Company was under Captain John Powell, Ned Powell Lieutenant – and Levi Rochelle Ensign. Major Decloman [probably Christian Charles de Klauman] commanded the Battalion and Colo. Meriweather [sic: Meriwether] the Regiment. we were called together at Hall's Ordinary near Stony Creek in Sussex about the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1781 from thence marched to Petersburg and join Decloman's Command; thence to Cabin Point [on James River in Surry County] in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth, and as the Enemy constantly shifting their position, we were as constantly marched to & fro, at different points, but stayed longest at Cabin Point. was then discharged after a three months Tour of Duty.

2<sup>d</sup> Tour called into service in the same manner as above in April of same year, under Captain John Massenburg Lieut. Ned Powel & Ensign Levi Rochalle, same battalion Regiment & Brigade and same field and general Officers. we were ordered out as a relief to some militia near Petersburg. remained under arms at Petersburg all night, and on the ensuing morning was attacked by the Enemy who compeled us to retreat. this fight is usually called in Virginia the Battle of Petersburg [also called Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr]. Muhlenburg [sic: Gen. Peter Muhlenberg] & Stuben [sic: Gen. Baron von Steuben] commanded at this Battle. Capt'n Massenburg who commanded my Company was wounded in the hip & carried off. four of my Comrades were also wounded.

The command of my Company devolved on Lieut Powel who drew us off from the Action and carried us to the Coalpits [Midlothian Coal Pits, Chesterfield County] and remained there 8 or 10 Days. the Enemy having moved towards Richmond for the purpose of burning that City, we marched there and joined a strong body under the command of LaFayette. [Gen. Benedict] Arnold having discovered him, made a sudden retreat back to Petersburg, and we lay at Richmond some time, then marched down on the North Side of James River some 7 or 8 miles below Richmond, thence back to Richmond where 11 of us were discharged. This Tour I served eight weeks.

3<sup>d</sup> Tour. In October of the same year was again called into service under the command of Capt'n Nathaniel Newsum [Nathaniel Newsome] who marched us to Surry Court House, he there resigned or left us and the command of our Company devolved on Lieut. Thomas Newsum [Thomas Newsome]. Col Blunt [possibly Blount] and Majr Mabry were our Field Officers. we were marched to the James River crossed it from Swans Point [sic: Swanns Point] to James Town (main part above the Island) and thence to Williamsburg and little York, where we joined General Washingtons Besieging Army. we were placed with that part of the army under the immediate command of Stuben. I served there during the better part of the Siege [28 Sep - 19 Oct] the battles and the final surrender of the British Army. when the prisoners were about to be removed to Fredericksburg his Brother came and relieved me, and I was regularly discharged and returned home. I served also eight weeks in this tour. making in all seven months of

faithful service, and in which time he was actually engaged in the two Battles of Petersburg and Yorktown.

he has no documentary evidence, and he does not know of any other persons except Frederick Felts [pension application S8464] and William Chappell [S9315] who were both in service with him, whose testimony he can procure conveniently, who can testify to his service. he was raised in Surry County and moved into the County of Sussex at eighteen years of age and has resided in said County of Sussex ever since.

he here 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 aforesaid.

[signed] Absalom Flowers