

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Randolph Lawson: R6205

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois SS      On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 1835 personally appeared in open court before  
Johnson County        the Circuit Court of said county now sitting Randolph Lawson a resident  
  of said county of Johnson and State of Illinois aged eighty two years on  
his birth day last past 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. He was born in Cumberland county in the State of N. Carolina some time in the  
fall or winter of 1752 to the best of his information and belief; he does not know whether there  
ever was any record made of his age; if there was, he never saw it. He continued to reside in said  
county until he entered the service. He entered the service as a volunteer under Capt Cox his  
Christian name he does not recollect for a tour of three months, some time in 1780. They  
rendezvoused at Cross creek in said county, where they were organized under Col.   ? Nawles  
(Knowles, or some name of that sound) they then marched towards Camden [South Carolina]  
near which place they met Genl [Horatio] Gates by whom they were then commanded, and soon  
after were engaged with Lord [Francis] Rawdon in the Battle of Camden, some time in August  
[the 16<sup>th</sup>] 1780. This applicant was not actually engaged in the Battle, being detached as a guard  
of the baggage, in which the Americans were defeated. They then retreated, and being greatly  
scattered and dispersed by the conduct of the Militia they did not get together to effect any  
thing again during this term of three months. He did not receive any discharge from this tour of  
three months, and there was nothing more of any interest or importance during this tour of  
service. He again entered the service as a volunteer for a tour of six months some time in  
January or February 1781. under Capt. — Duck he thinks under the same Col. He does not  
recollect where they rendezvoused, but when organized they marched on toward Guilford  
Courthouse where they met Genl [Nathanael] Greene, who commanded them and where they had  
an engagement with Lord Cornwallis, and were again defeated [15 March 1781]. this applicant  
was not again actually engaged, being young was again on detached duty as a guard of the  
Baggage. After the Battle Genl Greene marched on toward Camden where he attacked Lord  
Rawdon some time in April [Battle of Hobkirk's Hill, 25 April 1781] but this applicant under the  
command of his same field officers, and he thinks, commanded by Genl Lee [Lt. Col. Henry Lee],  
was sent on a different expedition [Siege of Fort Watson SC, 15 - 23 April 1781] in which  
however he had no engagement that he recollects nor does he recollect of anything further being  
done or transpiring of note or interest during his term of six months. He was discharged  
however two weeks before the expiration of this tour of six months having served five months  
and two weeks making in all eight months and two weeks He received a written discharge from  
this last term of six months, which was destroyed by his getting his house burnt. He lived at the  
same place the second time he entered the service. He does not recollect any regular or  
Continental Regiments with which he served. He does not recollect the names of any of the  
Regular or Continental officers any further than he has stated. His discharge was given him by  
his Capt. which was lost as before stated. He moved from Cumberland co. N.C. to Patrick Co Va.  
then thence to Johnson co. Illinois where he now lives. There are no other circumstances which  
are of any note, or will be useful in the investigation of his claim. He has no documentary  
evidence of his service, nor does he know of any person who can testify as to his service. He is  
known to Hardin Prewitt, Daniel Hewitt, William Jeffers, William Munson, John Oliver, Jacob  
Dooly, and [blank space] in my present neighbourhood and who can testify as to his character  
for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution 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.                      Randolph hisXmark Lawson



Supplement to the transcription of the pension application of Randolph Lawson R6205  
by Will Graves

[fn p. 36]

state of Tennessee Fentress County

On the 27th day of June A.D. 1835, personally appeared Randolph Lawson before me Evan D. Frogge one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County aged 84 according to the best information he having no record of his age and after first being duly sworn according to law for that purpose doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States sometime in the summer of 1780 by volunteering under Captain Cox in Cumberland County State of North Carolina, it being the place wherein he was born and raised, other company officers he has forgotten, marched towards Camden and joined General Gaites [sic, Horatio Gates] Army at Bear Creek and marched on with the Main Army to Rugeley's Mill thence marched on towards Camden until met by the enemy, had a severe Battle Gates was defeated and the Army was much scattered, he was at that time guarding the baggage waggons, remained for some time after with the remains of the Army the enemy and after having performed 13 months tour received a written discharge from Captain Cox and returned home to Cumberland County NC and having remained at home but a short time again volunteered under Captain \_\_\_<sup>1</sup> other Company officers names not recollected was marched to Coleman Alstons Settlement and marched on in pursuit of the enemy two different points and places and finally marched to Guilford Court house, was not directly in that battle but was [remainder of sentence illegibly faint] to join General Morgan and was so near as to hear the small arms, he remained in the service about ten days after that battle and his three months having elapsed he was again discharged -- having been performed six months at two tours of duty and again returned home to Cumberland County NC remained at home for about six weeks and again volunteered again under Captain \_\_\_ other officers not recollected, was attached to General Greene's Army marched to Camden was stationed there some times sometimes formed into scouting parties, until having served one other of three months tour was again discharged by Captain \_\_\_.

And that from old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot state with any further certainty as to the day or month he entered the service or left the same or gave any further account of his officers names he has no record or documentary evidence of his service his said discharges having  in his house nor does he know of any person by whom he could prove positively as to his  services, he had calculated to have proven a large part of his service by his brother John Lawson who did live in Morgan County Tennessee but is now informed that he has departed this life, he can prove by some of his old neighbors who now are citizens of Fentress County Tennessee [remainder of this document is in illegibly faint in the digital image is appearing on footnote.com. This document does not appear on HeritageQuest.com.]

[fn p. 22]

State of Tennessee Fentress County Be it known that on the 4th day of December 1840 before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared John Parmley<sup>2</sup> a

---

<sup>1</sup> The name of the Captain was either left blank or has been rendered illegibly faint -- but I could discern no attempt to fill in the blank.

<sup>2</sup> [John Parmly \(Parmley\) S30637](#)

resident citizen of Wayne County Kentucky with whom I am personally acquainted and old Revolutionary Pensioner and a man of undoubted veracity and after being duly sworn according to law for that purpose on his said oath made the following affidavit (viz.) "That he was personally acquainted with Randolph Lawson in the State of North Carolina and knows that the same Randolph Lawson who now resides in Clinton County Kentucky and from his acquaintance with him knows of his own knowledge that the said Randolph Lawson was a private soldier in the war of the Revolution, that he was in service at the time of Gates defeat but was not retained in service at that time the length of time for which he had engaged but that afterwards he was a volunteer private in 2 other tours one of which was under Captain Gholston attached to General Greene's Army he thinks for three months the other tour was a scouting Company, he thinks was engaged for about three months. The names of his company officers at this time he cannot be certain of but from the character that he was under in North Carolina together with the recommendation he now bears among his present acquaintances he is a man of undoubted veracity but very old and frail. This affiant states that he is decided opinion together with his own knowledge of the service of said Randolph Lawson that the services performed by him as a private soldier taking the different tours which affiant knows he did serve by blending the whole made full six months and at the request of said Randolph Lawson's friends has come to this County to give his evidence in support of said claim without any reward or hope of reward -- for the same it being full 20 miles."

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above written before me.

S/ John Upchurch, Junior JP

S/ John Parmley, X his mark