Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Riddle S9087

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } S.S. County of Goochland }

On this 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices, the court of Goochland County, now sitting John Riddle a resident of the county of Goochland and State of Virginia, aged seventy 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.

He served many tours of duty, but the length of time is so great, he cannot recollect them all with precision or the dates of any. He well remembers the following. He was detailed (drafted) in the County of Goochland and served about four months in guarding the British prisoners [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and brought to Virginia in Jan 1779] at the Albemarle Barracks in the County of Albemarle at different times under the command of the following officers - Capt. Elisha Leak, Capt. Josiah Leak & Capt Humphry Parrish, all from the County of Goochland. He served about one month under Capt Elisha Leak in guarding some British prisoners from Anderson Peers's in the County of Goochland to Winchester: he served a tour of duty of two or three months under Capt Stokely Towles when General Arnold burnt Manchester warehouses [Gen. Benedict Arnold and Gen. William Phillips, tobacco warehouses across the James River from Richmond, 30 Apr 1781] & was stationed for some time at Morbin Hills below Richmond [sic: Malvern Hill in Henrico County]. He then [sic] volunteered under Capt. John Price from Hanover County and marched to the South & was under the command of Col. Holt Richardson, & was in General Gates's defeat [Battle of Camden SC, where Horatio Gates was defeated, 16 Aug 1780], where he received a wound in the foot and retreated to Hillsborough in North Carolina where he remained for some time; from thence to Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina, where he was discharged by Col. Nathaniel Morris [sic: Major Nathaniel Garsden Morris]: which last mentioned tour was six or eight months: he volunteered for six months, but thinks he was much longer in service before he was discharged: he has lost his discharge. He then served a tour of about three[?] months at Little York and was there at the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] under the command of Capt Stokely Towles, and after the surrender of Cornwallis marched as one of the guard of the British prisoners to Winchester, where he was discharged: he has lost his discharge: he was born in the county of Hanover as he was informed in the year 1762: has no record of his age: lived in Goochland county when first called into service: has resided in Goochland County ever since the Revolutionary war. He is known by [blank] who can testify as to his character. he has no documentary evidence and he knows only one person (Thomas Faudry) who can now testify as to his services in the Revolutionary war. Thomas Faudry performed three tours of duty with him as will appear by his testimony this day produced.

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.

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid

[signed] John Riddle

I Thomas Faudry one of the Revolutionary soldiers now residing in the county of Goochland, do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with John Riddle who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration: that the said John Riddle and myself lived in the same neighbourhood when called into service: that we were in three different tours together; and that the said John Riddle did go to the south and I have no doubt served as he has stated in the foregoing declaration as stated by him: that we have often talked over our services and sufferings during the revolution & our ages, & that he has always been considered two years and six months older than I am, which will make him seventy years old at this time

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[signed] Thomas Faudre

State of Virginia } SS Goochland County }

On this 20th day of May 833 before the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the said county personally appeared John Riddle, a resident of the said county, and being first duly sworn doth on his oath, make the following additional declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7 June 1832

That the service at the Barracks was performed in the fall and winter before the Battle oat Camden. That he cannot remember the duration of each of his tours in guarding prisoners of War, but to the best of his belief, he served three months at the Barracks under the officers set forth in his former statement and one month under Capt Leake from Anderson Peers' to Winchester. That in the tour under Capt Price to the south, as set forth in the former declaration, he served as well as he can recollect seven months at the least. That under Capt'n Tolls he served two months, at the least, at the time of Arnold's invasion; and that in his last tour also under Tolls at York as set forth heretofore, he served two months at the least and that he was always a private in the infantry —

To Question 1st He answers - [He was born] In Hanover Va Does not know the date but understands he is seventy two years of age.

To Question 2^d I have none [record of age]

To Question 3^d I was living in Goochland when called into service and have continued to live in the same county.

To Question 4th I was drafted always when I went into service except when I marched to the south and was then I volunteered.

To Question 5th I have seen Genls Gates Lafayette Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] and Washington. I saw the Maryland Troops at the South and the regular and French troops at York, and State Troops at the Barracks. I recollect no militia regiments in particular. I was at the battle of Cambden and at Richmond when Arnold invaded the state and was at the siege of York

To Question 6th I received several discharges one from Col Morris and one from each of the officers under whom I served, but have lost them

To Question 7th Mathew Webber and Benj Nickolls [are neighbors who testified to his character and the belief of his services]

John hisXmark Riddle