

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Dry R3097

fn36NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/13/10

[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.]

State of Kentucky Allen County

On this 12th day of May 1842 personally appeared, but for the Honorable the Circuit Court in & for said County, now sitting, Jacob Dry a resident of said County & State, aged about seventy-eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered in the Army of the United States in the year 1779 as a substitute for Jacob Grover [could be "Croner"], in the company of Captain Osborn [James Osborn], in the Regiment whose higher officers were Colonel Caleb Fifer [sic, Caleb Phifer], Major Wright or Wiatt -- & Major Harris. The last of whom conducted the company from McLenburgh [sic, Mecklenburg] County North Carolina, to the siege of Charleston. Phifer & Wright having been officers of the Militia at home, who did not accompany Osborn's Company on this expedition. On reaching Charleston we were placed under the command of Colonel McIntosh. At that time the principal conduct & management of the defense of Charleston, was in the hands of General Lincoln. We entered Charleston, by dissenting Coopers River [sic, Cooper River] in boats -- and at the time we entered yet, the enemy had not fully invested the place. Shortly thereafter the siege or blockade became complete. We had frequent skirmishes from the lines or breast works with the enemy -- and continued the defense after declarant reached there for about two months. The enemy frequently broke through the first line of circumvallation, in consequence of the scarcity of provisions -- having before doing so lived for about six weeks on sugar & coffee without meat or bread. The enemy were commanded by Lord Cornwallis & Sir Henry Clinton. Your declarant was taken a prisoner at this place -- and detained for about eight days they were only to have been detained six days but the night before they were to be paroled a ship was blown up -- and the day the parole was to have taken place the American Magazine, then in the possession of the Enemy, also exploded. This took place when we were paraded in order to be paroled -- and in consequence of this we were detained. He was on this tour -- which was a three months tour -- in actual service, within a few days of three months -- but his parole, extended beyond the three months -- Thus ended this his first tour of service. He will add, that the company to which he belonged embarked in their boats near Moncks Corner -- a few days after the embarkation of about 2500 regulars -- your declarant was a private on this campaign.

Your orator or Declarant again volunteered into the service from said County of Mecklenburg North Carolina (where he resided, both at the commencement of the present & former tour). He entered as a private in the Company, first of Captain Shin [?] -- who after a week or two got the command of a company of Light horse -- and the command of his company to which applicant belonged devolved on Captain Garner [James Garner]. We joined some two or

three other Companies in Roan [sic, Rowan] County NC and the command of the whole was either there or shortly after taken by Major Wright of Mecklenburg, Major McDowell of Rowan - - Colonel Phifer & General Rutherford -- we marched thence down to Fayetteville on Cape Fear River and down in the neighborhood of Wilmington. We had can't on the border of a swamp not far from a bridge over a small Creek that put into Norice [sic ?] River. Our spies returned & told us that the British & Tories were crossing the swamp bridge as thick as hops [?] -- General Rutherford called us out to parade -- and the whole concern took their heels and in one night ran so far that it took us three days to get back to the same place. It proved to be a false alarm. The Main body of the Army did not meet the enemy. The light horse had several skirmishes, at or near a place called the Brick house -- but with little success -- at other places took some prisoners & scattered them. It was about this time we received the news of the defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown -- Yet we continued in the field operating against the scattered detached bodies of Tories that infested the Country -- and your applicant served the full period of his tour and a short time over it. He received no discharge at the end of his first tour being paroled -- and a prisoner -- at the end of the second he received one but has lost it. He knows not when where or how. It is impossible for him to state the date when he entered the service nor the date he left it. Yet he states positively that on the two tours above narrated, he was fully six months in the revolutionary arms. He has no documentary evidence of his services. He knows of no living witness by whom he can prove his services. There may be some residing in Tennessee, but he has not heard for several years whether they were living or dead.

In answer to the several interrogatories directed to be propounded by the Court declarant states that he was born in the County of Mecklenburg North Carolina in the year 1764. He states this from and imperfect recollection having no record of his age.

He was 16 years old when he started to Charleston -- having just then been put on the muster roll. He was living in said County of Mecklenburg when called into the service -- from that County he moved to Kentucky and has resided in this State ever since. He has answered the remaining interrogatories in the preceding part of his declaration.

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

S/ Jacob Dry, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ J. C. Mulligan, Clk

Said Drive further states having omitted it above that there is not now living in his neighborhood any clergyman to whom the reputation of his revolutionary services is known. Indeed there is no clergyman residing in his neighborhood.

S/ Jacob Dry, X his mark

[Henry Sears, Senior, James Morrison, John Gains & Charles Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 13]

"December 11th 1781 } This may Certify that Jacob Dry Soldier in Genl. Rutherford's Brigade in Col. Phifer's Battalion has Served a full Tower of Duty and is herby Discharged by me

S/ Jas [could be Jos] [illegible last name] Maj."

State of Kentucky Allen County

I Jacob Dry aged about ninety-four years, do upon oath state and declare, that he entered the service of the United States on the __ day of June or near that time 1776 as the substitute of Jacob Croner. That he went into the service from Charlotte Court house in North Carolina and served three months, during which time he was taken prisoner by the British and was let off on parole by the British Officers which parole he has lost so that he cannot now find it. He was in the battle of Charleston. His Captain was named as well as he now recollects James Osborn. He cannot now recollect the number of his Regiment nor the name of the Colonel who commanded it. Lincoln was the General. In 1781, the month he thinks was September he again entered the service in a company commanded by Captain Garner, he thinks his name was James Garner, in a Regiment of North Carolina Militia No. not recollects the Regiment was commanded at home by Colonel John Phifer, but he does think Phifer commanded the Regiment in the service, the name of the Colonel commanding in the service he does not now recollect. James or John White was his Major. He belonged to General Rutherford's Brigade. He volunteered in this service for a three months tour. He entered the service in this tour in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, upon this tour he was in no battle. He served the whole of this tour and was honorably discharged on the 11th day of December 1781, which discharge is here filed as part of this declaration. From North Carolina he moved to [illegible] County Kentucky from thence he moved to this County in the year 1799 where he has remained ever since. He further states that he has never applied for or received any pension or bounty land for said services. He makes this declaration in order that he may now receive such pension, and land as he may be entitled to under the laws of Congress. He states that he resides at least 10 miles from the Court house in this County that he is too old and infirm to travel to the same. Given under my hand this 11th day of August 1852.

S/ Jacob Dry, X his mark