

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Philip Crowder S30974

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois } SS.
County of Sangamon }

On this ninth day of October A.D. 1832. personally appeared in open court before The County Commissioners Court for the County of Sangamon now sitting Philip Crowder, a resident in the County of Sangamon & State of Illinois, aged Seventy two, who first being 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 1832.

I was born on the seventh day of April A.D. 1760, in the County of Amelia, Virginia & removed when about five years of age to the County of Macklinburg [sic: Mecklenburg] Virginia where I resided when called into service. In 1785 I removed to Wreatherford [sic: Rutherford] County N. Carolina where I remained until 1791. In this year I removed to Green County, Kentucky. In 1830 I removed to Sangamon County Illinois where I have since resided. The only record of my age is upon the leaf of a Testament given to me by my father & now in my possession - purporting to be a register of the births & deaths in my fathers family —

In August 1776 I was enrolled at Macklinburg County as a substitute for my brother William in a company of militia commanded by Capt Richard Swepston [or Swepson]. From Macklinburg we marched with another company of militia commanded by Capt. Petty through Brunswick & Dunwoodie [sic: Dinwiddie] Counties by Petersburg Cobham [Cobham Wharf in Surry County] & Suffolk Town to Portsmouth. we were attached to a regiment commanded by Col. Fred. Machlin & Major James Anderson. All the militia stationed at Portsmouth were as I understood at the time commanded by Gen'l. [Charles] Scott who joined us at Portsmouth Town a few day before our discharge. At this time I served three months as orderly sergeant. During the 3 mos. that we were in or near Portsmouth we were employed in protecting the country against the Tories who were embodied in small companies in the Dismal Swamp on one occasion I volunteered with about 40 others under Capt. Swepston to go in pursuit of a party of Tories who had fired upon a Company marching to join us. In this expedition after a slight skirmish we took fifteen prisoners who were sent to Hampton where Gen'l Scott then was. I do not remember any continental or militia regiments nor the names of any regular officers who served with us I received my discharge at Portsmouth from Col. Macklin - which I have lost.

About the first of Jan'y. 1781 in Macklinberg County Virginia I was enrolled as a drafted man in a company of militia commanded by Capt Jesse Sanders. About the tenth of the month we marched to Brunswick County where we were joined by several companies of militia We marched thence through Cobham & Cabin Point [in Surry County] to Suffolk Town. Here we were organized & our company was attached to a regiment (I think the seventeenth) commanded by Col. Alexander Dick and Major Long both regular officers. General Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] commanded all the militia at this place From Suffolk Town we marched to the Wet Camps where we were joined by Gen'l. [Baron von] Steuben, who aided in drilling the troops. The object for which the militia was called out at this time was to counteract the operations of Benedict Arnold who then had possession of Portsmouth Town - & prevent his incursions into the Country. I was on several occasions engaged in skirmishes with parties of the enemy - I do not remember any continental or militia regiments serving with us. The only regular officers, besides those already named, who name I recollect was Major Hamilton who was attached to another regiment. I served three months & ten days as orderly serjeant & received my discharge at the Wet Camps from Col. Dick which I have lost.

The same year 1781 I was enrolled at Macklingburg County as a drafted man in a company of militia commanded by Capt Richard Eperson [Richard Epperson] & Lieut. Jno. Clay. We marched with several of the companies of militia under Col Jesse Sanders & Major James Anderson through Prince Edward County to Yorktown to the siege of York where I remained until the Surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. I do not remember any continental or militia regiments who served with us except one regiment commanded by Col Tignal Jones The only regular

officers whose names I recollect were Gen'l Washington, Gen LaFayette, Gen Steuben & Col Hamilton. I served as a private 3 months and a few days and received my discharge from Col Saunders at Yorktown which I have lost. I have no documentary evidence of my service as above detailed - nor do I know of any person whose testimony I can procure - who can testify to my service - Mr James Haggard & Mr William Miller have been long acquainted with me & can testify to my character for veracity & their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.
Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. [signed] Philip Crowder