

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Howel (Howell) Sellers S31357

fn18SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/26/11

[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.]

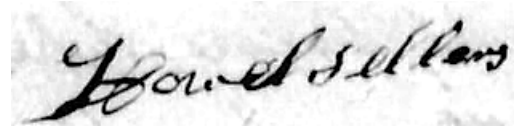
State of Illinois Sangamon County: SS: On this 17 day of October in the year A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Thomas Moffett, Reuben Harrison and JB Smith County Commissioners of the County Commissioners Court of Sangamon County now sitting, Howell Sellers aged seventy years next March who 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 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated. To wit. "I performed a tour of a little more than one month, as a volunteer militia man in the South Carolina Militia under Captain Arthur Simpkins in the year (I think) 1776 – in May & June we marched from Edgefield County South Carolina to East Florida against the British and Tories. Our General was __ Williamson [Andrew Williamson], our Colonels Beard and Winn and Major Andrew Pickens. We were marched to Saint Augustine but a disagreement took place between our General and the regular General and we were ordered back.

I also in the fall of the same year entered the service again as a volunteer in the South Carolina Militia, under the command of Captain John Ryan, and remained in service under him until sometime in July of the next year, some more than six months. During this tour we marched from Edgefield County South Carolina (my residence during all my services) to Savannah in Georgia against the British, but before we arrived they had taken the place, and we met them on the way. We then turned back marched to Augusta Georgia, and then crossed the River Savannah into South Carolina and encamped opposite Augusta and saw the British enter the place. There we remained until General Ash [John Ashe] of North Carolina came to the same place, when the British left the place, and Ash followed them to Brier Creek in Georgia and was there defeated by them. During our encampment at this place I was one of a party of about 200 who were ordered against the Creek Indians in Georgia and we had a battle with them on a Creek called Rocky Comfort, in which [indecipherable number or symbol] Indians were killed, in our Major Ross was wounded of which he died – we then marched from this encampment back to Georgia, towards Savannah, and crossed into South Carolina again at Summerall's ferry, and from there to Stono ferry on Ashley River where the British were encamped. There a battle was fought by General Lincoln and General Williamson against the British, who were protected by breastworks and entrenchments and we had therefore to withdraw. At this place I was taken sick and sent home, I think in July 1777 [the battle at Stono ferry took place on June 20, 1779]. I also performed 2 other tours one under Captain Nathan White, I think in the fall of 1777, of a little more than one month. During this tour we marched from Edgefield County South Carolina to Savannah and I was at the siege of that place by our troops while the British had possession of it.

In an attempt to storm the place General Pulaski [Casimir Pulaski was killed was killed: October 11, 1779] and the other under Captain James Corsey, in the year 1778 under him I continued in service for about one month. During this tour we marched in pursuit of the British to Ashley River in South Carolina where we joined General Greene's Army [Nathaniel Green did not arrive to take command of the Southern Division of the Continental Army until December 2, 1780 consequently, the term described by the veteran must have occurred sometime thereafter if his reference to Green is correct]. In this service we had no fighting.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State.



Sworn to and subscribed this __ day of October A.D. 1832

[Thomas Plaster, a clergyman, and Cyrus Kirby gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1. Where and in what year were you born

Answer. In North Carolina Chatham County in the month of March 1762

2. Have you any Record of your age etc.

Answer. No

3. Where were you living when called into service etc. etc.

Answer. In Edgefield County South Carolina and continued to live there since the war until I came to Tennessee where I resided for upwards of 30 years, and have since I left there lived in this state for 2 years.

4. Question – Answer I was always a volunteer.

5. Question. – Answer. General Lincoln, General Green, I do not recollect the names of any of the regular Colonels or captains, except Captain Moore and Lieutenant Prince. They were with us at the encampment opposite Augusta before we went to Stono ferry.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]