

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Anderson S1786

f20NC¹

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/25/14

[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.]

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[State of Tennessee, Bedford County]

On this 16th day of August in the year of our Lord 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful John P Neill, Samuel Phillips and John B Armstrong, Esquires gentlemen justices of the peace, Appointed to hold the court of pleas and quarter sessions of the County of Bedford and State of Tennessee, James Anderson Senior aged Sixty Seven years Eleven months and twenty-nine days; and a resident of Bedford County and State aforesaid; who after 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 the 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers, and Served as herein stated; to wit That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer under Captain David Looney in the Spring of 1776 to assist in guarding a Fort on Holston River called Looney's Fort on the frontiers of the white Settlement then making on that River. He states he Served as one of the guard under Captain Looney and other officers whose names he does not now recollect in conveying to the American troops previous till the Battle of the Long Island, between the Americans and Indians. He states he was not on the muster roll at that time, but by the permission of his Father and the promise of Captain Looney that as he understood and was well acquainted with the use of the rifle, that if he could serve a tour of duty at this time it would exempt him when he should be placed on the muster rolls; and he believes he served on this occasion about two months.

He further states, that afterwards he thinks in the year 1778 He volunteered again with one Captain Thomas Caldwell, and was marched to a Fort at the mouth of Big Creek on Holston River, the name of the Fort he does not now recollect, and was told by his Captain that the object in going to said Fort was to meet a supposed attack, by some white Families, that stated they were from North Carolina and intended going down Holston River, but was supposed to be friendly with the Cherokee Indians Enemies at that time to the Americans, and he thinks he served on this expedition about two months or upwards; – He further states that he volunteered in the year 1779 about the first of December and was attached to Colonel George Maxwell's Company of mounted gunmen; Commanded by Colonel Arthur Campbell and Colonel Joseph Martin, on an expedition against the Cherokee nation of Indians; And was marched into the

¹ As posted on Fold3.com, this file contains documents relating to 2 different veterans by the name of James Anderson. The first 20 pages relate to the veteran whose file is transcribed herein. Beginning at page 21 of this file, the documents relate to James Anderson S2915.

Cherokee nation, and what was called Tennessee River, to a little Town called the beloved [?]² Town, and at that place was engaged in a skirmish with the Indians in which engagement or skirmish only one American wounded and several horses. He further Says that afterwards, he was in another Skirmish at an Indian Town called Tellico, where the Americans killed five Indians, and lost Captain James Elliot, who was shot through the head – the Americans burnt up the Indian Towns, where ever they came to them, deponent states he was marched back home and was then dismissed, he thinks he served on this tower [tour] of duty about three months. He further states that he enrolled himself in Captain Moses Looney's Company of militia, and was drafted about the first of August 1780 – and was marched from where he then lived in the Section of Country now designated and known as the County of Sullivan in the State of Tennessee where he resided during the three other towers of duty mentioned in this declaration, – and was marched from there under the command of Colonel Isaac Shelby and Colonel Anthony Bledsoe in Captain Moses Looney's Company on horseback across the Yellow Mountain by way of Charlotte in Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina and from thence to Camden in South Carolina; He states they reached that place a few days after the battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780], he recollects of seeing the sills of houses still on fire that were burnt at that battle as he was told and particularly the Sills of a mill that was burnt down near the Town, and was then marched on down through the Waxhaw Settlement and from that to the high Hills of Santee, where he states he saw General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Army as he was told, and from that was marched on and joined Colonel John Sevier's Regiment of mounted gunmen from what is now called what County East Tennessee, Nolichucky River – and from that place was marched on to General Marion's [Francis Marion's] Army within two or three miles of Santee River where he remained pretty much until he was marched back home, he states while he remained with General Marion's Army a British Hospital was taken by our troops and he thinks about thirty or forty prisoners taken, he thinks he got home sometime after Christmas, after Serving a tower of duty as he believes of five months, making in all a term of Service of about twelve months. He further states that after he was dismissed he received an instrument of writing stating his services but who it was signed by he does not recollect, but that he sold his claim for his Services then to James Campbell and gave him the writing to establish the claim as he now thinks. He hereby relinquishes his claim to any pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in the United States. That he has no documentary evidence whatever at this time, And that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his Service.

Interrogatories by the Court

Interrogatory 1st Where and in what year were you born –

Answer. I was born in the State of Maryland but I do not recollect the name of the County, on the 18th day of August 1764. –

Interrogatory 2nd. Have you any record of your age and if so, where is it

Answer. I have a record of my age taken from my Father's Bible; and I have it here with me and it reads thus, James Anderson born August 18th day 1764.

Interrogatory 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 lived in the Section of Country now called Sullivan County East Tennessee about 26 miles from Abingdon in the State of Virginia; and that was my place of Residence during the war

of the revolution and afterwards until the year 1808 in December when I removed to White County Tennessee; and from that to Bedford County Tennessee in the spring of 1812 where I have lived ever since and where I now live.

Interrogatory 4th. How were you called into Service, were you a volunteer, were you drafted, or were you a Substitute, and if a Substitute, for whom –

Answer. I was a volunteer all the time of my Service except the last tower, and then I was drafted.

Interrogatory 5th. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with you, or the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your Service.

Answer. I recollect General Marion; and I also recollect there was some officers came to our camp where we were encamped on Santee River and enlisted 2 men from our troop, one by the name of Moses Webb and a Mr. Baty. I do not recollect the names or numbers of any Regiment of militia or regulars except that I have given in the foregoing declaration.

Interrogatory 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge and if so where is it –

Answer. I received an instrument in writing which I was told would enable me to get my pay at some time or other, which paper I sold to James Campbell. What he done with it I do not know.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer. The Reverend George Newton, Colonel John Warner, John F Neil Esquire,

Sworn to in open court this 16th day of August 1832

S/ James McKissick

S/ James Anderson



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An amendment to the declaration of James Anderson made at August term 1832 of Bedford County Court in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832

State of Tennessee

Bedford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said County James Anderson (who subscribed and was sworn to the declaration above alluded to) who after being duly sworn according to law deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods below and in the following grades: to wit, That he served as a private Soldier and volunteer under Captain Looney not less than two months in the year 1776 and that he served not less than two months with Captain Thomas Caldwell as a volunteer private Soldier, and that he served not less than three months in a company of mounted gunmen commanded by Captain George Maxwell against the Hostile Cherokee Indians as a private Soldier, and that on his last tower he served as a drafted Soldier not less than four months in a company of men and commanded by Captain Moses Looney, and a part of the time by Captain Roger Tapp, making in the whole term of actual Service not less than ten months for which he claims a pension. Sworn to and subscribed this 24th day of December 1832.

S/ William Sharp, JP

S/ James Anderson

[George Newton, a clergyman, and John Warner gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]