

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Fisher R3565

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } Sct
Nicholas County }

on this 8th day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Nicholas now sitting Jacob Fisher a resident of said County and State of Virginia aged 70 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 the 7th 1832 That he entered the servise of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated He entered the service as a substitute for his father George Fisher for a draft of three months under Captain ___ Rice perhaps John Rice. He then lived in the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia. This was in the year of 1778 or 1779 as he thinks. He does not know in what month but it was in the fall of the year. He was marched to Portsmouth where he joined the continental army. He was marched to Norfolk, to Portsmouth to Edmonds Hills [possibly Edmonds Corner in present Chesapeake City] where he was stationed about one month. He was marched to the Carolina troops near the Big Swamp [Dismal Swamp?] and there received his discharge from the army from a tour of three months service. But he received no written discharge. Col. ___ Noll commanded the Regiment to which he belonged, and Major Guy Hamilton belonged to the same Regiment who resided in Rockingham County Virginia. He recollects seeing Genl George Washington while in the service who received the Army. But he does not recollect the names of any the inferior Generals. [See endnote.]

In the month of June following his aforesaid discharge but he does not recollect the year he again entered the service as a substitute for a man whose name he does not recollect for a term of three months service when he entered the service he resided in Hardy County Virginia [sic: formed from Hampshire County in 1786] (to which place his father had removed whilst he was in the service as aforesaid) He entered the service under Lieutenant Cornelious King [Cornelius King] and was marched to the North fork of the South Branch of Potomac River to Hinkle's fort [in present Pendleton County WV] where he remained a short time and was then marched to Clarksburg which is now in Harrison County Virginia and remained there during the ballance of his said term of three months where he received his discharge - but it was not a written discharge. This tour of service was directed entirely against the indians and intended to guard the frontiers of Virginia against their depredations Lieut. Cornelious King was the highest officer belonging to this detachment of troops.

In the next succeeding fall after his return home from Clarksburg he volunteered for another three months tour of service. He went from the County of Hardy in the State of Virginia under Captain James Stinson [see note below] and was marched to Winchester Virginia to guard the troops he thinks the troops of Lord Cornwallis [surrendered at Yorktown on 19 Oct 1781] he served his term of three months at Winchester in Guarding the troops or at the Barricks in the neighbourhood of that place He was here again discharged from the service but he did not receive a written discharge

He does not know in what year or month he was born but from a calculation made by one of his neighbours last Spring he was made to be seventy years of age then He cannot read English nor calculate by figures consequently he cannot say himself how old he is but he thinks he is upwards of seventy years of age. His age is recorded at home taken out of his father's bible from which his neighbour made the aforesaid calculation. He was born in the State of Pennsylvania but he does not know the name of the County

He resided in Rockingham and Hardy Counties Virginia when called into the service. - He resided in Pendleton County Virginia after the Revolutionary War until almost twenty four or five years ago when he removed to the place where he now lives, then Randolph but now Nicholas County.

He went into the service two terms as a substitute and one term as a volunteer. He is known to James McMillion and Addison McLaughlin in his neighbourhood who can testify as to

his character for veracity and of their general belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. 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. during all the time he served he was a private and never received a commission
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Jacob hisXmark Fisher

Lewis County to wit

William Radcliff [pension application S9049] personally appeared before me and made oath that he knew Jacob Fisher (a resident of Nicholas county in Virginia) ever since his youth. That he was in the company of a certain James Stinson marched from Hardy county. That he and said Fisher were messmates were stationed near Winchester in Va. to guard British prisoners taken at York Town in Virginia. said Fisher served three months and left affiant there who was a substitute for a certain Adam Harpold affiant knows said Fisher knows he is the same man and that he is about 70 years of age

Subscribed and sworn to this 29 Sept. 1832.

William hisXmark Radcliffe

Given under my hand this day above

J M Camp J.P. &c

Lewis county to wit

George Fisher aged 64 years maketh oath before me that he is the brother of Jacob Fisher That the said Jacob Fisher when between 16 and 17 years of age which was about the year 1778 or 79 went as a substitute for his father who was drafted to go a tour in the Virginia Militia from Rockingham county where he then lived. he was to march under a certain Captain John Rice. Major Guy Hamilton Col. Knowl. This affiant was then a boy about 10 or 11 years old he remembers well that his brother Jacob started on the Tour and was gone about seven months. whilst gone his father removed from Rockingham to Hardy county in Va. when Jacob returned. (The next June or July he again started to what is now Harrison County at Clarksburg as a substitute for some man whose name affiant cannot now recollect. in this trip he went under as well as I now recollect under Lieutenant Corneles Cain [Cornelius Cain]. he was gone affiant believes in that tour about four months. when he returned which was about the time Lord Cornwallis was captured as affiant then heard. The said Jacob Then volunteered to go a three months tour to Winchester to guard British prisoners taken at Yorktown. Jacob was gone in this tour about four months. he started under a Captain James Stinson. affiant now lives in Lewis County. his brother Jacob lives in Nicholas Jacob is 70 years old and affiant is 64 subscribed and sworn to this 29 day of Sept. 1832.

[signed] George fisher

Given under my hand this day above

J M Camp J.P. &c

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]

Jacob Fisher. Pensioner draws \$30 p annum.

I the undersigned Jacob Fisher having been called on by W. G. Singleton for a narative of my Revolutionary Services and statement of my age, give the following to wit - I am seventy two or three years of age - when in my sixteenth year of age, (I cant tell in what year) I went as a substitute in the place of my Father for a 3 months tour from Rockingham county Va under Capt. Rice & Lieut. Uriah Gorden. there were two companies of us under the command of Major Guy Hamilton - we marched through Richmond and I think to Norfolk and thence to Edmonds Hill and from there into Carolina and joined the Carolina soldiers - on the way we joined other soldiers but cant tell how many companies nor where we did join them - nor can I tell where we joined the carolina soldiers, nor who commanded them - Served out my tour of 3 months. returned home about the first of April and in the succeeding June I substituted again for a man whose name I have forgotten for 3 months & marched under Lieut. Kean, with 20 or 30 men, to from Hampshire county to Henkles Fort on the North Fork of the South branch and from thence to Clarksburg - and served out the tour - returned in the fall volunteered. Went to Winchester. served under Capt James Stinson for 3 months guarding the British Prissoners & thus ended my

services. Sam'l. Price wrote my Declaration. told him the same I now tell - agreed to give him \$20 if he got a Pension. In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name Jan 15, 1835

Jacob hisXmark Fisher

Witness

A Copy

W. G Singleton

Memo: - Mr. Fisher is an Ignorant dutchman [i.e. German], but I believe an Honest man. Such I understand is his character

W. G Singleton Jan. 20, 1835

NOTES:

Fisher's first tour of service may have occurred in 1781 rather than in 1778 or 1779. Gawen Hamilton was not recommended as Maj until 29 May 1781, and William Nalle or Nall was not recommended as a Lt. Col. until 26 Mar 1781. George Washington did not arrive in the lower Chesapeake Bay area until Sep 1781.

In a declaration by William Radcliff the name of the captain from Hardy County is given as James Stephenson.

On 3 Dec 1838 in Braxton County (formed in 1836 partly from Nicholas County) Fisher applied for a new pension certificate to replace one lost by his pension agent, Addison McLaughlin.

On 21 Aug 1858 in Braxton County Henry Robeson, 68, deposed that he had become acquainted with Jacob and Catherine Fisher in Pendleton County around 1790, and they had moved to Holly River in Braxton County about 40 years ago. He stated that Jacob Fisher died "at the house of William Cutlips on Holly River (or the backfork of same) and in the said County of Braxton, on or about the 15th day of October 1846," leaving his widow, Catharine, who died about 16 Nov 1850 at the same place as her husband. Robeson also stated that Jacob and Catherine Fisher had raised four boys and four girls, five of them still living. Robeson further stated that he heard Jacob Fisher say that his pension was "reduced to Thirty Dollars, and that he often complained of it to affiant but he was rather an Ignorant Dutchman and could never give the cause." The pension certificate in Fisher's file shows that he was awarded \$30 for nine months service as a private, which was the standard amount for the service he claimed.