

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Pruit (Pruitt) S35587

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Rockcastle County Sct.

On this the 29th day of June 1829 in open Court, it being a Court of record made so by act of assembly and proceeding according to the course of the Common Law, before the Honorable Joseph Eve Circuit Judge, John Pruett resident in said County aged seventy five years who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision made by act of Congress on the 18th of March 1818 and act 1st May 1820 that he the said John Pruett enlisted for the Term of eighteen months in year of ----- about six months before the battle Eutaw Springs in South Carolina [8 Sep 1781], in Henry County State of Virginia in Company commanded by Captain Bryce Martain [sic: Brice Martin of the Henry County Militia] in the regiment as he now believes commanded by Col'n Stephens but by some called then Gen'l. Stephens [sic: Gen. Edward Stevens] on the line of the State of Virginia on Continental establishment, that shortly before the Battle of Eutaw Springs he was place under the command of Capt William (as he beleaves) Dooling[?] who was a regular officer on Continental establishment under the three years enlistment, and beleaves that belonged to the line of the State of North Carolina but as to this he would not be positive, the Regiment that he belonged to never assembled rendezoused together until shortly before the Eutaw Springs; when they rendvoused near the Eutaw Springs & was placed under the Command of Gen'l. Stephens or Col'n. Stephens that if he was not the Colonel the Colonels name he has forgotten, but if the Secretary of War will Examine the Bregade of Gen'l. Stephens he will find his name, no doubt and his name and Capt Doolins Company roll which will show the regiment he was attached to, That he served out his time of servis in said Corps when he was discharged by Capt. Dooling and Gen'l. Stephens (which he has lost) at Gilford [sic: Guilford] Courthouse in the State of North carolina. When he enlisted he enlisted in a three years Corps, which had partly Expired but many who had enlisted for three years deserted. Some Companies became broke and he enlisted to fill up vacancies.

To enable the Secretary of War to find his name he would refer him to the pension roll See the Pen of John Colyer [pension application W8624], who belonged to Capt. Martain's Company, who was an Officer in said Company, and served with him and Capt. Dooling, who got wounded in a fight with the Tories, and was placed on the pension roll, for wounds received in the servis, and departed this life on the last day of March 1826. When he was plased on the pension roll he resided in Kentucky, and at the time of his death he resided in Rockcastle County Kentucky and previous to his death he drew his pension at Philadelphia the last he drew was at Washington City by the Honorable R. P. Letcher late of Congress from Kentucky. By Refference to his application it will enable the Secretary of War to find the Regiment to which he belonged, if not here stated correctly.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present that his name is not on the roll of any state, except the roll of the state of Virginia On Continental establishment, and that the following are the reasons for not making application for a pension, until about one year past he had the assistance of two grand children who by their labour supported him, but they have left him and he is so old and infirm that he is now unable to support himself.

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 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 persons engaged in the land and naval servis of the United States the revolutionary War passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person for me in trust 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. 100 acres of land worth 60\$ and no more two Cows and two yearlins worth 20\$ ten or twelve hogs

worth 12\$ and no more

On the 18th of March 1818 he did not own the above land, and all the property and estate owned by him at that time as well as he remembers was three head of horses, all of which since has died. he owned some Cattle and hogs but the number and value he does not know, that no changes have taken place in them except what he has used for the support of himself and family the Cattle and hogs at that time [two or three illegible words] 60\$

[signed] John Pruit

That he is by Occupation a farmer but owing to old age and bodily infirmity he can do but little at it. He has no family except a boy David Pruett his grandson eleven years old able to plow but has no workbeast

Kentucky Rockcastle Circuit Court

March Term 1830

On the 10th day of March 1830 John Pruett before the Honourable Joseph Eve Circuit Judge in Open Court upon Oath made the following Declaration in addition to his former Dec. and Schedule filed in the above Court on the 29th of June 1829 marked on the back 20.079

He states he remained under Capt. Martain three months when in consequence of bad health he was paroled for 40 days, but being unable to return he did not rejoin his Company at the end of the paroll, & he was fearful he would be returned a deserter, but in about ten days after he rejoined the Armeey, when Capt. Martain's Company was broke he was put in Capt Doolings Company and was with him a short time when he was at divers times put under other Officers but whos names he does not now remember, for the last ten years he has principally lost his hearing & memory in consequence of a stroke on the head with a rock he would further state that at the battle of Gilford N.C. [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] he was wounded very badly in the knee and before he got well his time expired and was discharged by Gen'l. Stephens this discharge has long since been lost but he remembers well that it bore on its face the name of Gen'l. Stephens

[signed] John Pruitt