

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Peter Deveaux S37886

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Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Georgia

On this 15th day of February 1826 personally appeared before the District Court of the United States for the District of Georgia a Court of record, Peter Deveaux Esq. a resident of Savannah in the County of Chatham and State aforesaid, aged 73 years and upwards, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to attain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st May 1820.

That he entered into the service of the United States at Savannah Georgia in May 1778 as a Captain in the first Regiment of Georgia Militia on the Continental establishment and received his commission aforesaid appointment. That he immediately repaired to Fort Tonyn¹ on St. Mary's River and joined the Florida expedition under the command of General Robert Howe. That he there received the appointment of aid de camp to General Howe, that he continued with General Howe in said capacity of aid and returned with him to Savannah in Georgia, which place he left with General Howe after the British took possession thereof in the latter part of the year 1778. That he accompanied the Army to Purysburg in South Carolina, where General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] took command of the Southern Army. That he then went to Augusta in Georgia where he was appointed aid to Governor Howley² of Georgia, that he went down as a volunteer to Savannah and acted with the American Army & French Army at the siege thereof in October 1779 – and then returned to Augusta where he remained as aid to Governor Howley until the British took Charleston in South Carolina, when he left with Governor Howley for the North. That Governor Howley left him at Halifax in North Carolina where the deponent joined General Isaac Huger as a volunteer and went to Richmond in Virginia. That at Richmond in Virginia in the year 1780 he met with General Gates [Horatio Gates] then on his way to take command of the Southern Army under Baron DeKalb, that he was here introduced to General Gates and received the appointment of aid de camp to that General and marched with him to be South that when General Gates took command of Southern Army from Baron DeKalb, he issued his general order in which he gave notice of the appointment of deponent as his aid. That he continued with General Gates, was at the Battle of Camden in August 1780, and when at the close of that year General Gates surrendered the command of the Army to General Greene [Nathanael Greene], deponent went with General Gates to the North in the expectation of a court on his conduct at the Battle of Camden. That he remained some time at Philadelphia, and no Court having been held, deponent returned to the South and again joined the Army under General Greene about May 1781 at Camden in South Carolina. That shortly after he received the appointment of aid to Governor Brunson [sic, Nathan Brownson?]³ of Georgia, and served as such aid until Governor Martin⁴ succeeded him and deponent acted as his aid until and after the British evacuated the city of Savannah.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on any roll, as far as he knows, except the State of Georgia and that the following are his reasons for not applying earlier for a pension. He has for several years lived on a small property belonging to his children, that their small property is not now sufficient to support his family, and that his bodily infirmity is such that he is wholly unable any longer to labor for a support. As long as he could live without this application he has done so, but he is now in need of assistance from his Country for support. That the property of his children above referred to consists of five Negro slaves work on hire and several young Negroes who goal [?] is profit but are an expense.

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/forttonyn.htm>

2 Richard Howley served as Governor of Georgia for part of 1780

3 Nathan Brownson served as Governor of Georgia for portions of 1781 and 1782.

4 John Martin served as Governor of Georgia for portions of 1782-1783.

And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820 he makes the following declaration, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of An Act of Congress entitled “An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War,” passed on the 18th day of March 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me Subscribed. That since the 18th of March 1818 no changes have been made in my property.

Schedule—no property or effects.

S/ Peter Deveaux

That deponent has residing with him three daughters and one Son grown up. That he has no profession or trade and is wholly unable from bodily infirmity to do any labor. And deponent further saith that he knows no one in Georgia, who can at this day testify as to his Services, but he produces the certificate of General Thomas Pinckney of South Carolina, who knew his Services in the War of the Revolution.

Sworn to and declared on the 10th of February 1826 in open Court before the Judge thereof.

S/ J L Cuyler, District Judge of
the United States District of Georgia

S/ Peter Deveaux

Moultrieville near Charleston 11th of July 1825 [could be 1826]

I hereby certify that I was well acquainted during the revolutionary war with Mr. Peter Deveaux then a Captain in the first Regiment of Georgia on the Continental Establishment. That we served together on the Florida Expedition under General Howe, at the Siege of Savannah under Genls Lincoln & D'Estaing; and that we were both in the military family of General Gates at the unfortunate battle of Camden on the 16th of August 1780.

S/ Thomas Pinckney
formerly Major 1st [?] Regt. Of So. Car. Cont'l Estat
and late Major General in the Army of the United States