

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Carder S17872

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia        }  
Lewis County towit    }

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County of Lewis on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833 William Carder a resident of the said County of Lewis and State of Virginia aged 73 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<sup>th</sup> 1832. that he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the year 1780 in the month of March in the County of Hampshire State of Virginia he was drafted for a tour of six months and was placed under the command of Capt Isaac Parsons, other officers names not recollected and was marched to the Town of Romney & there stationed to guard some Tories who were confined in the Jail of the said County of Hampshire and State of Virginia. Affiant remained here during his said term of draft engaged in guarding said Tories, and repelled the assaults which were made by the Tories who were lurking in the wilderness and about the said Town of Romney to rescue those who were confined in Jail of said County Affiant remained in service as aforesaid untill some time in the month of September 1780 when he was discharged by his said Capt Isaac Parsons and returned home having served six months as a private Soldier. In the winter of 1780 affiant moved to the County of Monongalia State of Virginia and found the Inhabitants in a great state of fear and apprehension, the Indians had been in the habit of visiting the northwestern part of Virginia and committing great outrages of the then thin settled country accordingly in the spring of 1781 in the month of March in the County of Monongalia State of Virginia affiant volunteered as a private Indian Spy and was placed under the command of Capt William Lowther, George Jackson Ensign [pension application R15396] other officers names not recollected Stationed at Arnolds fort on the west fork of Monongalia [sic: Monongahela] River in the County and State aforesaid and was engaged in spying the Country from said fort to the River Ohio over which now composes the Counties of Ohio, Tyler, Harrison, Wood & Lewis, until the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 1781 at which time he affiant was discharged by the said Capt William Lowther having served nine months as an Indian Spy again in the month of March 1782 in the County of Mongalia and State of Virginia affiant volunteered as a private Indian Spy, and was stationed at Arnolds fort in the County of Monongalia and State of Virginia and was placed under the command of the officers last aforesaid and was engaged as aforesaid in spying the Country as aforesaid, through and over what now composes the Counties of Ohio, Wood, Tyler, Harrison, & Lewis, untill some time in the month of November 1782 at which time affiant was discharged, having served eight months as a private Indian Spy. his discharge which was given at the expiration of this tour was signed by Lieutenant George Jackson in consequence of the absence of Capt William Lowther again in the year 1783 in the month of April in the County and State last aforesaid affiant volunteered and was placed under the Command of Capt Stoffle Carpenter other officers names not recollected, and was stationed at Wests Fort on Hackers [Creek] a branch of the west fork of Monongalia River, and was engaged in spying the Country as aforesaid untill some time in the month of August, at which time affiant took sick, and was discharged by his said Capt Stoffle Carpenter and returned home having served four months as a private Indian [sic]. the following are the occurrences which took place during affiants several tours of service during his first tour nothing of any notoriety took place. during his 2<sup>nd</sup> tour the Indians come into the neighbourhood and killed a man by the name of John Richards affiant pursued in company with Elias Huse [probably Elias Hughes, S8747] and others but did not overtake the Indians during his third tour [sic: see note below], the Indians come into the neighbourhood and killed Paul & Arnold Richards during his third [sic] tour no particular occurrence took place. to the several Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department Affiant answers and says.

1<sup>st</sup> to the first. I was born in the County of Hampshire State of Virginia in the year 1760

2<sup>d</sup>. I have no record of my age, I have the recollection of my Parents who told me the year I was

- born in
- 3<sup>d</sup>. When first called into service, I was living in the County of Hampshire State of Virginia. when I volunteer'd I was living in the County of Monongalia & State of Virginia and since that time I have lived in the County of Harrison and State of Virginia untill for the last three months when I moved into the County of Lewis where I now reside.
- 4<sup>th</sup>. My first term I was drafted all the balance of my service I was a volunteer.
- 5<sup>th</sup>. My service being that of an Indian Spy except the first and that only to guard some Tories, I consequently became acquainted with none of the regular officers, nor Regiments to which they belonged and I never considered that I belonged to any Regiment but Companies of Indian Spies, but I knew and became acquainted with Col Benjamin of Monongalia County Virginia, Capt Parsons, Capt William Lowther Capt [James] Trimble of Augusta County Va
- 6<sup>th</sup>. I was discharged by the Capt under whom I served, but my discharges are all lost or mislaid.
- 7<sup>th</sup>. I am known to John Brown [S6720] and John Schoolcraft [S7468] who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my having been a Soldier of the Revolutionary War I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State
- Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid William hisXmark Carder

And I the said Justice of the Peace do hereby declare my opinion after investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states. And I the said Justice further certify that it appears to me that John Brown and John Schoolcraft who have signed the preceding certificate are credible persons and that their statement is entitled to credit. And I the said Justice further certify that there is no Clergyman residing in the neighbourhood of the above named applicant, and that he from Bodily infirmity is unable to travel to the Court House of the s'd County of Lewis from which he lives 12 Miles and I the said Justice further certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of myself in the matter of the application of William Carder for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this 27 day of September 1833 David W. Sleeth J.P. [pension application S6111]

[The following two reports are by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from Lewis, Harrison, and other counties in present West Virginia. For details see the pension application of David W. Sleeth.]

William Carder, a Pensioner Served 2 yrs pr declaration-

Christopher Nutter [W5434] has known Carder since the Spring of 1785. at that date Carder settled in Harrison county. an emigrant from Hampshire county. thinks Carder near seventy years old. knows nothing of Carder's having performed revolutionary services.

John Mitchel of Lewis county aged 71 yrs. (a Pensioner [S5761]) is the step son in Law to William Carder, has known him for many years. Carder told him that his (Carders) mother kept him (Carder) out of the Revolutionary War.

Mrs. Mitchel wife of John & step Daughter of Carder has known Carder from her first recollection. he is too young to have been in the R War. She was raised by Carder who is a talking man. Never heard him say any thing about his revo. services.

Samuel Bennett & Carder were boys together & have been neighbours all their lives. Bennett says Carder was not a soldier in the R. War.

Henry Flesher has known Carder from a boy. Says Carder is too young to have been in the war of the Revolution.

Isaac Washburn of Harrison county aged 58 yrs. is the step son of Carder. Says that Carder married his (Washburns) mother when 18 or 19 years old. he Washburn was then 8 or 9 yrs. old. Carder cant be more than ten years older than him (Washburn) has lived within a mile or two of Carder ever since he knew him. never heard him say he was in the revolutionary war but has often heard him speak of being in the Indian war.

After I had collected the forgoing evidence I fell in with Carder & received from him the

following statement which was made on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 1834-

Says he is 72 yrs old the 19<sup>th</sup> May past. removed from Hampshire county to Harrison in the year 1785 then 23 yrs. when he resided in Hampshire he was detailed to guard the Tories in Romney jail. Seventeen or eighteen in number. the guard consisted of about the same number, dont know who had command of the guard nor can he recollect the names of any one of the Guard that was in service with him. the service was performed during the Revolutionary War and continued perhaps for two months. wont be certain. - after the close of the Revolutionary war he removed to Harrison county and has resided there ever since. after his settlement in Harrison he done some service against the Indians but dont recollect how much or how long he was in service.

Says Robert H. Lowther wrote his declaration. that he went from him to Weston the county seat of Lewis distant eleven miles and swore to his declaration before David W. Sleeth Esqr. Lowther came to his house and told him he was entitled to a Pension and offered him eighty dollars for his pension or rather for the arrearages of pay then due. or in other words Lowther was to retain all that should be drawn over that amount. Cummings E. Jackson was present. when Lowther made the offer and offered five dollars more than Lowther had offered. Lowther then advanced to \$100 and he (Carder) accepted the proposition. Jackson remarked, "And I have been the means of your getting twenty dollars more than you would have gotten" - John Stuttler & Manly Carder were present when the terms between himself and Lowther were concluded & heard the conversation that passed between Lowther Jackson & himself as above detailed. - the statement given to Lowther of his Revolutionary service & services against the Indians after the close of the Revo. War was precisely the same as now given with this exception, that in reference to his services in the Indian war he went minutely into particulars. there was \$200 got the first draw. Lowther got one half & himself the other.

The forgoing haveing been read & finding all thus set down as given in. in testimony of which I hereto subscribe my name.

Witness Manly Carder.

William hisXmark Carder

I the undersigned Manly Carder (son of William) do certify that I was present when the conversation above detailed as haveing passed among & between Lowther, Jackson & Wm Carder took place, and I do further certify that the same has been correctly detailed by the said William Carder. given under my hand June the 27<sup>th</sup> 1834

Manly Carder

A true copy from the original notes in my possession

W. G. Singleton

The undersign takes leave to state that Carder is a very eliterate man. can neither read nor write.

All which is respectfully submitted.

W. G Singleton Special Agent.

William Carder Pen draws \$80. Lewis Cty.

The evidence collected to disprove this case together with Mr. Carders own statement is somewhat voluminous - it is unnecessary to report it specially because Mr. Carder has returned his [pension] certificate - paid part of the money drawn & given a confession of Judgment for the Balance including interest

W. G Singleton Nov. 6, 1834

West Milford West Va Decr 20<sup>th</sup> 1864

Hon, Com'r. of Pentions

Sir Some years since we employed Mess Tucker & Lloyd (whose card is herein enclosed) of Washington City, to procure for us, pay due to each of our fathers for services rendered to the United State in the Revolutionary War. Their names were William Carder and Richard Bell [pension application S8064].

We have no doubt but what we are entitled to a considerable Sum, and from the evidence could procure it We employed this firm of Agents to procure it for us, and Mr Charles C Tucker was in this country procured the evidence of our claims, obtained all our papers &c &c, And since that time we cannot hear from them, have written frequently &c &c

Now we want to know from the proper office of the Department if these men, ever obtained and money from the Government in our names or for us, or in the names of our fathers.

By giving us this information you will greatly oblige

Yours Respectfully

Manly Carder Richard Bell

[The following reply to the preceding is in the pension application of Richard Bell.]

Dept of the Interior Pension Off. Dec. 30, 1864.

Gentlemen: In answer to your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> instant, I have to state that Richard Bell and Wm Carder were pensioned under Act of 7 June 1832 at \$80 per annum.

The former was pensioned Nov 7 and the latter Oct. 16, 1833. Subsequently their names were stricken from the pension roll upon a report of the U S District Attorney that the allowance was improperly made. The suspension was in 1835 since when no action has been had in reference to the cases.

There is not anything due their heirs under existing pension laws.  
Messrs Manly Carder and Ric'd Bell West Milford, W.Va.

NOTES: According to A. S. Withers, *Chronicles of Border Warfare*, (1831), Paul and Arnold Richards were killed in Aug 1781, which would have been during Carder's second claimed tour.