

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Baker S16628

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 1/31/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Missouri, Montgomery County

On this 7th day of May 1833 personally appeared before the Circuit Court of Montgomery County aforesaid the said Court being a court of Record Robert Baker a resident of Montgomery County aforesaid aged Seventy nine years who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832.

I state from the best information I have I am seventy nine years of age & that I entered the service of the United States or rather the Confederation of the States and under the following officers and served as stated below.

I resided in Fincastle County now Washington County Virginia. I volunteered & entered the service under Captain James Thompson, I think near about the middle of June 1776 & we marched from Fincastle County Va. to Long Island (which is about 60 miles from where I lived) then in the State of North Carolina was [page torn, text missing] and on the Holstin [Holston] River. I was in the battle fought there between the forces under Captain Thompson & others & [the] Cherokee Indians in the first of the month of July 1776 where about 17 Indians was [sic, were] killed & none of our men but we had 4 men wounded. There were with us about 170 men & then was no higher officer in command as I believe than a Captain & these were called James Thompson, James Shelby, William Cocke & perhaps others who were in command or called as such. This was at the commencement of hostilities with the Indians in that quarter & when we returned home which was only a few days after the Battle at Long Island as above stated we found our families & neighbors Forted & I was continued in the service at what was called Campbell's Fort which was situated at Colonel William Campbell's plantation in Fincastle County aforesaid till late in the fall during all which time I acted as a spy for the Fort[.] [W]hen I was marched down again to the Fort at Long Island under Captain Dysart where I remained & acted as a ranger for several weeks when we returned home in the winter some time after the first of January 1777.

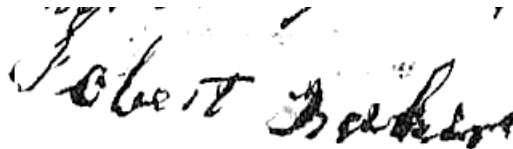
In the year 1778 or 1779 but which I cannot now recollect about the last of July of one of those years, I volunteered under Colonel William Campbell & entered into the service in the company of Captain William Edmonson [sic, Edmondson?] & marched from Washington Va. towards North Carolina where the Tories were embodying on the head waters of the Adkin [sic, Yadkin?][River][.][T]hey were said to be under the command of one Brown & Coyle[.] [W]e met the Tories at a place called the big Glades but when they saw us they ran some of whom we caught, some we whipped & one we hung[.] [A]fter they

were thus dispersed, we returned home being absent on this service between five & six weeks. Colonel Campbell commanded on this expedition.

In a short time after I returned home as I believe in the month of September, I volunteered & entered the service to go to the lead mines. I was sent as a guard under the command of Lieutenant Arther [sic, Arthur] Bowen to guard the wagons that were sent from the lead mines ^{on New River Va} to carry lead to the Moravian Towns in North Carolina, for the use of the United States army. We deposited the lead at the Moravian Towns which place was under the command of a Major Herndon[.] [W]e returned home after being absent on this service about five weeks.

Early in the month of September as I believe 1780 the Tories were ~~embodiyng~~ marching on the waters of the Catawba ^{River} & Colonel McDowell retreated over the mountains from where he had been driven by the British & Tories under Major Ferguson who were [sic, was] on the head waters of the Catawba River. There was a call for men to go and meet the forces under Ferguson. I volunteered & entered the service under Captain James Dysart and marched early in September. [W]e marched under the command of Colonel William Campbell[.] [W]e were joined by the commands on our march of Colonels Surveyor [sic, Sevier] from Washington[.] Colonel Shelby from N. Carolina now Tennessee when we crossed the mountains we were joined by Colonel Cleaveland [sic, Benjamin Cleveland] ^{& General J. Williams}. [W]e then marched to King's Mountain & I was in the Battle of King's mountain which was fought on the 7 or 8th of October. I returned home about the last of November. In a short time after I returned home and I think about the middle of December 1780, I ~~returned~~ volunteered under Colonel Arther [sic, Arthur] Campbell & in Captain James Crabtree's Company, William Russell lieutenant & John Baker Ensign & marched to the Cherokee Towns where we burned ^{about} 17 Towns; killed a good many Indians & took some prisoners and also some cannon. I was in five or six scrimmages during this campaign [which] lasted till about the last of January 1781 when I was discharged & from that time I served no more in the revolution. At the Battle of King's mountain, I was wounded in the right thigh and during that campaign & the one under Colonel Arthur Campbell to the Cherokee Towns, I ~~served~~ was a sergeant & served as such. At each time that I was out in service as herein before stated, I was called into service by those who were authorized to do so & I never to my belief received a written discharge. From the times I entered the service until I was discharged I was entirely employed in military service & not ⁱⁿ any civil pursuit. I was a private except as above stated all the times I was out. I relinquish all claims for a pension except this & that my name is not on any pension roll of any state or of the United [States].

S/ Robert Baker



Sworn to in open court this 7th May 1833.

The following interrogatories were put to the said Robert Baker by the Circuit Court aforesaid.

Where and what year were you born[?] Answer: I was born in what was then Augusta now Washington County Virginia in the year 1754 January 17th as the record kept by my parents informs me.

Have you any record of your age and if so where is it[?] Answer: I have none except what I transcribed from my father's record of that matter.

Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since & where do you reside now[?] Answer: I lived in Fincastle County Va. when called into service, which is now Washington from whence I moved to East Tennessee in what is now called Green County & lived there about six years & from thence I moved to Madison County Kentucky & lived six years & from thence I removed to West Tennessee in what is now called Smith County where I lived about 19 years & from thence about 14 years ago I removed to this State where I have resided since either in Calloway or Montgomery County where I now live.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served & such continental & militia regiments as you recollect & the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I know of no regular officers where I served. They were all malitia [sic, militia] as I believe I served in no continental regiments as I know of but I served generally under Colonel William Campbell and once under Colonel Arthur Campbell. The service I was engaged in was a ranging service and some times as a spy in doing Fort duty & some times in pursuit of the Indians, Tories or British forces.

How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

Answer: I was not drafted I always volunteered & the mode of call was a Sergeant or some inferior officer came round & informed us that there was men wanting & I went and marched to the points where our superior officers directed and I served during the times as aforesaid stated as a Private Spy or Sergeant.

Did you receive a discharge from service; if so by whom was it given & what has become of it[?]

Answer: I never received any written discharge from the service as I now remember when the particular service was over that we were called to perform we were permitted to go home without any other ceremony.

State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity and belief of your services as a soldier of a revolution[.]

Answer: Major Benjamin Sharp, Major Jacob L. Sharp, Clerk of the County & Circuit Courts of Montgomery County. This state Sylvester Baker & Nathaniel Dryden & Captain John Baker all ^{but Major Ben. Sharp¹ who is of Warren County} of Montgomery County.

S/ Robert Baker

Sworn to & subscribed in open court this 7th day of May 1833.

S/ Jacob L. Sharp, Clerk

[Nathaniel Pendleton, a clergyman, David J. Talbot & Christopher Talbot gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

¹ [Benjamin Sharp S17086](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$45 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 12 1/2 months in the Virginia militia.]