

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application John Copeland R2310

fn17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Wayne County

On this 9th day of June 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of pleas and quarter session of said County John Copeland a resident of the said County of Wayne in the State of Tennessee aged Seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to law both 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 the services of the United States under the command of the following named officers and served as herein stated, he volunteered in Chatham County North Carolina in the month of February 1781 under the command of Captain Roger Griffey for a tour of three months. We were marched to Granville County in said State of North Carolina for some time we were stationed in Harrisburg and afterwards attached to Captain William Douglas' Company. A short time after this he was taken sick and obtained a furlough to return home and wait for further orders. He remained there about three days and returned. Applicant does not recollect the names of any of the field officers under whom he served except General Butler, he at this time being very young.

He then substituted for one Sherod Willis for a tour of three months. He entered the service about the first of June in the year last aforesaid under the command of Captain Joseph Rossau [?], Major John Nalls [sic, John Nall], Colonel Ambrose Ramsey and General Butler. When we rendezvoused near Chatham Court house North Carolina Colonel Ramsey informed us, if we would find out own horses and Guns that we should be discharged at the expiration of two months. we accordingly furnished our own horses and Guns. We marched from Chatham Court house to Guilford thence to Moore County and thence through Orange County, thence back again to Chatham and through many other Counties no now recollected. The express business which we were upon was to subdue and keep down the Tories.

He again volunteered in September of the same year, for the purpose of retaking the prisoners which the Tories had taken from Hillsborough. We marched from Chatham to Cane Creek in same County and commenced an attack on the Tories, near Linsly [sic, Lindley's] Mills at which time Colonel Little [sic, Lt. Col. John Luttrell], Major John Nall were killed with Fourteen soldiers. I was then under the Command of Major Nalls,

Colonel Maybourne [sic, Robert Mebane?] and General Butler were the names of the officers as he now recollects. The length of this tour was three weeks. He served in all ten months and three weeks.

Questions:

1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Chatham County North Carolina in the year 1762

2nd. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: I have and yet retain it, transmitted by my father

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

Answer: When I entered the service I lived in North Carolina Chatham County and resided there during the Revolutionary war, from thence I moved to Jefferson County, Tennessee, thence to Knox County and State of Tennessee thence to Overton, thence to Bedford and thence to Wayne County, Tennessee where I now live and have lived for fourteen years last past.

4th: How were you called into service were you drafted, did volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute, for whom.

Answer: I volunteer twice and once a substitute for Sherod Willis.

Q 5: State the name of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops, when you served, such continental and Militia Regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: I have answered this question so far as I am able in the above declaration. I do not recollect the names of any of the Regiments.

Q. 6th: Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I received a discharge in writing for the tour I served as a substitute for Willis. It was given by Capt. Rossau [?] and it is now lost.

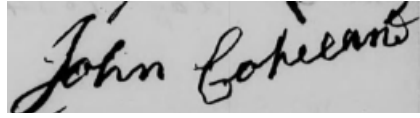
Q 7th: State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution?

Ans: James Holden, Robert Scypeart [?], John L. Lindsey, Francis Scypeart [?], Gen. John Rayburn, Henry Rayburn, Esq., James Anderson, Henry Morris, James Arnett, Richard Copeland and Henry Tilly and many others are well acquainted with me and can testify as to my character for veracity and James Holden, Robert Scypeart and John L. Lindsey can testify as to my Reputation in service as a soldier of the Revolution.

The said applicant thereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not in the pension rolls or the agency of any State. He further states that he has no documentary evidence whereby he can prove his services and knows of no other person who can testify as to his services, except Robert Scypeart, James Holden and John L. Lindsey.

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court

S/ John Copeland

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Copeland".

Test: James C. Alderson, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Wayne County, Tennessee.

We Robert Scypeart, James Holden and John L. Lindsey residing in the County of Wayne and State of Tennessee certify that we are well acquainted with John Copeland who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we know him to have been a Revolutionary soldier and that is a man of undoubted veracity and so reputed to be in the neighborhood where he now resides. Sworn to Subscribed in Open Court

S/ Robert Scypeart

S/ John L. Lindsey

S/ James Holden

Test: James C. Alderson, Clerk.

[fn p. 9: On September 30, 1852 in Wayne County Tennessee, Richard Copeland, 64, filed a power of attorney stating that he an heir of John Copeland a revolutionary war soldier; that John Copeland died September 30th, 1844 and that "his mother" (presumably a reference to the mother of Richard and the widow of the veteran) Sally died some 40 years ago; that they were residents of Chatham County North Carolina for many years.]