

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Isaac Nickell R7647

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833 personally appeared in open Court of the County of Monroe and State of Virginia now sitting Isaac Nickle a resident in said County and state aged eighty one 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 act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1833 [sic] that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated; that in August or September 1774 he volunteered for three months under Capt. John Lewis to go against the Indians, and was marched to Point Pleasant on the Ohio river and was in the battle fought at that place [10 Oct 1774]. He does not recollect any other officer except Lieutenant John Henderson who was in the same Company; that he served out his full term of three months and returned home in November or December in said year; that in the year 1777 he was drafted from the County for three months to serve against the Indians in the month of August under Capt. [Mathew] Arbuckle and under Col Lewis. He was marched to Elk river where the troops remained about three weeks and from thence to Point Pleasant where he served out his time. He was discharged by Captain Arbuckle in November in s'd year, which discharge he has lost long ago. That in the year 1780 or 1781 he cannot recollect which he was drafted for three months from the County of Greenbrier to go towards the Lakes against the Indians he was drafted out of Capt. Andrew Nickle's company of militia but owing to the situation of his family at that time he was compelled to hire a substitute and give a mare worth fifty to Thomas Burchoniel who went in his place and served out the three months and returned home with the other persons who were drafted at the same time who told him he got his discharge in Kentucky. Those Troops were commanded by Col Brown. He does not know of any person by him he can prove his service, as all are dead or have left the country. 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 Isaac  
hisXmark Nickle

State of Virginia } To wit  
Monroe County }

On this Twenty third day of January 1834 personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid Isaac Nickell a resident of the said County of Monroe and State of Virginia aged Eighty two years on the thirty first day of March last 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered he service of the United States the first of September 1777 and was drafted into service under the following named Officers and served as herein stated: That he was drafted for a three months tour and marched under Ensign James Estill to Point Pleasant a place situate on the Ohio River at the mouth of the great Kenawha [sic: Kanawha] River; that at the time he was drafted he lived on the farm near where he now lives now the County of Monroe then he thinks called Botetourt County; that he marched directly to Point Pleasant in company with ten others that were drafted at the same time to go to the Point under the aforesaid Ensign Estill where they joined Captain Arbuckles Company that was then stationed there that he served three months at the Point under the aforesaid Captain Arbuckle, Lieutenant James Gilmer, Ensign [John] Williams and his said ensign Estill with whom he had been drafted and marched into service that he served out his full three months tour and was discharged by Captain Arbuckle who gave him a written discharge, but he has long since lost it, not now remembering to have seen it for fifty years that during said tour of service he was not engaged in any Battle or skirmish there was however two men belonging to Captain Arbuckles Company killed by the Indians one by the name of Moses Tarfern[?] and the name of the other he has forgotten, the manner in which they were killed was in consequence of a report coming into Camp that Indians had been seen sculking in the neighbourhood there being a parcel of Cattle

belonging to the Army on the opposite side of the Kenawha River a small party went over the River to bring them in, when they were fired upon and the aforesaid two men were killed. That in the latter part of the month of April in the year 1778 the settlers in his neighbourhood becoming alarmed in consequence of a report that Indians had been seen near John Lewis near where the Town of Lewisburg is now situated they all betook themselves to Craigs Fort which then stood within about seven miles of where the Town of Union now stands, which is in the County seat of Monroe County; that on the first day of May in the said year 1778 he entered the service as a Indian Spy and and continued in said service untill the first of November following, that the nature of his services that summer was to leave Craig's Fort and traverse the Country and wilderness down New River to Cooks Fort [near Red Sulphur Springs in Monroe County], thence to Culbertsons Bottom [at present Crumps Bottom in Summers County], thence to William Lafferty's plantation [sic: Fort Laverty on Indian Creek in Summers County] and thence back to Craigs Fort a distance of about thirty five miles, that he was usually out from three to four days in a week and that his companions in spying was Samuel Glass, Philip Hammon [pension application S30452], & John Rayburn. That again on the first of May 1779 he entered the service as an Indian Spy and continued in said service until the first of November following making a tour of six months and again on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1780 he entered the service as an Indian Spy and continued in said service until the 10<sup>th</sup> of November following making a tour of six months and twenty five days during which two summers of 1779 and 1780 he performed precisely the same kind of services as those described in the summer of 1778 and had for his companions the same persons who were with him in the summer of 1778 that Samuel Glass and Philip Hammon left the Country soon after the close of the Revolutionary war and he knows not what became off them but supposes they are dead and that John Rayburn died in this County about eight or nine years ago. That he again entered the service as an Indian Spy in the spring of the year 1781 on the last day of April or first day of May and continued in said service until the fifteenth of November following making a tour of six months and a half and again on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1782 he entered the service as an Indian Spy and continued in service until the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November following making a tour of seven months and that the nature of his services during each of the summers of 1781 and 1782 was to traverse the country round about Craigs Fort, to watch the gaps and pass ways or traces up and down the Greenbrier River and to guard the settler while planting working and gathering their corn. That the whole time of his services as an Indian Spy amounts to the term of two years eight months and ten days which added to his services while drafted makes two years eleven months and ten days; and that during his whole term of service as an Indian Spy he was not engaged in any civil pursuit, and that he was attached to and mustered during the time he served as a Spy in a company of Militia commanded by Captain John Van Bibber. That he now resides in the County of Monroe aforesaid near where he resided at the time he was in the service of his Country, that he received no written discharge for any of his services as an Indian Spy; that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person who can testify to his services aforesaid.

He 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.

[signed] Isaac Nickell

Interrogatory 1. Where and in what year were you born

Ans. I was born in Augusta County Va. in the year 1751.

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

Ans. I never saw a record of my age altho, I know it from information

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

Ans. I lived when called into service on the farm where I now live and have lived there ever since

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

Ans. I was first drafted for three months & served at Point Pleasant and the balance of my service I acted as a volunteer spy.

5. State the names of some of 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 service

Ans. I cannot give any other answer to the 5<sup>th</sup> interrogatory than what is detailed in the foregoing declaration [signed] Isaac Nickell