

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Summers R10308

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/27/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Alabama Jackson County: SS

On this 13th day of February 1833 personally appeared in Open Court (it being a Court of record) before me Thompson W Rector Judge of the County Court of Jackson County now sitting, John Summers, a resident of said County, and State of Alabama aforesaid, aged about seventy-three 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 into the service of the United States as a Volunteer, in the year 1780, and served under the following named Officers, against Tories & Indians, to which, the Militia Regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Logan & General George Rogers Clark Commander in Chief – his Captain's name was Isaac Keller [?], Isaac Hoagland Lieutenant, Ensign's name not now recollected, and that he marched under the Command of those Officers, against the Shawnee & Wyandot tribes of Indians. – That he was in the battle fought at the Piciway [Pickaway] Towns situated on a branch of the big Miami River – And in the following year, he volunteered himself again, and served in Captain James Rhea's Company, John McMurtry Lieutenant and Jesse Yocum Ensign, these troops were also commanded by General Clark, & Colonel Logan and [indecipherable word]¹ against the Northern Indians, and was again in a battle fought at the head of the Great Miami [River], And in the year 1782 the Indians still continuing their depredations on the settlements in Kentucky, he volunteered himself again, and served under Colonels Todd, Trigg, & Major Harland, and was in the battle fought some short distance from the Lower Blue Licks, on Licking River, against the Tories & Indians –

He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his service, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can now procure with regard to the same, excepting his brother's Samuel Summers, whose evidence will accompany this statement. And 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 the day & year aforesaid

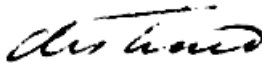
Have you any record of your age if so where is it.

Ans. I have a record of my age in a Dictionary –

Where and in what year were you born

Ans. I was born in May 1760 in Augusta County Virginia

Where were you living when called into service & where do you now live –

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Ans. – I was living in the frontier of Virginia when called into service – Thence I moved to Fayette County Kentucky – thence to Clark County Kentucky, thence to Green County Kentucky, him thence to Barren County Kentucky, Thence to Warren County Tennessee, thence to Jackson County Alabama.

How were you called into service – did you volunteer, drafted or a substitute –

Ans. – I was a volunteer –

Answer. – I never received a discharge

I am acquainted with Samuel Davis, William Berry, Samuel Williams, Jesse Williams, & William Davis & John Campbell – who can testify to my character for honesty &c

Sworn to & subscribed this 13th day of February 1833

S/ John Summers, X his mark

[Stephen W. Donathan, a clergyman, and Samuel Summers gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Alabama Jackson County: Personally appeared before me Thompson M Rector Judge of the County Court for said County John Summers who in open court states as a supplement to an application heretofore me by him for a pension bearing date the 13th of February 1833, That he entered the service in the revolutionary war as a private and served 6 weeks and again in 1781 he again entered the service and remained one month and again in the same year he entered the service and remained one month – and again in 1782, he was engaged in a battle at the Blue Licks he was at that time only 6 days on duty – and again in the fall of the same year he volunteered as a private under General George Clark and Colonel Benjamin Logan and remained in the service 6 weeks –

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court this 12th day of ___ 1833

S/ Thompson M Rector, Judge

S/ John Summers, X his mark

State of Alabama Jackson County: SS: On this 31st day of July 1837 personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court of the County & State aforesaid, now sitting, John Summers a resident Citizen of said County & State aged seventy-eight 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. Deposeth & saith that he was born in Rockbridge County Virginia as he is informed in March 1760 & was removed by his parents at the age of thirteen years into the County of Washington where he remained until March 1779 when he removed with a party into Kentucky & assisted a party in building Fort Whitley where he remained until August 1780 when he was called upon & volunteered against the British & Indians who had made an excursion into the County & took Riddles & Martins Stations. In this expedition he joined himself to the Company Commanded by Captain Isaac Keller, rendezvoused at [indecipherable word]² Lick; & was marched from thence to the Ohio [River] & crossed that River where Cincinnati now stands & there met General George Rogers Clark of the Continental line, & then by his orders we threw up breast works of logs & from there we marched by the order of General Clark to the Chillicothe old Towns; which we found had been fired by the Indians & abandoned & from this place we marched to the Pickaway Towns, where

John Summers

we met the Indians in Battle & defeated them, losing in killed & wounded on our side 16 & took a French man from the Indians who had been taken prisoner by them & killed 16 of them – from this place we returned by the same route home, having been out one month. Again in 1781 he volunteered under Captain Kirkham as a Guard to a parcel of men who were ordered out by General Clark to build Canoes on the Kentucky River, for the purpose [of] carrying provisions from the Kentucky River for the Army under General Clark designing [?] to act against the British & Indians then on the Big Miami, that he was out in this service for six weeks & returned home. During of this year & after having served as last above stated, orders were issued by General Clark to Colonel Lindsay to raise a company of spies & hunters to watch the motions of the Indians & to hunt & lay up a supply of provisions for the Army during the following Summers campaign, this Deponent entered this service & continued in it for one month when the weather sitting in cold they were dismissed. In 1782 the militia was called out for the purpose of assisting in building a Fort at the falls of the Ohio, where General Clark was then stationed with his troops: this Deponent also volunteered in this service & attached himself to the Company commanded by Joseph Kinkaid [Kincaid?], this expedition continued one month when they returned home & was dismissed. In August 1782 this Deponent again volunteered in the Company of Captain Gordon & was marched under the command of Colonels Todd & Trigg in pursuit of the Indians, that had for some days surrounded Bryan's Stationed, at the Blue Licks we came up with them & engaged in Battle and we were overpowered & defeated; losing in killed, wounded & prisoners eighty-two of our men, here Deponent lost his Captain who was killed in Battle & his Lieutenant who was taken prisoner. This expedition lasted five days, when we returned home & was dismissed. In the spring of 1782 & just before the Battle at Blue Lick, by the order of Colonel Logan Captain Gordon raised a volunteer Company to guard McMurtree's [?] Grist Mill, which the Indians had attempted to destroy, & which was then the sole dependence of a large scope of Country for bread stuffs in this service Deponent was also a volunteer & continued to perform this duty for one month, when they were relieved from duty by another Company.

Shortly after the Battle at Blue Licks & in the same year, your Deponent again volunteered in the Company of Captain Ray rendezvoused at Lexington Kentucky & marched from thence under the Command of General Clark & Logan on the expedition against the Indians at what was then called the Chillicothe new Towns & French Store, we took up the line of march from Lexington & crossed the Ohio River at the mouth of Licking & from thence through the old Chillicothe Towns to the new Chillicothe Towns on the Big Miami & from there to what was then known & called the French Store, on the waters of the Miami. In this expedition we destroyed the two Indian towns, killing seven of them, & took thirty prisoners & amongst them found a white woman by the name of McFaul who had been taken by the Indians & from the French Store we returned by the same route to the mouth of Licking & there owing to the want of provisions we were dismissed & General Clark ascending the Ohio to the Falls. This expedition lasted five weeks.

Again in 1783 he performed another tour of duty as a volunteer under the Command of Lieutenant Cooper in a Company of guards to protect McMurtrees [?] Mill from Indian depredations; In which Deponent served for one month, when it was considered that the danger was over & they were dismissed & he returned home. In 1784 Deponent again went as a volunteer in the Company commanded by Captain Saml. Johnson [Samuel Johnson] in the expedition against the Shawnee Towns situated on the head of the great Miami and rendezvoused again at Lexington Kentucky & took up the line of March under the Command of General Logan

& crossed the Ohio at the mouth of Limestone & from thence on through the old Chillicothe Towns & through the Pickaway Towns & from thence on to Ellett's Town on the head waters of the great Miami. During this expedition we destroyed three large & two small Indian Towns taking between sixty & seventy prisoners; with the loss of only three of our men killed in a Battle fought with the Indians & we all returned home & was dismissed after an absence of six weeks in this last mentioned service. Again during the last British War at an advanced age he volunteered in the Company commanded by Captain Glover & marching from Kentucky under the Command of General Hopkins to Vincennes & from thence to Fort Harrison on the Wabash & from there to the head of Illinois River against the Kickapoo Indians but owing to the misconduct of our guides we missed the Towns & traveled beyond them; & thereby was defeated in effecting a junction of our forces with those under the Command of Colonel Russell who came upon, attacked & destroyed their Towns. Your Deponent returned from this expedition in 1812 & removed in that year to Warren County in the State of Tennessee where he resided until the Fall of 1826 when he moved to & settled in the County of Jackson Alabama where he has ever since lived. That he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove any portion of the services rendered by him as above set forth – nor has he any Documentary evidence by which the facts above can be made to appear as he never received any discharge for any of 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 or Agency of any State whatever. Sworn to and described this 31st day of July 1837 before me.

S/ Thompson M. Rector, Judge

S/ John Summers, X his mark

[William Berry & William Wright gave the standard supporting affidavit.]