Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Boyd S35197 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 Oct 2017.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky Fleming County Sct

On this 8th day of September 1818 before the subscriber one of the Judges of the Circuit Court in and for the state aforesaid personally appeared William Boyd aged about Sixty four years who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement & declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late law of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the united states in the Revolutionary war

That he is a Citizen of the State of Kentucky and resident in the County of Fleming; and that he entered himself under Capt Cressap [Capt. Michael Cresap, 1st Company of MD Riflemen] in 1775 where he served twelve months afterwards Inlisted under Capt. Graif, in the flying Camp in Colo Boyds Regt. In July 1776 afterwards Inlisted under Capt Geo Baylor [sic: Col. George Baylor], Gen'l. Washingtons Reg't or life guard in 1778 & was in succession Commanded by the above named Captains That he continued to serve in the said differant Corps or in the Service of the United States in the Continettal army against the common enemy untill about the [blank] day of 1780 when he was honourably discharged from service at [blank] in the State of Pensylvania and was in the battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], Long Island [27 Aug 1776] & a great many others not now recollected.

That he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has lost his discharges and has no other evidence in his power except that hereunto annexed.

State of Kentucky, Sct.

Richard Boucher [pension application S36421], a citizen of Mason county, and a man of credibility, with whom I have been long personally acquainted, this day personally appeared before the undersigned, sole Judge of the Mason circuit court, and being duly sworn, deposes that he became acquainted with the above named William Boyd, at the Siege of Boston [17 Jun 1775 - 17 Mar 1776], in the year 1775, that he was then attached to a company commanded by Capt. Michael Cresap, being one of four independent companies raised by order of Congress, the whole being under the command of Capt. Hugh Stephenson, of Virginia. That after the Siege of Boston, the said Boyd was stationed on Statens Island [sic: Staten Island], New York, and served out his full period of enlistment, viz. one year. then he was discharged. That he has lately seen said Boyd, and knows him to be the same man.

State of Kentucky Sct.

On this sixth day of September 1821 Personally appeared in open Court; being a Court of Record expressly made so by the laws of the State, which created the same; William Boyd a resident citizen of the County of Fleming in the State aforesaid, aged about sixty seven years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18 March 1818, and the first of May 1820, that he the said William Boyd, enlisted &c as heretofore set forth, in his original declaration dated the 8 September 1818, and now on file in the War Office. I do further in pursuance of the act of Congress of the first of May 1820, most solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. Viz.

a debt due to me from Robert Vice in money	\$2.00
a debt due to me from same in trade	. 4.00
a debt due me from James Vaughn for shoemaking	. 2.50
a few shoemakers tools worth about	2.00
	\$9.50

That he the said William Boyd, was formerly a shoemaker by trade, but from old age and inability, am entirely unable to labour, at any kind of work or employ: That he has neither home or family, nor does he possess any property either real or personal other than that which is contained, in the foregoing schedule, his wearing apparel excepted; that he is unable to earn a maintainance in any manner. But must live on the bounty of his Country or hospitality of his friends and acquaintances.

William hisXmark Boyd

[The following are from rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.]

Kentucky/ Fleming County Sct.

William Boyd this day [31 May 1822] personally appeared before me, a Justice of the peace for the said County of Fleming, and made Oath, that in the year 1777 to the best of his recollection he enlisted as a Farior [sic: farrier] under and engagement that he was to have the pay &c of a Sargeant; That he done a Soldiers duty in every respect but in standing gard. That he enlisted for three years in Capt. John Stith's [BLWt2064-300] troop of Horse, in Colonel George Baylor's Regiment, in the Virginia line on Continental establishment, and that he continued to serve faithfully in said Corps, until he was taken prisoner by the British at a place in the state of New jersey, some times called by each of the following names; Viz, Hackinsack [sic: Hackensack], or Trepon, or Herrin Town, in the fall of the year 1779 and about Two years after he enlisted. That he was taken as a prisoner by the British to the City of New York, and as such, there kept for a good while, and ultimately, liberated by them on parole of Honor not to bear armes during that war unless legally Exchanged. That after being paroled as aforesaid, he reported himself with the manner of his Parole to Capt. Stith and other Officers of the Troop, (Baylor, being himself at that time a prisoner also at New York). None of which thought it right that he should join the army until Exchanged. And he further states that he never was exchanged. But remained as a prisoner of of War on parole of Honor until the end of the War. That he often reported himself to his Capt. and was always desirous to be exchanged so that he might join the service. That he was promised a land bounty at the time he enlisted. And that he has never received his land warrant for said service.

William hisXmark Boyd

Kentucky/ Fleming County Sct. [17 July 1822]

Samuel Blackburn of said County states on oath, That I am personally acquainted with the above William Boyd, and served with him during the Revolutionary War as a soldier between one and Two years, and know him well to be the same person, he has represent himself to be in his statement above made. I knew him as I have stated, while a Soldier with him and myself in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War. And have known him measurably ever since.

Samuel Blackburn

NOTE: A letter dated 14 Oct 1820 states that William Boyd lived near the Upper Blue Licks and "has had the palsey... for a few years past which has bent him down till his Chin lays low on the Breast, and it is scarcely in his power to raise it, his mental faculties are as much deranged as his bodily ones." A letter dated 25 Jan 1821 refers to Thomas Boyd, son of William Boyd.