

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Moreland (Moorland) S1920

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/8/13

[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 Tennessee Carter County

On this 17th day of September personally appeared in open Court before the Circuit Court of Carter County now sitting Charles Moreland a resident of Carter County State of Tennessee, aged sixty-eight years on the 8th day of March past 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 under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he volunteered in the state of Virginia County of Goochland (he being then a Citizen of that County) in the month of March 1781 under Colonel Nathaniel Morriss [Nathaniel Garsden Morris] his Captain was David Mullins, his Lieutenant Colonel was John Pleasants. This Declarant states that after their Organization, they marched to Richmond Virginia & was stationed there and in the vicinity thereof for a period not recollected precisely. From there on the return of Lord Cornwallis from the South we retreated headed by General Lafayette through Hanover, Louisa &c to Fluvanna County about twelve miles from Elk Hill. The British took possession of this point & remained there until General Lafayette marched down to attack them, upon his approach the British retreated to York, having before destroyed the Bridge across Big Bird Creek near Elk Hill, to retard the movements of Lafayette. A few days before we got to Elk Hill we were joined by the Distinguished General Wayne [Anthony Wayne]. Before this time a portion of the Virginia Militia was discharged among whom was Colonel Morriss, Pleasants & my Captain Mullins, I was then attached to the company of Captain Thomas Harding or Hardin. From Elk Hill the Army marched towards Williamsburg. Before he reached this point I was discharged in Goochland County – got no written discharge, That I recollect of if I did, I have lost it, I was in service three months. – I got home during Harvest – I remained at home but a very short period until I was drafted in Captain Frank Pledges [Francis Pledge's] Company. We joined the main Army at Williamsburg & was attached to the Brigade of General Nelson & the Regiment of Colonel William Darke, at this place General Washington joining the Army & from this place marched to York, which place the British had possession of. They also had possession of Pidgion Hill [Pigeon Hill]. General Lafayette heading the French troops marched up & attacked the British & was compelled in the first instance to retreat. But having been reinforced he again attacked them & made them retreat, on that evening or the following General Washington commenced building a Fort on Pidgion Hill, also built breastworks, Batteries &c and continued the siege of York until Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781], the loss of men on either side this declarant does not now recollect, during the siege General Lafayette attacked a redoubt and was compelled to retreat, the following night General Wayne attacked the same Fort & took it with a loss of a few men, the following night Lafayette

attacked another & took it with considerable loss to the Americans & much greater to the British. After the surrender of Cornwallis, I was ordered to guard some military stores at a ship landing on James River about six miles from York, called I think Bidbills landing [?]¹ here I took the flux and lay a considerable time. After I got well I was discharged verbally by the officer of the guard, an inferior officer whose name I think was John Stren or Strong having been in service about three and a half months. The time I reached home I cannot now state certainly but I think in November. This Declarant served in all he thinks at least six and a half months, & probably longer, that there is no minister in his immediate vicinity. That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

I hereby relinquish every claim 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 to his knowledge.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court

Test:

S/ A. M. Carter, Clk.

S/ Charles Moorland, X his mark

[Johnson Hampton and Lawson White gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 ½ months in the Virginia militia.]