

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension App of James Conn S15386

fn21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 11/30/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, Russell County

On this 15th day of February 1834 personally appeared before the undersigned a justice of the peace in and for the County of Russell aforesaid, James Conn, a resident of the County of Russell aforesaid State of Kentucky aged Eighty three 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 7th, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States for three months in the Month of December 1777 as a drafted militiaman in the County of Orange State of North Carolina under Capt. Watson. He was marched on to Hillsborough where he was joined to Col. Rutherford's Regiment. He remained at Hillsborough for sometime and the neighborhood then marched on towards a place then called Cross Creek [now Fayetteville] where the army was again stationed for some weeks scouting about. The Tories were then assembling and as he understood Col. Rutherford was waiting and watching their movements. Finally hearing that a body of them had collected near Cross Creek, the American army marched on to Cross Creek where we met the enemy and had a severe battle with them. [We] killed many of them and finally defeated them. This battle was towards the latter part of February 1778. They continued at Cross Creek after the battle until his Term expired which was but a short time and after his time expired he was Honorably discharged by his Captain and Returned home having faithfully served three months.

Sometime after he returned home he moved to Lincoln County North Carolina, then a frontier. He was soon after he settled in Lincoln County drafted for three months to go against the Indians. He immediately entered the service of the United States under Capt. John Cook and was marched on to Broad River where he was joined to Col. Grayham's [sic, Graham's] regiment (the Col. was sometimes called Grimes). He was stationed at a place called McFadden's Fort and while there the fort was finished and this declarant was with others kept spying about for some; and went on and destroyed several Indian villages and killed several of them. In this way—that is part of his time at the fort, part spying and scouting and part to the Indian towns—he constantly was engaged in the

way aforesaid until the Time for which he was drafted expired and returned home. In this tour he faithfully served three months, that being the time for which he was drafted.

Some short time after he returned home he volunteered for three months under Capt. Hampton and was marched on to 96 where he was Joined to Col. Williams' Regiment and was immediately marched on to the Cherokee Nation on the Hiwassee River where we destroyed several Indian Towns took a number of prisoners having had a severe battle with the Indians as we went out at a place called the Black Hole, after the various skirmishes & Battles they returned home and was again Honorably discharged by his Captain having served out the time of his engagement—being three months the two last mentioned tours was in the year 1778.

In the Spring of 1779, he volunteered for three months under Capt. Key Kendall and immediately entered the service of the United States. [He] was marched on to Col. Graham's Regiment and was joined to his regiment and marched into South Carolina on the Catawba River where some Tories had collected. Upon the approach of the Americans they dispersed or fled so that they could not be overtaken. They pursued them for several miles but could not overtake them. They then marched onto North Carolina and was in this expedition kept constantly marching about from place to place and when quartered for any time, they kept scouting about until their term expired. In this expedition he was in no battle or skirmish and having faithfully served out his full Term of three months was again by his Capt. Honorably discharged and returned home. He was at home but a short time when he again volunteered for three months under the aforesaid Capt. Key Kendall and again marched on and was attached to Col. Graham's regiment and the whole of this tour was also spent in marching to various places in the States of North and South Carolina guarding certain neighborhoods and pursuing the Tories whenever they assembled and dispersing them. [He was] stationed for [a] short period on the Catawba River & Seneca [River]. There was no circumstance took place in either of the last tours of much importance or notoriety nor did they join any troops other than their own Regiment. He faithfully served in this tour three months and was again Honorably discharged by his Captain and returned Home.

He further states that in the spring [of] 1780, he again volunteered for three months under Capt. Wilson and Marched on and joined to Col. Lanoirs [sic, Lenoir's] Regiment and marched on to a place called Sunbury having been attached to Genl. Lincoln's army and at Sunbury had a severe battle in which the British proved too hard for us—we then marched on to Charleston where we continued until the town was surrendered. This he thinks was in the month of May. He states that sometime after the surrender he was paroled by Lord Cornwallis and permitted to return home. He states that before he could reach home his term of three months had expired. He well recollects [that] he entered the service in February he thinks about the 20th. Therefore [he is] confident that from the time he entered the service that it was more than three months before he reached home and so charges this tour to be three months.

He states that sometime after his return from Charleston it was either about the last of May or the first of June 1780, he again volunteered for three months under the aforesaid Capt. Wilson and was marched on into South Carolina where he was joined to Col. Lenoir's [sic, Lenoir's] Regiment and was marched to several places and staid at some other places some time marched on and crossed the Catawba River after having been to many other places not now particularly recollected. After having crossed said

River they joined Genl. Gates' army and marched on to Camden where they lay for sometime until the Battle in which Battle this declarant was in from beginning to end and was wounded in said action in the arm & body with a Bayonet though not severe and was taken prisoner by the British dragoons but effected his escape and Joined his company. After the battle his time soon expired and received his discharge form his Capt. & returned home in which service he served fully three months.

He further states that he had been at home but a few days when he again volunteered for three months under Capt. Wm. Grayham [sic, Graham] and marched on near King's Mountain and Joined Col. Williams' Regiment under who he served until he, Col. Williams, was killed in the Battle, he then was commanded by Col. Campbell. He states that in that battle he received a severe wound in his right shoulder the ball entering the fore part of the shoulder passing obliquely through which entirely broke the shoulder Blade and shattered and fractured many other bones by reason of said wound he was unable to perform any other or further service until after the time for which he had so volunteered expired nor indeed was he ever able to perform service since nor is he yet but has ever since & ever will be a cripple. He states that all the aforesaid services was done and performed in a corps called into service by competent authority and he was either in the field or in garrison and for the Time during which the services was performed he was not employed in any civil pursuit and for which service he claims a pension.

He further states that he received discharges in writing for all the tours he served except the tour to Charleston and the one at King's Mountain, all of which he kept for many years and his house was consumed by fire and his discharges together with all his other papers was consumed with his other household property.

He further states that he has no documentary evidence to establish his service nor does he know of any witness whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He further states there is no clergyman living in the neighborhood; none in the County nearer to his residence that he knows of than fourteen miles and he further states that from old age and bodily infirmity, he is not able to attend Court for the purpose of making this declaration.

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.

1st Where and in what year were you born? Answer: I was born in the City of Philadelphia on the Eighteenth Day of July in the year A. D. one thousand seven hundred and fifty one agreeable to the information which I always had from my parents & seeing the Church & other record all of which I believe to be true.

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

Ansr.: I once had a record taken from my father's register but the book in which it was contained was burnt the time my discharges was and that corresponded with the time before stated.

3rd Where [were] you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Ansr.: When I first entered the service I lived in Orange County State of North Carolina. After I returned from my first tour I moved to Lincoln County North Carolina where I resided until several years after the Close of the War. I then moved to South Carolina where I staid a short time about until the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety two when I moved to Kentucky, Madison County, where I lived a few years then

moved to Bullitt County Kentucky where I lived until the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine when I settled where I now live (then Green [County] since Adair [County]) now Russell [County 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?

Ansr.: The first and second tour I served I was drafted. All the other tours, I served as a volunteer. I never was a substitute for anyone.

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.

Ansr.: I have given the names of most of the officers that were with me in most of the tours. At Charleston, there were many; so [too] there were at Camden but I cannot recollect with sufficient certainty to name any particular officer. Genl. DeKalb was at Camden and there killed. I do not recollect any particular regiment other my own joining us at any particular place. Many of my tours were performed with the regiment alone to which I belonged. I have given as general a history of my services in the body of my declaration as I can recollect.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from service; if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

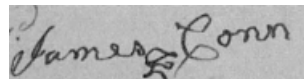
Ansr.: I received written discharges given by my respective Captains for all my tours except the tour at Charleston where I was taken prisoner and paroled by the British Commander and the tour I served at King's Mountain. I was severely wounded and was sent home and did not recover until long after the term expired for which I volunteered nor indeed have I yet recovered.

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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

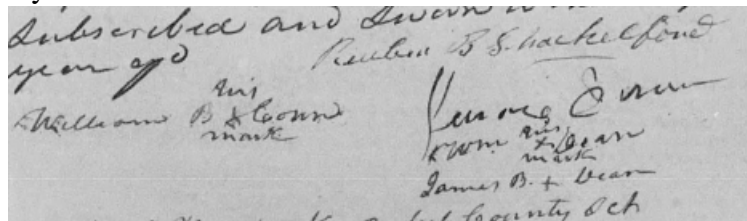
Ansr.: I am acquainted with Mr. Rueben Shackelford, Charles Barnes, George Herriford, William Herriford, William Nelson, Jesse Norfleet and indeed all the neighbors who have resided here for any length of time. I have lived where I now do since the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine and I believe all that I have had an intimate acquaintance, I believe, would speak well of my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Subscribed and sworn to the day & year aforesaid.

S/ James Conn



[Reuben B Shackelford, James Conn, Junior, William Dean, James Dean & William B Conn gave the standard supporting affidavit, adding that there is no clergyman in the neighborhood where they live



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service in the North Carolina militia.]