

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Childress R1929

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Virginia } S.S.

Franklin County }

On this 2<sup>d</sup> day of August 1834 personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the County Court of Franklin Robert Childress a resident of the State & County aforesaid aged 78 who being sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress pass'd. June 7 1832 That he entered the service of the United States serv'd. under the following named officers & serv'd. as before stated. The year he entered the service he can not at this distance of time recollect (his memory being much impaired by age & disease). He resided at that time in the County of Amelia & State aforesaid. That he was drafted into the service aforesaid under the command of Cap. [Robert] Hudson & march'd. to Chickohomony [sic: Chickahominy] River & was in service some 25 or 30 days he believes the latter period but wishing if he errs at all (and feels there is great danger of it) to err on the safe side he therefore puts it down to 25 days; he don't recollect who were the field officers or if there was any – he rather thinks there was none. He thinks he was dismiss'd. before he reach'd. head-quarters. After this (he don't pretend to remember dates) he was call'd. out for the purpose of guarding military stores to Williamsburg & was detained in service some 7 or 8 weeks & probably more but acting on the principle aforesaid, he says 7 weeks; in this expedition he was under the command of Cap. Hudson. After this he was call'd. out under the command of Cap. Booker & march'd. some 8 or 10 miles below Petersburg to an old church & detain'd. in this service some 20 or 30 days – say 20. He thinks there was no field officers not having reach'd. the place of rendezvous before he was dismiss'd. He was next call'd. out to guard the horses that were collecting by impressments in the county around about & was detain'd in this service 2 weeks

After this (dates not recollected) He was drafted under the command of Cap. Hudson who died and was put under the command of Cap. Dupuy. There was three Cols. [Beverley] Randolph, [St. George] Tucker, and Holcomb [sic: John Holcombe]. He thinks the Ridgment to which he belonged was commanded by Col. Randolph. The brigade was commanded by Genl. [Robert] Lawson. The army was commanded by Genl. Green [sic: Southern Division commanded by Gen. Nathanael Greene]. That on this expedition he was at the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]. That he march'd. thro' the southern part of Virginia & northern part of North Carolina. In this expedition he serv'd. 3 months. He thinks he was disbanded without any regular discharge, but in this his memory does not serve him. That on this last expedition he was appointed Orderly Sarjeant.

He recollects distinctly he was ordered to hold himself in readiness at all times from the time he was first drafted to march at a moments warning and was subject to various & frequent calls to different places of attack & various services but as he can not specify time & circumstances with any thing like certainty he forbears to attempt it. – That it will be seen he can only specify with any thing like certainty 6 months & 13 days tho' he is confident of much longer time; for the kind of service as will be seen above he was liable & was frequently call'd. out sometimes for short periods only – a day or a night at a time – Sometimes a few hours only; Thus being engaged off & on during the greater part of the war he had formerly thot' he was entitled to claim from the beginning to the end of his services which would be greatly more than 2 years, but if he is wrong in this he must submit to be restricted to the time which he is enabled to specify tho' greatly under what he actually served if his memory would serve him, which he repeates is greatly impair'd by age & disease. This he states however, He can see but little or no difference in being in camp & at home employed as he was, liable to be call'd. out any moment & was so call'd. out

frequently as above stated. He knows of no person but a certain John Gill [sic: John Gills, pension application S17976] by whom he can prove any part of his service whose affidavit annex'd hereto — that he has no documentary evidence

He hereby relinquishes every claim whether to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid.

[signed] R. Childress

Bedford County towit

The affidavit of John Gills of the said County of Bedford taken before me Nath'l. J Manson one of the justices of the peace for the said County, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of Jny 1835 who being first duly sworn states, that he was acquainted with Robert Childress of the County of Amelia from their boyhood, up to the time of the revolutionary war That this affiant served one tour in Capt Hudson's Company of Malitia in said war, which was under the command of General Lawson, and the said Robert Childress was Sargeant in said Company, who with this affiant was in the battle of Guildford, and this affiant well recollects of seeing said Childress bearing off Capt [Jacob] Moon who was wounded during the engagement. This affiant recollects that Capt Hudson was taken sick and died on his way home and was succeeded in the command by Capt Dupee. This affiant states that the said Robert Childress is now alive and resides in the County of Franklin in the State of Virginia, and further this affiant saith not

[signed] John Gills