

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Pell R8081

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } S.S.

County of Lewis }                   

On this Thirtieth day of August 1851 personally came before me, Thomas Henderson the Judge of the Lewis County Court, in common pleas and State of Kentucky, Nancy Pell a resident of said County & State aged Eighty Eight years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838. That she is the Widow of John Pell, who was a private in Capt's (name not Recollected) Comp. in Col's (name not Recollected) Reg't that he enlisted in 1780 in Fairfax Courthouse in Fairfax County in the State of Virginia, & served over Two years to the close of the Revolutionary War; that he came home in 1783 or 1784 from the War that he was some of the time under Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates & most of the time under Genl. [Nathanael] Greene, that he was at the Battles of the 'Cowpens' [17 Jan 1781] and the 'Eutaw Springs' [8 Sep 1781], that he received an Honorable discharge but since his death not supposing it would ever be of any advantage to her she suffer'd it to be lost or destroyed some Eighteen or Twenty years ago.

She further declares that she was married to John Pell on the — day of January in the year seventeen hundred & Eighty five at Alexandria in Virginia, by a Minister of the Gospel whose name she cannot now recollect — that her Maiden name before Marriage was Nancy Harrison - that her husband, John Pell, died on the 13th day of July 1810 near Fairfax Court House in Fairfax County Virginia - that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January Seventeen Hundred and ninety four, viz: at the time above stated - that she has remained the widow of said John Pell ever since his death as will appear by the proof hereto Annex'd and that she knows of no Record of her said marriage nor has she any in her possession — Nancy herXmark Pell

State of Kentucky} S.S.

On this second day of September 1851 personally came before me Thomas Henderson a Judge of the Lewis County Court, John Smith aged eighty nine years a resident of said county and a man of truth who being duly sworn doth depose and say that he was born in Louden [sic: Loudoun] County Virginia and that in the month of July 1780 he volunteered in the United States service against Great Brittain at Fredericks Burg [Fredericksburg] and march out under Capt Williams in Brig. General Stepens [sic: Edward Stevens] Militiamen to join Genl. Gates then lying at the Cross Roads on the border of North Carolina [probably Hillsborough]. That they arrived at a place call'd Clermont [plantation of Loyalist Col. Henry Rugeley, also called Rugeley's Mill] near Camden about the first of August [sic: probably 15 Aug] when they had a skirmish with the British soon after their junction with the main Army [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] here the witness states he became acquainted with John Pell of Fairfax County Virginia then under Genl. Gates and he thinks under Col. Howard [John Eager Howard of MD] but he does not recollect anything of Pell's Capt. he was in the Militia & Pell was a Regular and he had but a few interviews with him he had been slighty acquainted with Pell in Virginia - he does not recollect how long it was after he united with Gates or the main army before he saw Pell but he thinks it some months or Two. He states Greene took command of the Army that winter [2 Dec 1780] while they lay at a Town called Charlotte [NC] that soon after this Pell was sent off under Genl. [Daniel] Morgan who was detached from the main army on a scouting Expedition - at any rate he saw no more of Pell until the main Army had march off towards Virginia to a place call'd Salisbury [in NC] soon after which we were joined by Genl. Morgans detachment and soon the whole army marched into Virginia [Feb 1781] and then the next sping my time of service had almost expired and having been sick and unable for duty I was discharged & returned home leaving said Pell in the army the witness states he saw nothing more of Pell untill after the war was ended in 1783 he saw him several times after this but knows nothing of his marriage or Death [signed] John Smith

NOTE: Certified by Elizabeth Essex, 66, and Richard Pell, 64, children of Nancy Pell, and by her brother, Thomas Harrison.