

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Peter Parks S35546

f23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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Original Claim

State of Kentucky Ohio County Sct.

On this 16th day of October 1824 personally appeared in open Court (being a Court of record for the County aforesaid) Peter Parks page 60 years, resident in said County of Ohio, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st May 1820, that he the said Peter Parks enlisted for the term of two years & a half; he does not now recollect the day nor the year in the County of Northampton in the State of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain Bursh [sic, ? probably William Bush] he was transferred from thence to the Company commanded by Captain Dunahoo [sic, Thomas Donoho] from thence to the Company commanded by Captain Yarber [sic, Edward Yarborough] in the last of which Companies he was discharged in the 2nd North Carolina Regiment commanded by Colonel Dixon [Henry Dixon] on the Continental establishment he continued to serve in said Corps till he served his term of 2 years & a half, when he was discharged from the said service in the State of South Carolina near Bacon's Bridge about 21 miles from the City of Charleston -- he served under one engagement -- that he was in the Battles of Camden [August 15-16, 1780], the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] & some skirmishes. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820, I do 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 whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act 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" 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 whatever -- his occupation is that of a farmer -- he has no children over whom he has any control, he lives with his son = from old age & a life of great exposure he is unable to perform much labor = he solemnly swears that the reasons are the following which prevented him from applying for a pension before July last = that he did not know for some length of time after the 18th of March 1818 that there was any law allowing old soldiers pensions -- that he spoke of applying for a pension & was informed that it was impossible for him to draw without a discharge = & that he knew no better till last spring when he was informed that evidence of 2 witnesses would entitle him to draw = he then got a gentleman to write to some of his fellow soldiers in North Carolina for their depositions, but not

hearing from them he presumed they were dead or had left the Country = he felt no disposition to be an expense to his Country -- but knowing that others drew pension who situations were much better than his -- well knowing he served faithfully & underwent great toil, danger & difficulty -- that he hazarded & exposed his life & impaired his constitution, knowing that by fighting for his country he had been deprived of that time & vigor of constitution which would have enabled him to have accumulated property to have protected himself in his present distressed situation -- he has of late resolved to apply for a pension: And thinking it no sin to do so = he does farther solemnly swear that some time before in the years 1818 or 1819 -- he got engaged unfortunately in an affray in defense of a young friend for which he was sued & expecting a Judgment for damages would be recovered against him he conveyed away the little property he had & the person to whom he conveyed it has ever since refused & still refuses to reconvey it to him = which has left him wholly dependent -- he does solemnly swear that he knew nothing of the law of Congress allowing pensions to soldiers at the time of said conveyance & that it was not made with any view to obtain a pension at any time but was made for the only & sole purpose of preventing the collection of the judgment aforesaid if any were recovered.

S/ Peter Parks, X his mark

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State of Kentucky Ohio County Sct:

This day and year Peter Parks personally appeared before me a justice of the peace for said County made oath that his son Quentin Parks to whom his property was conveyed in the year 1819 is now 150 miles from this place as he expects & cannot be had now to explain the reasons why he refuses to reconvey (the property spoken of in the conveyance herewith marked (A)) to this affiant said Parks' father [sic, further] made oath that the conveyance as made to his son was not made with any view or intention to bring himself within the provisions of any of the laws of the United States allowing pensions to Revolutionary soldiers -- he made oath that the conveyance was made to prevent the collection of what he thought a very unjust Judgment that he expected would come against him = He made oath that James Elmore is the name of the person who sued him in the Jessamine Circuit Court of this State for an assault & battery that it is at least 150 miles from this place to Jessamine, where the record of said suit is kept, that if it is required by the Secretary of War, he will hereafter procure a copy of said record.

He made oath that the Bill of Sale herewith forwarded to the Secretary of War includes all the property which he conveyed in relation to the affray spoken of & that it included all the property he had on Earth = in order father [sic, further] & more fully to explain the affray alluded to with Elmore this affiant states, that said Elmore & George Madison were contending about a corner to a tract of land = this affiant had long long lived on the land of Madison's mother & was intimate & friendly with the Madison family he felt Elmore wished to defraud young Madison out of his land -- Elmore called on this affiant to show the corner tree. This affiant did so & said he would swear to it. Elmore disputed the fact & insinuated that deponent would swear falsely, at which this affiant beat him severely with a stick. Elmore sued this affiant & the public settlement was that he would recover damages to a large amount which made this affiant convey his property out of his hands -- This affiant states that the oldest of the Negroes conveyed was worth at that time about \$200 in gold or silver or US paper. The youngest about \$150, his son has disposed of all the horse=bruits spoken of but one -- at the time of the conveyance they were worth about \$50 each = all the hogs had long since been killed, the cows & sheep are now all or mostly dead or disposed of = This affiant would state to the Secretary of War that he would scorn

to resort to any subterfuge or dishonorable conduct for the sake of a Pension = knowing that he is now poor & old & not able to do much -- knowing that he fought hard & faithful for the liberty of his Country -- knowing that his conduct has been fair -- & that others are receiving pensions that the laws of the land entitle him also to one, he is emboldened to pursue & renew his application, hoping that justice will be done & that his claim will not be rejected -- I do certify that said Parks is worthy of credit --

Sworn to before me this 31st day of January 1825.

S/ J. C. Rogers, JP

[p 6: Daniel Parks, brother of Quinton Parks and son of Peter Parks gave testimony that he did not know why his brother refused to reconvey the property to his father but that he knows he has refused to do so.]

[p 10 is a Bill of Sale from Peter Parks to Quinton Park conveying a Negro girl named Lidea, aged about 13; a Negro girl named Carroline [sic, Caroline?] aged about 7; 4 mares (a gray, a brown, a bay and a bright bay); 13 head of horned cattle; 24 head of sheep; 30 head of hogs; 3 beds and furniture; and all of his kitchen furniture; 30 barrels of corn. The Bill is dated April 3, 1819 and is witnessed by Richard E. Meade and John M. Henderson.]

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State of North Carolina, Secretary's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in & for the State aforesaid, do certify, that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Peter Parks a private in Captain Yarborough's Company of the 10th Regiment was mustered sometime in the year 1781 for the term of 12 months, and that his time was out on the first of May 1782.

Given under my hand at office this 13th of November 1824.

S/ Wm Hill

I have no doubt of Peter Parks having served 12 months, if he served longer there is no record of it in this Office.

S/ Wm Hill, Secry
of State of No. Carolina

13th of November 1824

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing January 31, 1825, for service as a private for 12 months in the North Carolina Continental line.]