

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Frederick Winter R11734

PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The penmanship in the following is poor.]

State of Tennessee } on this 24th day of March 1834 personally appeared in open court in the Court
Wilson County } of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Wilson county in the State of Tennessee before
Britain Drake, Archibald Horn & James Dramer Esquires Justices of the peace
now setting, Frederick Winter a resident of Tennessee aged seventy eight years and thirteen days who
being first duely sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain
the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7 of June 1832
that sometime in the year 1774 he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer and went into
Captain Car's company in the State of Pennsylvania to march against the Synakee [Seneca?] and Mohawk
indians who were at that time exceedingly troublesome on the fronteers of Pennsylvania. Shortly after
declarant volunteered, his corps were attacked by a party of Synakee Indians and he and his brother Henry
Winter and two other men were taken prisoners and declarant was carried a prisoner by the same indians
to Niagara from thence across the saint Lawrance river [sic: St Lawrence River] where he was datained a
prisoner under the constant watch of the indians undergoing many hardships and severe privations for the
space of six years about the end of which time he found an opportunity to make his esscape to Fort Pitt at
the Junction of the Mongahalee [sic: Monongahela] & ohio rivers from thence into the Western part of
virginia now Kentucky & went into Captain Irven? [possibly John Irvine] company as a mounted
Gunman[?] in the Malitia in the virginia Line Canally was his Cornel & Logan his General he does not
recollect the number of the regiment that he Joined Captain Irven at Paint Lick in Madison County then in
the State of Virginia now in Kenetucky & from thence marched to Millford[?] old Court house in the
county last aforesaid continued there but a short time then marched to Lexington then in Virginia now in
Kentucky continued there a short time and then marched to Limestone Ferry on the ohio River crossed sd
River then to Old chilacotha [sic: Old Chillicothe near present Xenia] in the state of Ohio and then to new
Chilacotha now in Indiandia [sic: present Chillicothe OH] then to Blue Jacet[?] town and at the place last
aforesaid he was in a battle with the Shawnee indians in which battle Captian Irvin was killed and one
Coronel MCGary was wounded and one Hufman was wounded and sixteen or seventeen of the Shawnee
indians killed and sixteen or seventeen of sd indians were taken prisoners and the white people were
victoreous [two or three undeciphered words] continued but a few hours at the place last aforesaid then
marched back the same way that he went in the first instance to Paint Lick in Madison county as aforesaid.
That his second tour was two months at the expiration of the two months aforesaid he received no written
discharge his Captain being dead. during the two months aforesaid he was acquainted with Captain Irven
with Cornonel Canady Cornonel MCGary Major Morrison Lieutenan Pest[?] Lieutenant Beasley
Captain Tooley. General Logan and afterwards he continued at home at Paint Lick three weeks. then he
was drafted and went into service again as a private he does not recollect his captain's name in the malitia
in the virginia Line that Whitley was his General that he Joined his captain at Paint Lick and from thence
to the craborchard [Crab Orchard] in virginia then to Holston River to a blockhouse after which he
marched to Danville continued there a short time then Corronel Whitley gave him a writen discharge but
during his absence from home since that time some children burnt up sd discharge. that his third tour was
three weeks that during the three weeks aforesaid he was acquainted with Corronel Whitley and several
other officers, but he does not recollect their names, that he continued there about three months then
volunteered as a spie. Captain with John Wade in the malitia in the Virginia line but before he went into
service as a spie he had removed to slate Iron works in Clark County then in virginia now in Kentucky
[Bourbon Iron Works in Bath County KY, built about 1791] and from Slate Iron works marched to Licken
[sic: Licking] River then to Cumberland Mountain Then to Wilderness Trace then down sd Trace to
Craborchard but received no discharge that his fourth Tour was two weeks then continued at home a short

time then went into service as a spie in the Virginia line and marched from Slade Iron works to Licken River again then to Cumberland Mountain then to wilderness Trace & to the Crab orchad then home. but received no discharge his fifth Tour was two weeks, and continued at home one week then went into service as a private as a spie in the Malitia in the Virginia Line as a Volunteer I marched from Slate Iron works to Licken River then to Cumberland Mountain then to Morgan's station then in Virginia now in Kentucky [probably Ralph Morgan's Station erected in 1789, near Spencer at Spencer and Slate Creeks, seven miles southeast of Mount Sterling in Montgomery County] then to Canady station then home his sixth tour was two weeks at the end of which tour he got no discharge after whin he went out as a volunter in the malitia as a private in the virginia Line and marched from Slate Iron works and went to Licken River then marched same rout as last aforesaid but received no discharge his seventh tour was two weeks after what he served then tours in the same capacity and marched the same routs as last aforesaid but received no discharges makeing in all seventeen tours that the reason why he was compelled to travel the same rout so often was because it was immediatly on the fronteer of the whites that he served in all six years nine months and three weeks including six years of imprisonment That he has no documentary evidence nor he knows of no person whose evidence he can procure by whom he can prove his services aforesaid that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state or territoy in the United states. That he was born in the state of New york in 1756. I have no record of my age nor do not know whether there ever was one or not but received the information with regard to the time of his birth verbally from his parents When called into service he lived at Paint Lick. then in Virginia removed to Slate Iron works. Then in virginia now in Kentucky Then removed to Paint lick creed Paint Lick Creek] in Madison county and state aforesaid then removed to Cumberland county in the state last aforesaid then removed to Wilson county in the state of Tennessee where he has remained ever since that he is acquainted with the Reverend Ezekiel Cloyd. John C Brown. George Newnes. Cornell George Williamson Zacariah Tate John Hooper who live in his neighbourhood who would be willing to certify as to his veracity and that they believe he was a soldier of the revolution
Swon to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Frederick hisXmark Winter

NOTE:

The Pension Office gave the following reason for rejecting Winter's claim for a pension: "Not under military organization. Indian wars for self-defence." Early in 1834 the Pension Commissioner, James L. Edwards, decided that voluntary service against Indians on the Virginia frontier did not qualify for a pension, contrary to the clear wording of the pension act and the regulations for administering it. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.

A more valid reason for rejecting the claim may be that Winter was captured before the beginning of the Revolutionary War (19 April 1775), and his service may have been after the close of the Revolutionary War in November 1783. I could not positively identify the officers named in the declaration.