

Pension Application for Richard Peacock

S.5907 Richard died August 3, 1832. Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of Virginia

Corporation of Fredericksburg To Wit.

On this 6th day of July in the year 1832 personally appeared before me Thomas Gordon, Mayor of the term aforesaid and Justice of the Peace in and for the Corporation aforesaid, Richard Peacock, a resident of the term of Fredericksburg in the County of Spotsylvania and State of Virginia, aged eighty one 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.

That he resided in the City of New York in the year 1776 and joined the American Army as a volunteer the day before our troops retired from Long Island. He remained with the Army until it returned from New York and after a little skirmish in what was then called the Buck Wheat fields about nine miles from New York. The greater part of the army there moved over King's Bridge and he was advanced by a Major Williams from Maryland he believes, not to continue as he was a volunteer—

He then returned to Fredericksburg, Virginia, his native town, stayed a short time and then went back and joined the army at or about Morristown, New Jersey.

He was taken a prisoner at Poule's-Hook carried to New York and kept a prisoner three months. Some officer belonging to Emmett's light horse, of the enemy came to the prison to enlist men, Emerick's troops then lay at Kings Bridge, and thinking this perspective offered some chance to escape, he with some others agreed to enlist and went to King's Bridge with the officers. He stayed four or five days and there went over to the American Army which then lay at White Plains.

The Army then moved up to Peekskill and left the Militia of New York commanded by Col. James Hammond to guard the lines—He joined the New York Militia and was commissioned a Lieutenant by Governor Clinton of New York and attached to the Company of Rangers commanded by by [sic] Capt Regulars, in which capacity he served three months in 1777.

In 1779 or 80 he had the command of guides on the lines when Cols Hull & Barr commanded and served [blank] months. He then had a Lieutenant's commission sent him from Poughkeepsie from Governor Clinton and was under Capt Benjamin Stevenson, Abraham VanWarts was the other Lieutenant—in which capacity as Lieutenant in Capt Stevenson's company of New York Militia, he served six months.

In 1781 he commanded a scouting party of New York Militia for six months—was surprised by a party of Col. Delany's Corps as they were called, commanded by Major Beckford.

He did not surrender without resistance and was wounded in the thigh with a Bayonet and received a severe blow on the head with a musket which [?] him, at this time his watch, some little money and papers were taken from among which were two

companies from Governor Clinton. He was taken first to East Chester in the State of New York and thence to the City of New York and put in custody of a Captain Fife of the enemy—after his recovery he escaped by knocking down the sentinel waded & swam Hanlover Creek and reached the American Army.

He lived in the State of New York until 1788 he believes, and married there—returned to Fredericksburg, &c his native place the same year and has resided here ever since.

He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services.

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. (Signed) Richard Peacock

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Tho. Goodwin Mayor