

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Campbell S3128

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } November Sessions 1833.

County of Cocke }

On this 26th day of November 1833 personally appeared in open court, before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, John Campbell, a resident in the County of Cocke and State of Tennessee, aged sixty eight years and six 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 7, 1832.

That the Declarant, John Campbell was born in Augusta County, State of Virginia – on the last day of May 1765. In his sixteenth year [i.e. age 15], the Declarant was placed on the muster roll by his Captain, who believed him to be sixteen, and being anxious to do military duty, he did not get excused on account of his under-age; but stood his draft, and in the Summer of 1780 In the month of June, day not recollected, he was drafted, at his company muster ground at William Guthrie's, about two miles from his father's house, by Capt William Finley – ___ Christy [probably Robert Christian] Lieutenant Hugh Fulton Ensign. Our rendezvous was at the Widow Tay's – now Waynesborough [sic: Widow Teas's Inn at present Waynesboro]. Several companies collected at this place. Colonel Christy [William Christian] took the command of us, Major Lockhart was Major From the Widow Tay's we were marched over the blue ridge through rockfish gap – the first night we encamped on the top of the mountain at Harry Line's The next day we crossed Mitchum's river [sic: Mechum River] the place of encampment the second night not recollected. We marched towards Richmond Encamping one night at Byrd's Ordinary [near confluence of James and Rivanna rivers] on the left hand of the road, one night at Allen's on the left hand of the road, and one at Johnson's Springs – passing through no town untill we got to Richmond which we reached in about two weeks. We marched through Richmond to Piney creek, where we remained till the expiration of our tour of three months in the month of September for the purpose of protecting Richmond and the adjacent Country against the British forces. Our force was between three and four hundred. We were occasionally ordered on scouting parties down James River. At the expiration of our tours of three months we returned to our place of Rendezvous under our Captains – and this Declarant was there discharged by Captain Finley – his discharge being signed by Capt. Finley and was sold by Declarant to Colonel Robin Gamble in Staunton for forty five shillings in goods. In this tour declarant served three months from the time of his being drafted in June 1780 till his discharge in September. In the month of July 1781 early in the month, day not recollected, the Declarant was again drafted at the same muster ground by Captain Finley ___ Christy Lieutenant Hugh Fulton Ensign. Our rendezvous was at the Widow Tay's. Several companies met here – among others, Capt [David] Gray's of Rockbridge Capt Smith of Staunton – five or six hundred men met at Widow Tay's – some of Botetourt, Augusta, RockBridge, Rockingham, and from the settlements called the Calf-Pastures – From the Widow Tay's we marched over the Blue ridge, through rockfish gap, encamping the first night at Wallace's at the foot of the mountain on the other side – we marched on the same rout as we did the year before to Richmond – through which we passed on to Ruffin's ferry [on Pamunkey River near Sweet Hall in King William County], where we joined Generals [Anthony] Wayne and Muhlenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] Crossing James River [sic] at Ruffin's ferry one Commissary Cunningham was drowned Thence we were marched back to Jamestown, and recrossed above it, thence down and recrossed below it again, and marched on to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] and encamped three miles below Williamsburgh at Burrell's Mill [sic: Burwell's Mill]. Thence we marched twelve miles to York, where we joined the Main Army under General Washington, and there remained untill a few days before Lord Cornwallis' Surrender [19 Oct 1781], when, his term of drafting having expired, he was marched under his Capt. Finley for his home.

And after reaching home Capt. Finley appointed a day for his company to meet him at the Widow Tay's and he there gave us our discharges for the tour of three months – commencing in July 1781 and ending in October 1781 – In this tour we served three months and two weeks – being kept two weeks over our term of service, on account of the delay of our relief. In the first tour my messmates were George Hutchison, Joseph Henderson [possibly pension applicant R4872], George Henderson, David Caldwell, Robin Bell, Aaron Silvy [possibly Aaron Silvar, W2872]. In my second tour my messmates were Sam Frazier, James Greenwood, Bill Hill [William Hill], Bob Esom, and two others not recollected. The Declarant lived in Augusta County with his Father Andrew Campbell until he was twenty three years of age when he moved to Greene County, E. T. [East Tennessee] where he lived two years, then moved to Cocke County, where he lived two years, thence to Jefferson County, where he lived eleven years thence to Cocke County, where he has lived thirty years, and where he now lives.

The Declarant does not recollect any other Continental officers besides General Wayne and Muhlenbergh – and General Washington – under whom he served in his last tour. He has no documentary evidence in regard to his service, and he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except he present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

John hisXmark Campbell

Question 1st./ Where and in what year were you born?

Answer 1st./ I was born in Augusta County, Virginia, on the 31st of May 1765

Question 2^{cd} Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer 2^{cd} I had a record of my age: But have lost it.

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into Service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer 3rd When called into service, I was living in Augusta County, State of Virginia. Since the Revolutionary War, I have lived three years in Virginia, and forty five years in the State of Tennessee, where I now live in Cocke County.

Question 4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?

Answer 4th. I was called into service by the Government of Virginia. I was drafted in each tour.

Question 5th. State the names of some of the Regular Officers, who were with the troops, where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer 5th. I did not serve with any continental soldiers in my first tour. In my second tour I was first under the command of Generals Wayne and Muhlenburgh, and afterwards under Gen'l. Washington – which continental officers I recollect. My first tour was for the protection of the City of Richmond and the adjacent country – said tour commencing in June, day not recollected, and ending in September – day not recollected. My second tour was employed in the Siege of York, commencing in July, day not recollected, and ending in October, day not recollected. The particulars of my service are detailed in my declaration.

Question 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer 6th – I received two discharges each signed by my Captain William Finley. The first I sold to Colonel Robin Gamble of Staunton. The second I sold to Jeanie Stuart of Staunton.

Question 7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer 7th. I would refer to the Reverend Joseph Manning, Mr. James Mason & John Inman Esq. who can be examined touching my character for veracity, and their belief of my services.

John hisXmark Campbell