

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Alley R152

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Indiana }

Franklin County }

On this twenty-fifth day of August 1841 personally appeared in open Court before the Franklin Probate Court in and for said County now sitting, John Alley senior a resident of the said County of Franklin and State of Indiana, aged seventy seven years the 8<sup>th</sup> day of July A.D. 1841 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 7 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he served in the Revolutionary war of the United States as herein stated: That he was living in Russell County in the State of Virginia [formed from Washington County in 1786] during the whole time of the Revolutionary War, he moved with his father James Alley into said County (then called Washington County) when he was about seven or eight years of age. Sometime during the Revolutionary War he does not recollect the precise year, Col. Alexander Barnett of Russell County in the service of the United States in Virginia, called upon Samuel Porter the brother in law of this applicant a resident of said Russell County and required him to select an able and efficient individual to serve with him as an Indian spy, that accordingly said Porter called upon this applicant, and the applicant and the said Porter armed and equipped themselves for the service and entered upon their duties as Indian Spies on the first day of March and what year he does not recollect, and this applicant served constantly as such spy from the first day of March until the last day of September in the same year making seven months; that he served the whole of said seven months in said County of Russell on the frontiers thereof. he would go out from the settlement on the frontiers and examine and spy for Indians and remain for above two weeks (unless trails or signs of Indians were discovered sooner) and then report under the directions of Col. Barnett; under oath; that during this time when out we had to carry our provisions in our knapsacks and sleep on the ground at night, and this applicant received five shillings Virginia Currency per day for this service. That about the same time but the applicant does not recollect the exact year he served another tour of three months, in the Revolutionary War. There was a call for soldiers and I enlisted in the service under Captain James Gibson, he had orders to draft or call out a part of the Militia to guard and protect a place called Rye Cove in said County of Russell, that accordingly this applicant with others went out under Captain Gibson and served this tour three months, it was during the warm season of the year but does not recollect the year. he recollects that the following named soldiers served with him this tour, William Hull, Thomas Gray, John Porter [possibly John W. Porter, pension application W3037], Joseph Blackemon; he was in no engagement, but guarded Rye Cove, ranged about, scouted for Indians and Indian signs and at the end of the three months was discharged; this applicant served as a private soldier during the whole time he served, and received pay as such. This applicant frequently made other trips in the service of his country as a volunteer but not under pay and was out only a short time at once. That he has no documentary evidence of his service, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State

Answers to Interrogatories

That he was born July 8 1764 – He has a record of his age, being a [illegible word] bible, which is now at home in Franklin County Ind. He was living in Russell County Virginia when called into the service as afsd. the County was afterwards divided and the part he lived in was afterwards called Scott, where he

continued to reside until about the year 1814, and then moved from that to where he now resides in Franklin County Indiana, where he has ever since resided. He was called out or drafted as set out above and was not a substitute. The names of some of the Regular officers are Captain James Gibson, Col. A. Barnett, of Russell County, Col. Arthur Campbell of Washington County. He never received a written discharge, but when his time of service was out he was verbally discharged and paid

[signed] John alley Sr.

[Certified by David Alley and by Jonathan Alley, clergyman.]