

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Arnold R272

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee }

Rutherford County }

This day personally appeared in the open court of the court of pleas & Quarter Sessions of Rutherford county & state of Tennessee now seting before the worshipful Varner D. Cowen William W Murry & Benjamin Morgan Esquires and members appointed to hold said court on this the 17th day of November 1834 William Arnold a citizen of Rutherford County in the state of Tennessee. The said William Arnold being aged Eighty five years two months & sixteen days old and 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 June 7 1832. That some time in the month of August 1776 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers. that he first volunteered and went into Capt James Lyons [sic: James Lyon's] company of Malitia in the Virginia line that he joined Capt Lyons in Henry County in Virginia and from thence marched to Fort Chissell [sic: Fort Chiswell in present Wythe County] in Virginia, continued there about one day then marched to the Long Ilands of Holston River [sic: Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN, then NC] he believes the long Ilands of Holston River were at that time in Northcarolina but now in the state of Tennessee continued there he thinks about two weeks then [in early Oct] marched to the Cherrykee [sic: Cherokee] nation was in several little towns in the Cherrykee nation does not now recollect the names of said town [Tellico, Settico, Chilhowee, and Big Island Town destroyed]. And from thence marched back home to Henry county that his first tour was four months and one half month. that he served the tour aforesaid under Coronel Christy [sic: Col. William Christian]. at the expiration of the tour aforesaid he received no writen discharge but his Capt Lyons gave all them liberty to go home. during first tour he knew Cols Campbell & Campbell [William Campbell and Arthur Campbell]

afterwards in 1777 or 1778 he again went into service as a volunteer into Capt Lyfus Sheltons [sic: Eliphaz Shelton's] company of malitia in the Virginia Line & joined Capt Shelton in Henry County in Virginia. does not recollect his Liutenants or ensigns name from thence marched to New river in Virginia went up and down the same in pursuit of tories for a considerable distance then marched to the Adkin [sic: Yadkin] River in Northcarlinia. went up and down that for a considerable distance in persuit of tories then marched on toward home in persuit of tories and went on till he arriaved at home in Henry county. his Capt. Shelton being with him That he received no discharge at the expiration of his second tour That his second tour was two months That he was not acquainted with any officers that he now recollects of during his second tour except Capt Shelton And sometime in the summer of 1779 as well as he now recollects he again entered the service and went into Capt Lyfus Sheltons company as a volunteer in the malitia in the Virginia Line does not recollect his Lieutenants nor ensigns name that he joined Capt Shelton in Henry County in Virginia and from thence marched to Dan River in Henry County [now in Patrick County] and marched up and down the same a considerable distance then marched to the Adkin River in Northcarlinia & from thence up the Adkin River to the Head of the same then down the same about sixty or seventy miles then back to Dan River then home to Henry County his Capt Shelton being with him That his third tour was two months does not recollect being acquainted with any other officer during the third tour except Capt Shelton That during the three tours aforesaid there was no general whatever along with him but General Washington was the Commanding officer of the whole brigaid in which he served as well as he now recollects. That he served in all eight & one half months. That he has proven his first tour of service by Richard Keal [sic: Richard Keele, pension application S1977] as will appear by said Keals affidavit marked A. That he has no documentary evidence by whom he can prove either of his tours of service except as to said first tour & as related to his second & third tours 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 declares that

his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state or territory in the United States.
Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid William hisXmark Arnold

Questions to William Arnold

1 Where & in what year were you born. Answer I was born in Cumberland County in Virginia on the 31st day of August 1749

2 Have you any record of your age & if so where is it. Answer I have not my father set it down in the family bible but s'd Bible was burnt up by accident several years ago

3. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live Answer when called into service I lived in Henry County in Virginia and from Henry County I removed to the Adkin River in Surrey [sic: Surry] County in Northcarlinia from thence I removed to Holston River do not now recollect the name of the county but it was in the state of Tennessee resided on Holston two years then I removed to Knox county in Tennessee resided there four or five years then removed to Rutherford county Tennessee. lived there about five or six years then removed to Lyncoln [sic: Lincoln] County in Tennessee resided there six or seven years then removed to Jacson County in the State of Allabamma [sic: Jackson County, Alabama] lived there three years then removed to Rutherford County Tennessee remained there seven or eight years then removed back to Jacson County Allabamma resided there two years, then removed back to Rutherford county Tennessee where he now resides.

4. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if a substitute for whom Answer I volunteered all three times

5 state the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such continental and Malitia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services Answer I was acquainted with Cornol Christy Cornol Lyons [sic: Capt. later Lt Col. Lyon] Capt Lyfus Shelton ~~Capt James Campbell~~ Capt. Cornol William Campbell & Cornol Arthur Campbell & the general circumstances of my service are above

6 Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given and what has become of it Answer. I never received any writen discharge but verbal liberty all three times from my Captains to go home.

7 State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your Character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution Answer I am acquainted with the Reverend William Keal Richard Keal John Jacobs esq. Jeremiah Jacobs & Benjamin Todd

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

William hisXmark Arnold

[Richard Keele deposed that he had served with Arnold under Capt. Lyon in the Cherokee expedition of 1776.]