

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Boyd S30884

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS

County of Todd } }

On this 8th day of July 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Todd County court now sitting Henry Boyd sen'r a resident of the County of Todd and state of Kentucky aged 74 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 enlisted in the army of the united States in the year 1779 in the month of February and to the best of his recollection the first Saturday in that month [the 6th], with Captain Moses Fountain [probably Moses Fontaine] and served in Col. Richard Parkers regiment of the virginia Line, under the following named officers Field officers Col. Richard Parker Lieut. Col. Samuel Hopkins adjutant Thomas Parker company officers Captain James Toliver [possibly James Taliaferro] Lieutenant Thomas Stubblefield ensign Jones He enlisted for 18 months & never served under any other term of enlistment but served longer as hereafter will appear, he is not able from his age and consequent loss of memory to state the No. of his regiment. He resided in Halifax county Virginia at the time he entered the service. He continued in the service prisoner until some time in the summer of 1781 He enlisted and served as a private all the time, immediately after my enlistment I was marched to Charlotte Court House by Captain Fountain the recruiting officer, we were then marched by Lieut. Col Ousellan[?] to Petersburg where the aforesaid field & company officers took command of us from petersburgh we were marched to Savannah Georgia and there we fought the Brittish on the 1st day of October 1779 [Siege of Savannah, 16 Sep- 19 Oct] and were whiped and retreated to Augusta [sic: Augusta] and there we wintered; in the spring we were marched to Charlestown S.C there we were besieged by Clinton [Gen. Henry Clinton, 1 Apr - 12 May 1780]. General [Benjamin] Lincoln was our commander. at the end of about 40 days we surrendered and were made prisoners of war in May 1780 I think the 24th day of the month after having been constantly in the service and bound to military duty from the 1st Saturday in February 1779 in the field or garrison I continued a prisoner of war in the custody of the Brittish until the last of August 1781, when I made my escape from one of the prison ships lying in the Charleston bay by swiming on some planks in company with two others William Thompkins and Josua Hawthorn [Joshua Hawthorne?] who are dead.

Under an enlistment of 18 months in the virginia line in Col. Parkers regiment I was in actual service fourteen months and a half under the above named officers and while under that engagement at Charlestown under Col. parker I was made by the british prisoner of war and kept in close confinement 15 additional months making in all 29½ months of actual service rendered as a private to the united states ie from February 1779 until August 1781 inclusive never having in that time followed any civil pursuit whatever I have no documentary evidence of my service never having received any discharge He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state [signed] Henry Boyd

personally appeared before me Wm. M. Terry an acting Justice of the peace in & for Todd county Kentucky, Col. Nathaniel Terry [pension application W3054] a resident of s'd county and state and made oath in due form of law, being first duly sworn, that he s'd. Nathaniel Terry is well acquainted with Henry Boyd who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration, that he was well acquainted with s'd. Boyd in Virginia he knew him from his boyhood he Boyd was raised in 4 or 5 miles of him, he always sustained a fair character, for thruth & honesty, and that he s'd Terry was in the continental service in the North, at the time, the declarent states in his declaration he enlisted, and therefore, does not

know of his own knowledge of the enlistment of s'd. Boyd, that, in 1781 deponent believes he deponent returned home, and very soon after s'd. Boyd returned home, and deponent then understood that Boyd had been kept in custody by the British. Deponent Nathaniel Terry further made oath, that he himself was captain of a company & under Col. Russel [sic: William Russell] at the surrender of Charlestown in May 1780, and was there taken prisoner, and while a prisoner in Charlestown in may 1780 he deponent saw the said Henry Boyd a prisoner of war in Charlestown, and there were no other Virginia soldiers, at Charleston, as far as came to the knowledge of deponent except those under the command of Col. parker, who was sent over from the North to take command of what was called the new virginia levees, and deponent therefore believes s'd Boyd was under s'd. Parker, as he was in the service from va. and taken prisoner at Charlestown, the Brittish kept all the prisoners until about may 1780 at which time deponent himself was sent home after having been prisoner for about 18 months
subscribed and sworn to this 10th day of December 1833 [signed] Nath. Terry

Elkton Dec 12th 1833

Mr J. L. Edwards Com. of pens.

Dear Sir/ I inclose to you the declaration of Henry Boyd for a pension, it was required to procure at least one witness to the service of Mr Boyd he has procured the evidence of Col N. Terry being the only one living he can procure, Col Terry was a captain in the continental line, and is a gentlemen of wealth and as high respectability as any in our country, for further proof I refer to the record in your office upon which he draws a pension of \$480. Col. Terry informs me that all the captains who were taken prisner at Charleston were sent home on parol after a confinement of about 18 months, and never returned, any roll of their men, this you can ascertain by reference to your records and have no doubt you know the fact so to be hence Mr Boyd ought not it seems to me, rebut any presumption which might seem to arise against him, he is perfectly able to procure any traditionary evidence if that should be thought to strengthen his claim any, or necessary, but would this be necessary after procuring the direct evidence he has that he was in the service

I took Col. Terry's affidavit myself and he can not state any thing further of his own knowledge them he has. Mr Boyd is an indigent man and now wears large scars from wounds received in the service. I hope verry much he may meet with success in presenting his claim. I am sir your most obedient servant.

[illegible signature]