

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Austin Yancey R11921

f19NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/2/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Illinois, Franklin County: Sct.

In the circuit court of said Franklin County

On the 8th day of October A.D. 1833, personally appeared Austin Yancey, a resident of Franklin County in the State of Illinois, aged eighty one years one month and ten days, who being duly sworn according to the law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain ~~a pension~~ the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the State of North Carolina as a volunteer from Rutherford County in said State in the year 1775; that he repaired to McKinney's Station on Broad River in said County of Rutherford. At McKinney's Station he attached himself to the command of Colonel William Graham, who at the period mentioned commanded the militia of Rutherford County. Col. Graham directed him to detach twenty five men and proceed to Chimney Mountain on Broad River and guard the passes in the mountains between that point and Green River Cove a distance of about twenty miles, so as to prevent the Cherokee Indians (then hostile) from making incursions between those two points through the mountain upon the defenseless frontier settlers on the Eastern side. In obedience to the direction given by Col. Graham, he repaired to the post assigned, and there continued in discharge of the service required, four months and a half. In the mean time Col. Graham with the other volunteers marched to McGarit's [sic, McGarrett's? or McGirt's or McGarrity's] Fort on Catawba River to join the forces under the command of Genl Charles McDowel [sic, Charles McDowell], who at the time commanded the North Carolina troops engaged in the campaign against the hostile Cherokee Indians. Genl McDowell marched up Catawba River from fort McGarit to Swannano gap [Swannanoa Gap] and from that point crossed over to French Broad [River], thence up the river to near its source, thence across the mountains to the over-hill Cherokee towns, which were taken and destroyed by General McDowell's troops. General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] of South Carolina, in command of a considerable force of regular troops marched from Charleston against the said Cherokees. He encountered and defeated them on the head of Tugaloo River, not far from what were called the old towns (of the Cherokees).

Generals Williamson and McDowell moved upon the middle towns of the Cherokees which they captured and destroyed. The Indians then petitioned for peace, which was concluded and the North Carolina troops disbanded and went home. The said Yancey thinks he was disbanded in September of said year 1775, but received no written discharge.

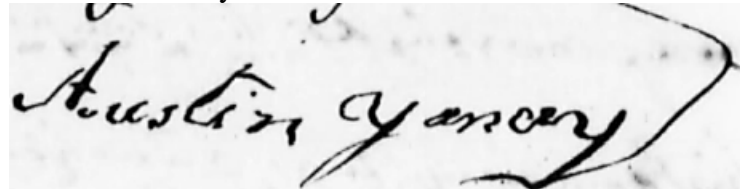
The said Yancey further declares that in the year 1781 he was on a visit to his relatives in South Carolina, and at the time he was there troops were called to aid in the besieging of Ninety

Six [May 22-June 19, 1781]. He volunteered and attached himself to Capt. Obid Holloway's [sic, Obadiah Holloway's] company, in what was then called the District of Ninety Six, as well as he can recollect. Capt Holloway marched his company to the Siege of Ninety Six, where his company was attached to the command of Colonel Henderson [William Henderson], the besieging army being under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene] of the United States Army. He, the said Yancey, ~~was engaged~~ served in the Siege of Ninety Six for the period of ~~six weeks~~ ^{forty days, that is from the 22nd of May to 19th June 1781} when the place was relieved by a British Army under the command of a British Officer called Lord Rawdon, as well as he now recollects. Report said that ~~he~~ Lord Rawdon brought from Charleston (which was then in the possession of the British) about eight thousand troops, at all events the force was sufficient to induce Gen. Greene to raise the Siege of Ninety Six which he did ^{on the 19th June and crossing the Saluda [River], encamped on Little River} and the company of Capt. Holloway to which the said Yancey belonged was discharged, but he received no written discharge that he now recollects. On the 18th of June he was engaged in the assault by Gen Greene's troops on Ninety Six, in which Gen. Greene lost from one hundred and fifty to two hundred men.

The said Yancey further declares that from the circumstance of his having been absent from the Carolinas for more than twenty years, and the lapse of many more years since the date of his said services, he does not know of nor does he believe there is any living witness by whom he can prove his service as in these declarations set forth and detailed.

He, the said Yancey hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency, in any state.

S/ Austin Yancey

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Austin Yancey". The signature is enclosed in a simple, hand-drawn rectangular border.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

[Elijah Spillars and James Oglesby, clergymen, and James Duncan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: The veteran's claim was denied for failure to prove the requisite 6 months active service as required by the 1832 act.]