

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Littleton West R11344

fn12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/30/11

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Missouri County of Ray: Sct.: On this 5th day of August in the year 1833 personally appeared the undersigned Littleton West a resident of said County and State aged about 78 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 Provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That sometime in the year 1774 he volunteered as a Private Militia man under Captain Benjamin Harriss [Benjamin Harris?] of Greenbrier County in the State of Virginia where I then lived for the defense of the Northwestern frontiers which were annoyed by the attacks of hostile Indians that we marched with a force of 100 men under the command of Captain Ben Harriss for Point Pleasant on the Ohio River near the mouth of the Kenhoura [Kanawha] river we arrived there with many of our men sic of the flux. I was detailed to wait on the sick and did not reach the point until after the Battle was fought with the Indians at Point Pleasant [October 10, 1774]. I do not recollect the name of the Regiment I belonged to and the following officers are all that I recollect being in this Expedition General Lewis [Andrew Lewis] of Virginia.

I believe the said expedition was ordered out by the Governor [Lord Dunmore] of Virginia and I also believe it had his sanction. I returned home to Greenbrier County in the State of Virginia the troops were discharged our tour of service was on this campaign three months.

About the year 1779 or 1780 as I think I volunteered under Captain Thomas Wright of Greenbrier County in the State of Virginia in which County I still lived with a body of Militia ordered out by the authority of Virginia. We marched from Greenbrier County in the said State under the command of Captain T. Wright and Colonel J Henderson – with about 30 men to Burnside's on the Frontier of said County of Greenbrier in said state where we were stationed for protecting the frontier settlements. We were in actual service this tour 30 days, was discharged and returned to my former residence in Greenbrier Virginia.

In or about the year 1782 I again volunteered under the same Captain Wright and marched to the relief of Doneley's forts on the frontiers of Greenbrier County with a force of about 45 men commanded by the said Captain Wright whilst at this fort the Shawnee Indians made an attack on the fort and killed 4 men we however repulsed them with several killed & wounded having fulfilled our tour we were discharged. I returned home to Greenbrier my place of residence after serving in this tour 30 days.

As well as I can recollect and the requisition was made by the Governor of Virginia for troops to aid the settlements (now Kentucky) who were much distressed by the Indians. I was drafted in this Campaign but owing to my situation being lately married I could not go with the troops. I procured a substitute by the name of Joshua Boucher to whom I paid \$50 to take my place for three months which he done. I have been on other campaigns against the Indians which I cannot now by reason of my old age and consequent loss of memory detail to any person. I

have no documents or evidence of the aforesaid narrative nor do I know of any person now living that can testify to my services. I have served in all the tours put together the full space of eight months.

I cannot say in what year it happened and during that time I was not engaged in any civil pursuit.

By reason of the loss of my memory and the consequent omission of facts growing therefrom I make the following affidavit.

State of Missouri County of Ray: SS: Personally appeared before me the undersigned Justice of the peace within and for said County and State Littleton West who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, to wit for the space of five months I served as a private soldier and for the further space of three months I served by hiring a substitute which cost me \$50 and for such service I claim a pension. Sworn to and subscribed before me the 25th of June 1833 and I do further state that I believe Littleton West who makes this affidavit for me to be a man of truth and credit.

S/ Sebourn J. Miller, JP

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I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and I do declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State whatever and during the time I served I was engaged in field or garrison duty and was not employed in any civil pursuit whatever – and that I know of no person by whom I can prove my services.

S/ Littleton West, X his mark

In the Ray County Court August Term 1833

personally came this day in the court here the aforesaid Littleton West to whom the Court propounded the following interrogatories together with the answers made by him which is here set down verbatim –

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Ansr. In the County of Sussex in the State of Delaware on the 25th of November 1755 A.D.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ansr. I have none. I remember to have seen written down in a Bible at an age when I had a distinct recollection of it and the book containing it was burned with my house in the County of Greenbrier in the State of Virginia.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ansr. In the state of Virginia, when called into service, since in that State and Kentucky and I do you now live in Ray County State of Missouri.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ansr. I was a volunteer for 5 months and drafted for 3 months I paid to a substitute who went in my place the latter term \$50

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ansr. I cannot recollect in consequence of old age and loss of memory

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ansr. I received none that I recollect

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ansr. I am known to James Dowden and William Tunnidge who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution whereupon the said James Dowden and William Tunnidge came into open court and on thereof did say that they do testify to the said deponent's character for veracity is not doubted, and we believe he served in the revolutionary war as he states.

*James Dowden*  
*William Tunnidge*