

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Benjamin Robison (Robertson) S14361

fn16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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State of Kentucky, County of Montgomery

On this 1st day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court, being a court of record, before Joseph Bondmont, Robert Trimble and Levi Z. Millspaugh Justices, constituting the Court of and for the County of Montgomery in the State of Kentucky, now sitting, Benjamin Roberson [sic], a resident of the said County of Montgomery & State aforesaid, aged 76 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 June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated.

That he volunteered, in the County of Rowan and State of North Carolina; and under said engagement, he entered the service of the United States, in said County, under Captain George Cowan – commanded by Col. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], about the 25th of December 1775, -- and marched against the Tories, towards a place called “96” in the upper part of South Carolina, -- had considerable skirmishing with the Tories in South Carolina, where we continued the principal portion of the term for which we had entered the Service; was then marched back to said Rowan County, N. C. about the 25th of March 1775, and was there discharged, -- received a discharge, given, I believe, by Col. Rutherford; but which is lost.

In the spring of the year 1776, thinks in May, there was another call for men, for a term of 3 months (I would here remark that, immediately after my first volunteer engagement, the different Companies were divided into four Classes, and called out in rotation, sometimes one class and sometimes more, from each Company, as necessity required) under this call, I again entered the service of the U.S. under Captain George Cowan, commanded by Col. Rutherford and Lieutenant Colonel Lock [sic, Francis Locke], -- marched to the lower part of North Carolina, to a place called Cross Creek, against the Scotch Tories, who had collected in a considerable body and were marching to join the British Army, at Wilmington; before we met them, however, they were met by General Caswell, who commanded in the lower part of N. C. and were defeated; we remained in that section, some time reconnoitering the Country, and was again marched back to Rowan County, N. C. and discharged; I received a discharge but think it was given a short time for the expiration of the said three months, but cannot recollect, precisely, how long.

In the Summer of the year 1776, I think, in July, immediately after my return from Cross Creek, another call for men was ordered; and I again entered under that call, for a term of 3 months, under Captain George Cowan commanded by General Rutherford (now promoted) and Colonel Locke; and marched immediately against the Cherokee Nation of Indians – arrived at Cathe's [sic, Cathey's] Fort, and lay there about a month or upwards, -- from there to the Indian Towns, where we had several engagements; but finally destroyed their Corn and potatoes; and was then marched to the Overhill Towns, about 40 miles, distance; where we took several prisoners – among them the wife of one Scott, a British trader: we were from there marched to Rowan County, NC I think in November, and

discharged. I received a discharge, given, I think, by Colonel Locke, but which has been lost or destroyed.

In February, I believe 1778, another call for men was made, for a term of five months; and under that call, I again entered the service of the U.S. in said Rowan County N. C. under Captain John Lopp – under the command of General Rutherford and Col. Locke and Lieutenant Colonel Brevard; and marched as an Ensign of that company, into South Carolina, to Purrysburg, about 20 miles, I think, above Savannah, -- there we joined to General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] a regular Officer who commanded the South Carolina Troop, and who had been a short time previous driven by the British, and retreated to Purrysburg on the Savannah River; and continued, the full term of that engagement, reconnoitering the Country adjacent to said River, where we had frequent, slight engagements with the British, who then had possession of Georgia: we were then marched home to Rowan County, N. C. and discharged; I received a discharge given, to the best of my recollection, by Lieutenant Colonel Brevard and which is lost.

In the early part of the summer 1779, I was again called out, and entered the service under Captain James Stinson-- commanded by Colonel Paceley [sic, John Paisley]-- for a term of 3 months; and was marched to the lower part of North Carolina, on Deep River; where we had several engagements with the Tories – and continued there until dismissed; but I do not believe we served the full term of said three months that tour; and do not recollect whether I received a discharge.

In March 1780, I was again called out, and entered the service of the U.S. in said Rowan County N. C. under Captain Locke (nephew of the Colonel) , lieutenant J. Cather – Ensign Thomas Gillespie and marched to South Carolina – and joined General Euge [sic, Huger] at Moncks Corner, some distance from Charleston, and we were at that point, Moncks Corner, were taken prisoners by the British, about the 14th of April 1780, and I, with the other prisoners, was taken to Stono River, on Ferry, where the British shipping lay, and was there put on board a prison ship and remained there until after the surrender of Charleston, about the middle of May of that year, when a capitulation was entered into, by which I, and the other prisoners, was permitted to return home as a prisoner on parole: and in September I believe, 1781, a general exchange of prisoners took place and I was included, and exchanged: Colonel [sic, General] Lincoln commanded at Charleston: and must here remark that, even while a prisoner on parole, I volunteered into the service, and marched to a place in N. C. called, I think, Ramsour's, or something like that, where we had a pretty warm engagement with the Tories, were – and was out against the Tories several other times while on parole, before I was exchanged in 1781, as above stated.

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 whatever.

S/ Benj. Robison

Sworn to and arrived in open Court October 1, 1832

S/ M. Harrison, C. M. C. C.

[Henry Darnell, a clergyman, and John Lockridge gave the standard affidavit of reputation for veracity, age and belief in the neighborhood of revolutionary war services.]

The applicant then brought forward John Alison,¹ of the County of Nichols and State of Kentucky, aged about 73 years, who, in open Court, this 1st of October 1832, subscribed and swore to the following statement: That he was born in Rowan County & State of North Carolina; and that he lived a close neighbor to the above named Benjamin Roberson of said County of Rowan, during the war of the revolution; and knows that said Roberson was a soldier of the revolution, and served as stated in his declaration which this affiant has heard read; because, this affiant served with said Roberson in the said revolutionary war – in the same company and knew him well, during his whole Service, set out in his

1 [John Allison \(Alison\) S16309](#)

declaration, except the first, third and fifth campaigns therein named; but recollects that said Roberson was absent from home on those campaigns, in the service of the United States, and has no doubt, he served as he has stated: This affiant was one of the number taken as a prisoner of war, by the British, at Moncks Corner, and knows said Roberson's statement in relation to that matter to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court October 1st 1832.

S/ John Alison, X his mark

S/ M. Harrison, C. M. C. C.

The Court then propounded the Interrogatories to the applicant prescribed by the War Department, to which he answers:

First. Born in the County of Rowan, State of North Carolina, on the 12th of July 1756.

Second. There was a record of his age in possession of his Father; but he is unable to say where it is at present.

Third. Living, in the County of Rowan, State of North Carolina, when called into service; subsequent to the revolutionary war, moved to Kentucky where he at present resides in the County of Montgomery.

Fourth. He entered the service as a volunteer.

Fifth. Officers where I served were Col. Rutherford, in the upper part of South Carolina – Colonel Rutherford and Lieutenant Colonel Locke in the lower part of North Carolina – General Rutherford and Colonel Lock in the Cherokee Nation – General Rutherford, Colonel Locke and Lieutenant Colonel Brevard, and General Lincoln who commanded the South Carolina troops, -- at the Savannah River. -- Colonel Paisley on The River North Carolina and General Huger, I think was the name, at Monks Corner, South Carolina -- Colonel Lincoln commanded at Charleston. The circumstances of service of the court has heard rid in my declaration.

Sixth. He thinks he received a discharge or every term – except one of which he is not certain, he believes they were given to the persons named in his declaration which the Court has heard; but they are all lost or mislaid.

Seventh. He names, General Samuel L. Williams, Andrew Simpson, Honorable Silas W. Robbins, Captain John Mason Jr., Colonel Aquilla Young, Major Charles Glover, Colonel James Mason, and the Honorable Henry Daniel who can testify to his character.