

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Cochran S18359

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Transcribed by Will Graves

5/29/11

[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 South Carolina Edgefield District

On this 29th day of October in the year while Lord 1830 personally appeared in open Court before Richard Gantt one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the said State now sitting in and for the District aforesaid Robert Cochran a resident of the District & State aforesaid aged seventy-seven and eight months 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 the 7th 1832 –

That he entered the service of the United States in the summer of the year 1776 as a private in a company of militia commanded by Captain Leroy Hammond which said company was attached to a Brigade commanded by Major Andrew Williamson.

That the Deponent with the militia company aforesaid made an expedition to Cambridge in the State against a body of Tories under the command of Colonel Fletcher [Thomas Fletchall] an officer in the British service¹ that they met with near Cambridge when the affair terminated by a conference of the officers.

That in the course of the summer of 1776 he was in an expedition against the Cherokees, which said expedition was under the immediate command of General Williamson in the company to which this Deponent was attached was commanded by Captain Leroy Hammond – that this deponent was with said expedition about six weeks – that he was in no battle against the enemy – that however they demolished their dwellings – cut down their corn –

That in the winter of 1776 he was in an expedition under the same Officers against the Creek Indians – that they did not engage with the enemy but drove them before them – that in the same winter he marched to Stono [?] in a company commanded by Captain John Hammond – that he was then attached to the Department of the Commissary General of Purchases.

¹ Thomas Fletchall was an American Tory, not a British officer

That in 1778 under Captain Nathaniel Bacon he marched to the sisters ferry where he was stationed for two months – that he was then and there attached to a Battalion under the command of Major Hugh Middleton.

That said Deponent in the year 1779 was elected first Lieutenant militia company commanded by Captain Bacon – that early in the year 1780 that this Deponent went to Georgia under the command of Captain Bacon – that he was there stationed in the character of first Lieutenant of said company at a place in the vicinity of Augusta called the Cupboard, for 2 months – said Deponent acted as Lieutenant for at least two years –

That in the year 1781 he marched in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Hammond to Columbia where it was stationed for a length of time with the main body of the Army –

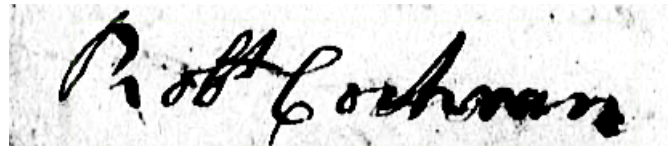
That the Deponent was often engaged in scouting expeditions, and particularly against a certain distinguished Tory leader by the name of Cunningham [probably a reference to William "Bloody Bill" Cunningham] –

The Deponent 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.

Sworn to in open court before

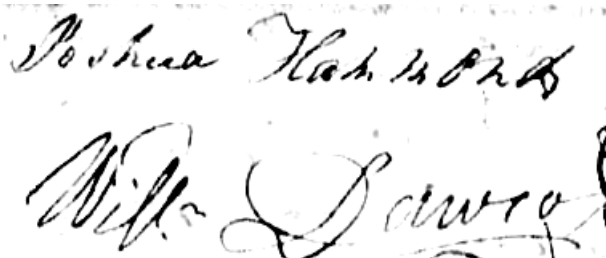
S/ Richard Gantt, P. Judge

S/ Robt Cochran



We Joshua Hammond² & William Dawson³ do certify that Robert Cochran is reputed by those who know him to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we agree to that opinion and we further state that we believe said Robert Cochran is worthy of belief and that what is stated in the foregoing Declaration is true that said Robert was in service with us.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above before me



S/ A. B. Addison

South Carolina Edgefield District: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the district aforesaid Robert Cochran who being duly sworn deposeth 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 mentioned below, and in the following grades: His not less than twelve months as a private under Colonel Hammond about the first of February 1780 he was duly elected and commissioned a second Lieutenant in which grade he served about two months and then was promoted to the office of first Lieutenant in which grade he served not less than six months.

Sworn to before me

S/ Chesley B. Cochran, JP

S/ Robert Cochran

² [Joshua Hammond S21803](#)

³ [William Dawson S17920](#)

[fn p. 18]

The applicant further states in answer to the interrogatories of the War Department that he was born on the 3 April 1755 in the State of North Carolina agreeable to a family record which he has frequently seen, which he believes is now in the possession of a relation in the Western Country. The Applicant further states that he never received a written discharge, that he has no documentary evidence on which to rely for the verification of his declaration herein made & set forth, but would referred the Department to the affidavit of Joshua Hammond & William Dawson with whom he served during the time mentioned in this declaration. The Applicant further states that he was duly commissioned as second Lieutenant by Colonel Leroy Hammond in February 1780, that in May following he rose by the right of rank to first Lieutenant and continued to hold that commission during the war that during the time he was acting as Lieutenant his house was robbed & his papers burned by the Tories & British and thereby lost his commission.

Sworn to before me 12 day of April 1833

S/ J. Richardson, C. C. P.

S/ Robert Cochran

Additional Amended Declaration of Robert Cochran: In answer to the objections set forth by the pension Department the deponent states that in June 1775 (instead of 1776 as mentioned in the original declaration) he volunteered as a private under Captain Leroy Hammond – that he under the command of said officer was in the neighborhood of Cambridge South Carolina in an expedition against the Tories that was one month at least under the orders of the officer commanding. They were then disbanded. That in July 1776 there was again a call for volunteers – that he then volunteered under Captain John Hammond Senior in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians the company attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Leroy Hammond and attached to a Brigade commanded by General Williamson – that he was in actual service with said Brigade for one month & a half, that he then procured a furlough for a stated period – and previous to the time which it was necessary for him to return that he hired a man and sent him as a substitute which was received by the Captain commanding the company and continued with said company until the company was disbanded – which tour of the said Substitute was one and a half months – That from that time until August 1777 he was frequently called out by Captain Hammond on expeditions for a few days at a time for the purpose of suppressing the depredations of the Tories, that in August 1777 the deponent again volunteered under Captain John Hammond in an expedition against the Creek Indians, the command was under the direction of Major Andrew Pickens, Colonel Leroy Hammond and Brigadier General Andrew Williamson. That the Company was raised for no specified time but to serve during the expedition against said Indians. That the company to which he belonged was in active service for two months, he performing & serving as one of the company. That sometime in the first of January 1778, that there was again a call for volunteers, that deponent volunteered under the said Captain John Hammond Senior. That they embodied at Liberty Hill in South Carolina near Augusta Georgia, that he the deponent was in active service either in the encampment or in scouting through the Country by the orders of the officers in command from that time until sometime in the month of May following, in all he this deponent is confident that was then under orders and in active service four months, that the company was then discharged it being in the spring of the year & planting season of the year = That the militia was again called out that he again volunteered under Captain John Hammond the first of July and marched to Stono, the company attached to

the Brigade Command of General Williamson, that after being there in service a short time he was attached to the Department of the Commissary Generals or Purchases as one of his Guards, that he was then in actual service one month and a half.

The deponent further states that from the first of December 1778 to the first of February 1779, that he acted as a substitute under Captain Nathaniel Bacon at Sister Ferry for two months – the Company was there discharged – during the end of the two months service, the deponent was elected and commanded as second Lieutenant under Captain N. Bacon, and was immediately called into service at a place called the Cupboard in the State of Georgia, where he remained stationed for two months the company was then discharged – the deponent during the two months was promoted to first Lieutenant; & on the 17th day of June 1780 a large portion of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Hammond took paroles, he this deponent was paroled as a first Lieutenant – the deponent continued at liberty until in the month of September, he was then taken a prisoner and detained in close confinement at Augusta until the first of May 1781, when the fortifications of the British was taken by the Americans a few days before the Americans had taken possession of the fortifications of the British the deponent made his escape from them and immediately, say the first of June 1781, resumed his command as first Lieutenant under Captain N. Bacon, the company attached to the Brigade of General Andrew Pickens of South Carolina – they were marched from the upper part of the State of South Carolina to the Congaree River, some time in August, the deponent was taken sick and got a furlough to return home in the above tour the deponent states that he was in actual service 2 months – And that after the recovery of this deponent's health, that he was from that time until the close of the war frequently engaged as first Lieutenant in Commanding of scouts in various parts of the State against the Tories until the end of the war.

Sworn to before me first February 1834

S/ J. Terry, QU

S/Robert Cochran

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$93.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 16 months service as a private & Lieutenant in the South Carolina militia.]