

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Stirling S1932

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/28/12

[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.]

[Note: The digital images of following documents as displayed on both Fold3.com and HeritageQuest.com are very faint. Use the following transcript with more than the normal caution.]

State of Tennessee Blount County: SS

On this 30th day of August 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before Edward Scott [?] one of the Judges of law and Equity for the said State of Tennessee and for the second Judicial Circuit now sitting Robert Stirling a resident of the County of Blount in State aforesaid in the County of Blount in State of Tennessee aged seventy-two 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He lived in Augusta County Virginia he volunteered under Captain ___ Cunningham [perhaps John Cunningham] in the fall or in December 1780 [indecipherable word] General Muhlenberg's Brigade as he believes marched near Suffolk lay there the greater part of the winter to have a fight with the British marched to take General Arnold [Benedict Arnold] we had a scrimmage but no regular battle killed some of the British got two of our men wounded to wit Captain Cunningham and another whose name is not recollected – he was then and there honorably but verbally discharged he served three months. He has no documentary evidence to prove this tour nor no living witness that he knows of but one to wit Thomas Turk who is too old and infirm to come to court.

Shortly after at the same place he volunteered under Captain Francis Long in September 1781, Marched to York was in that siege helping to take Lord Cornwallis and guarding his men to the Winchester barracks General Washington commanded at the battle of York, he served three months was honorably but verbally discharged. This last tour he proves by James Carrthers¹ a brother soldier.

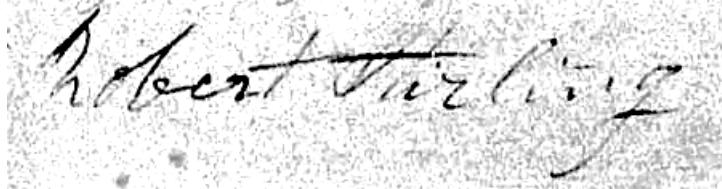
Again he thinks sometime in the month of December before the above mentioned tours he was pressed into the service with his father's wagon to haul provisions for Burgoyne's men who were prisoners and our men who were guarding them. Served in that capacity 4 months. He has no documentary evidence nor no living witness that he can get but James Caruthers to prove his actual service.

He 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.

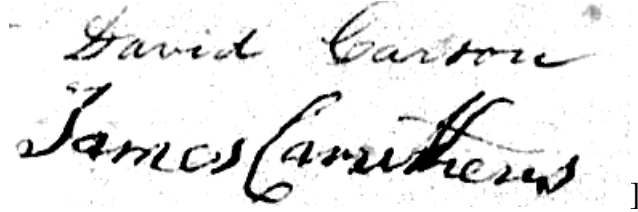
¹ Probably James Caruthers FPA W1224

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.
Sworn to in open Court this 3rd day of August 1832
S/ David D. Foute, Clk

S/ Robert Stirling

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Stirling". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured paper.

[David Carson, a clergyman, and James Caruthers gave the standard supporting affidavit. In addition "James Caruthers further made oath that the said Robert Sterling actually served the 2nd tour above written and was at the siege of York."

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature reads "David Carson" and the bottom signature reads "James Caruthers". There is a small bracket-like mark to the right of the bottom signature.

State of Tennessee Blount County: SS

On this 5th day of February 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before Samuel Powell [?] one of the Circuit Judges [illegibly faint text] now sitting for the State of Tennessee Robert Stirling a resident of the said County of Blount & State of Tennessee in the said County and State who after being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amendment to his declaration for a pension which declaration was made in the Circuit Court of said County No. 5011 and sent back for amendment.

That he was born in the State of Pennsylvania near the [illegibly faint text] ford on the Susquehanna River the name of the County not recollected on the 22nd [?] day of September 1759. He has a record of his age at home in his family Bible. Shortly after the revolutionary war he moved to Spartanburg County South Carolina and lived there until 1805 then removed to said Blount County Tennessee and has lived there ever since and still lives there. He never was drafted nor a substitute he was a volunteer when a soldier and pressed into the service as a waggoner as stated in his declaration. As far as names of the regular officers who were with the troops where he served in the Continental and Militia Regiments and the general circumstances of his service he has answered in his declaration [illegibly faint text] to his best recollection. He never did receive a written discharge nor a commission. He is known in his present neighborhood to Thomas Hunter, John Few, James Berry, Samuel Houston, Jonathan Tribbit and Maj. Wm Harris all of whom he believes would testify that he is a man of veracity and that they believe him to have served as a soldier of the revolution. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Sworn to & subscribed in Open Court 5 February 1833
S/ Dan D Foute, Clk

S/ Robert Stirling

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]