

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Howard R5280

f14VA[SC]

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. 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 County of Fulton: SS

On this 23rd day of October personally appeared before the Honorable Richard M Young, John Howard a resident of Fulton County and State of Illinois aged Seventy-four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth 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 was a Soldier in the War of the Revolution – That he served the following periods of time and under the following officers to wit. When he was between the age of sixteen and seventeen years he served as a volunteer in Brunswick County and State of Virginia for a Period of six weeks – under Colonel Frederick Macklin and Captain John Macklin – the other officers not Recollected and was marched one hundred miles through Brunswick County to Williamsburg – from thence to Little York – from thence to Portsmouth where we were dismissed and marched from thence home.

That several years after and during the Continuation of that war he was drafted in the militia – it being the same year in which the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] was fought – and served under Colonel Thomas Brannan [perhaps Thomas Brandon], Lieutenant Colonel William Fair [William Farr] and Captain William Young – he was employed under this draft six weeks – and was within this time in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs – he does not recollect the names of any other of the officers – During this campaign he was marched from what he thinks was called Craven County to the Congaree River – where we stayed some weeks – from thence marched to the Eutaw Springs and fought the British at that place. After the battle he was discharged – after his discharge he was taken sick and was obliged to employ assistance to get home. The same year was drafted and served under Captain John Putnam and the Brannans above mentioned – in South Carolina in which he thinks was called then Craven County was out in the Service one month – and was taken by the Tories – was marched from Craven County aforesaid to a place called Orangeburg 80 or 90 miles from home the name of the County he did not recollect. During said war – in consequence of hard service and fatigued I lost two months by sickness – Besides the time of service above mentioned –

That he is now seven hundred miles at least from the scene of his Revolutionary service – and cannot hear procure the Evidence of any of his comrades or any of his contemporaries to prove the foregoing facts – I was first licensed as a preacher of the Gospel in Pendleton County South Carolina – about forty years ago – and ordained two years after in the same County By the Baptist order of Christians: & have been a preacher ever since –

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 25 day of October AD

S/ John Howard {Seal}



Questions Propounded by the Court before whom the deponent John Howard made his acknowledge months to the foregoing Declaration –

1. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. In Southampton County in Virginia – the 25th day of January A.D. 1760 –

2. Have you any Record of your age, and if so where is it?

Answer. I have no record of my age – but have repeatedly seen the same in the family Bible where my father kept the record of his children's ages.

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

Answer. In Brunswick County 13 miles South West of the court house state of Virginia. Have you lived since 25 years about in Kentucky – in South Carolina about 26 years – and now live in Fulton County Illinois.

4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a Substitute? And if a Substitute for whom?

Answer. I volunteered for the first Campaign and for the other tours I was drafted

5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served: such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your services.

Answer. General Green [Nathanael Greene] – General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] – Major Jolly [either Benjamin Jolly or Joseph Jolly] – Lieutenant Colonel Fair – Colonel Thomas Brannan – General Anderson [perhaps Robert Anderson] – recollects Colonel Casey's [probably Levi Casey's or possibly Edward Lacey's] Regiment – Colonel Waites [possibly a mistaken attempt to name Col. Philemon Waters'] Regiment – Colonel Roebuck's [Benjamin Roebuck] Regiment – The General circumstances of my services were – That on the tour under Captain William Young – I was obliged to furnish a horse of my own – and on that tour the Company of Militia to which I was attached was mounted – We generally exercised and endeavored to keep as far forth [?] as possible military discipline among us – myself – William Wilkie, William Rogers – six men who drove General Greene's ammunition wagons who were strangers to me were taken by the Tories – About fifteen miles from Orangeburg – our Company was ordered as a guard from Orangeburg for a wagon laden with clothing – to a place on the eldest where there were saw Mills after we had proceeded about fifteen miles – the officers told us that it was not necessary for all of us to go any further – then we above mentioned turned back with the Waggoner's above mentioned – when we had proceeded on our return about five miles – the Tories suddenly rushed out of a swamp contiguous – killed one – wounded one of the Waggoner's – and took us prisoners – they then burnt all six of the wagons – and took the horses into the swamp – first permitting us to proceed on our way – while in the custody of the Tories – one of them stepped up to me and said Howard you shall not be killed for I know you – I did not know him.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer. I do not recollect receiving any written discharge – do not think it was necessary to give them to the militia – But if I did receive any I have lost them –

7. 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?

Answer John Holcomb – Samuel Cozad

[John Holcomb, a clergyman, and Samuel Cozad gave the standard supporting affidavit.]