

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Lawrence Hoover S13424

f21VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/21/14

[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.]

[Note: The images of this application as posted on Fold3.com. have been compromised by failing to copy the bottom portions of each page of the application. The entire text of the application can be found, however, on the HeritageQuest.com version of the application. I have indicated the missing portions by placing them in italics in the transcript below.]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Owen County: Sct.

On this first day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the owing County Court now sitting Lawrence Hoover a resident of said County of Owen and Commonwealth of Kentucky aged 72 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 on the 15th day of May 1828, or of that passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That is to say, being a resident of the County of Pendleton and State of Virginia in the latter part of the year 1780 in the month of December as well as he recollects, he volunteered as a private in the company of Captain __ Hughston¹ for a six months tour – that said company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Bowyer² – that he has forgotten the names of the balance of his field and company officers – that he rendezvoused with his company at the Courthouse in the said County of Pendleton and marched directly toward Richmond Virginia in order to join the Army under the command of the General Baron Steuben which they did do and his Company & Regiment were attached to the Brigade of General Nelson – that the reason of there being a call for militia and volunteers at that *time was that General Arnold [Benedict Arnold] was about invading the State of Virginia and had landed his troops below the City of Richmond – that the core to which he was attached did not join the Army until after Arnold and his forces had left Richmond and* were on their route down the River – that the American Army followed on until it arrived near Portsmouth in which place Arnold had posted himself – and our troops were stationed so as to cut off any parties that might be sent out by him and to protect the country.

He states that after remaining in the vicinity of Portsmouth a short time they left their position and were compelled to move from one point to another for the purpose of protecting the

¹ Possibly a reference to Captain George Huston of Rockingham County

² Possibly a reference to Lieutenant Colonel John Bowyer who was the County Lieutenant for Rockingham County Virginia at the time described by the veteran. Rockingham County Virginia lies immediately East of Pendleton County (now West Virginia).

Country and inhabitants from the incursions of the enemy – that about this time a large amount of public & private property was destroyed by the enemy especially at Petersburg, where some little fighting took place betwixt our troops and the British whilst we were crossing the bridge over the Appomattox River and as soon as we had crossed the Bridge we destroyed it and prevented them from following us. That after we retreated from Petersburg we marched to Richmond where we remained but a short time until the Marquis De Lafayette arrived & took command of the Army. He states that he then remained at Richmond and its vicinity until the expiration of his said Term of service when he was regularly discharge from the service & received a discharge signed by his officers – during this Tour he recollects to have seen Colonel Thorn, Colonel Matthews, Generals Steuben, Lafayette & Nelson, Colonel Bowyer, Colonel Posey [presumably, Thomas Posey] & General Clarke all of whom were in the Army at the same time. He recollects of Colonel Clarke's having a little fighting with a detachment of the British under one Colonel Simcoe [John Graves Simcoe] as he understood. He further states and declares that as soon as he received his said discharge he did not return home, but immediately enlisted as a regular soldier for and during the war in the company of Captain Scott – the Lieutenant's name as well as he recollects was ___ and his said company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Posey – he does not recollect the name of the Major nor does he recollect the names of any of the other company or field officers belonging to his said Regiment – he still remained in the Army under the command of Lafayette – that about the time of or soon after his said enlistment the Army of band of Richmond and commenced a retreat towards the upper Country and the British Army under Cornwallis pursued us – that in our route up the country we crossed the Rapidan River and soon afterwards our Army was reinforced by General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] and his troops; as soon as we received this reinforcement we recrossed the Rapidan and advanced towards the British Army in the direction of Albemarle Courthouse where a good many of the public stores had been deposited; whilst on this March we encamped one night within a few miles of the main British Army, during the night we opened a road so as to pass them which we did do before daylight and crossed the River Rivanna and another watercourse the name of which I have forgotten and we stationed near the road which the British Army would have to pass to go to Albemarle Court house. At this place we received another reinforcement and Cornwallis commenced a retreat towards Richmond & Williamsburg – *We followed him and our advance parties and his rear were frequently engaged in skirmishing. The British Army remained only a little while in Williamsburg and then continued their retreat towards Portsmouth* and at the crossing of James River near James Town a part of our Army under the immediate command of General Wayne engaged in an action [July 6, 1781] with the British Army and we retreated behind a Swamp. He states that in this action he was not immediately engaged not being attached to the Corps under the immediate command of General Wayne. He states further that the Army remained for a while Stationary and was at last joined by General Washington in person with a large body of American and French soldiers and that the whole of the forces marched to York Town where Lord Cornwallis was stationed and besieged it and Cornwallis finally surrendered his army in a few weeks he thinks in October 1781 [October 19, 1781]. He states that he was present at said Siege and was an eye witness to the surrender. He states that he recollects to have seen during his said service Generals Washington, Lafayette, Knox, Lincoln, Thomas & Colonel Lamb & Hamilton that he now recollects. He further states that after the siege of York he was stationed for a while at Williamsburg and afterwards at Richmond, and finally in the year 1783 as well as he now remembers after peace was made he was regularly discharged. He states that he has no documentary evidence of any portion of his

services the whole of his papers having been consumed when his house was burned a few years after the revolution. And that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his said Services.

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.

Interrogatories propounded by the Court to Lawrence Hoover the above named applicant
1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the year 1760 in the County of Pendleton and State of Virginia according to the best information which I have upon the subject.

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

Answer. I have not at this time any record of my age. I did however have my age recorded in my Bible which I left in the County of Pendleton Virginia when I moved from thence to Kentucky and I do not know what has become of it since then.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in the County of Pendleton and State of Virginia when I was called into service, and when peace was made and I left the Army I returned to Pendleton County and remained there till about the year 1807 when I moved to the State of Ohio on the waters of the Miami [River] where I lived about 8 [could be 3] years and then moved to Kentucky and lived a little while in Woodford County, then removed to Scott County and lastly about 16 years ago I moved to the place where I now live in the County of Owen and Commonwealth of Kentucky.

4th 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 as a private in a company commanded by Captain __ Hughston for 6 months sometime in the month of December 1780. And after the expiration of my term of service I immediately enlisted as a regular soldier during the war.

5th 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 service.

Answer. In the month of December 1780 as well as I recollect I volunteered upon a tour of six months in the Company of Captain Hughston and entered the service accordingly. My company was attached to a Regiment under the command of Colonel Bowyer and belonged to General Nelson's Brigade. Our operations were directed against the British Army which had invaded Virginia. After the expiration of his said six months he enlisted as a regular soldier during the war and served as such, actively until the siege of York and surrender of Lord Cornwallis and remained in the service until peace was made he thinks in 1783. He recollects to have seen during his said services & served with Generals Baron Steuben, Lafayette, Nelson, Washington, Stevens, Colonels Thorn, Matthews, Clarke, Posey, Lamb & Hamilton & Laurens

6th 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 received a written discharge from my six months Tour and also from my service as a regular soldier which were duly signed by my officers & both of which I suppose were consumed in my house which was burnt down about three years after the War.

7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. I am acquainted with Tobias Willhoite, Lewis Willhoite & Thomas A. Berryman who know me and can state my character for truth.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Lawrence Hoover, X his mark

[Tobias Willhote, a clergyman, and Thomas A. Berryman gave the standard supporting affidavit

The affidavit of Lawrence Hoover of Owen County Kentucky who being first duly sworn states that he is the identical Lawrence Hoover who made his declaration before the Owen County Court at the October Term thereof 1832 – that he did serve as therein stated and at the time he made his declaration he did not know of any individual who was alive by whom he could prove any part of his service but since then he has ascertained that an old acquaintance of his by the name of John Watts is now alive and resides in Grant County Kentucky and by him he can prove a portion of his service and such circumstances as he hopes will leave no doubt with regard to the whole of them. He also states that he has this day learned that one William Knight whom he also knew during the revolution is alive and lives in Henry County by whom he can also prove a portion of his service.

Sworn to and subscribed this first day of April 1833

S/ Lawrence Hoover, X his mark

The affidavit of John Watts taken in Overton Kentucky on the first day of April 1833. This Affiant being duly sworn states that he was well acquainted in early life with Lawrence Hoover who has this day subscribed and sworn to the above Affidavit – that he knew said Hoover in Pendleton County Virginia where he this affiant was born and raised and he believes that said Hoover was also born and raised in the same County – that they were boys together and lived in the same neighborhood – that the said Lawrence Hoover was something older than this affiant perhaps near two years. He further states that his acquaintance with the said Hoover continued during the war of the revolution and for some years thereafter – that he well remembers that said Hoover entered the Army a year or more before the capture of Cornwallis and it is his present believe that he was a volunteer soldier at the time – that he continued absent from the neighborhood [bottom portion of this affidavit is compromised at this point, how much text is missing is difficult to ascertain. This affidavit does not appear in the HeritageQuest.com version of this file.] time a year or two and perhaps more after the [text missing]
[next page]

do have seen said Lawrence Hoover several times and conversed with him and that he understood from him that he was then a regular soldier and had enlisted during the war and this affiant knows that he was then in actual service. This Affiant states that he himself never served but the one tour – that he has not seen or heard from said Hoover for at least 15 years until during the past winter and he has come here on this day at his request to give testimony in his favor.

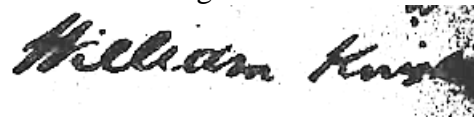
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Watts, X his mark

The affidavit of William Knight taken on the same day and at the same place who being first duly sworn states that he was born and raised in Rowan County North Carolina, that in the fall of the year 1776 he paid a visit to the County of Pendleton in the State of Virginia where he had some relations residing – that he remained in said County during the whole of the succeeding

winter and became acquainted with one Lawrence Hoover who was then a youth and whom he believes from various circumstances to be the same individual who has subscribed and sworn to the affidavit above – that he was often during said period in Company with him and they were upon terms of intimacy. He further states that he returned to his residence in Rowan County North Carolina and afterwards entered the Army and it was his fortune to be in the Army and present at the siege of York and capture of Cornwallis – that he had never seen the said Hoover from the time of his acquaintance with him as above mentioned till the time of said siege and upon that occasion he several times saw him and they renewed their acquaintance. He states that he then understood from him that he was a regular soldier and he knows that he was at a time engaged in actual service – this affiant states that he has not seen said Hoover from the fall of the year 1781 till this day and their present meeting was wholly unexpected – he is however satisfied that this is identical Lawrence Hoover whom he saw and knew as above mentioned. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William Knight

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Knight", written in dark ink on a light background. The signature is somewhat stylized and includes a small flourish at the end.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]