

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Pearson S3662

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/1/12

[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 Tennessee Rutherford County

On this 18th day of October 1832 personally appeared before me David Nolar an acting Justice of the Peace at his own house in the County and State aforesaid David Person [sic] a resident of said State and County, aged eighty-one or two years, 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 7th of June 1832 – That he was born in the County of James City State of Virginia, but in what year he cannot recollect and then moved to Charles City County, and afterwards to Chesterfield County, and in Chesterfield he was drafted, and joined the Service of the United States at Chesterfield Court House under Captain Joseph Bass – At this point of rendezvous, the Captain was informed that the situation of declarant's family was such that he could not leave them – and he was furloughed for forty days, and declarant returned home and before the expiration of the forty days the Company was discharged – Declarant is an illiterate and an unlettered man and does not know the year that he entered the service in this campaign – Shortly after this service had expired declarant, moved with his family to Amelia County, and within twelve months after his first Tour, he was again called out under Captain Paulding Anderson, and rendezvoused at the rope works at Richmond, under General Mulenburg [Peter Muhlenberg], and here he was stationed until his Tour expired and he was discharged by the General's command. In this Campaign he served his full Tour of three months – He returned home, and remained there until his number was again called out, and he thinks in the same year; declarant again joined the service, under Captain __Knight again rendezvoused at the Rope works in Richmond under General Muhlenberg and was encamped there until discharged, after his Tour had expired, which was three months, and declarant returned home – Declarant remained at home until his Tour of duty again came round, and he entered the service under Captain Joseph Jennings and rendezvoused at Swift Creek in Chesterfield County under the command of General Muhlenberg – Declarant thinks that Colonel __Downman and Major __Edmondson commanded the Regiment to which he was attached – The Corps was encamped at Swift Creek upwards of a month, and was then marched from this point by Chesterfield Court house, and then the high road to Cabin Point – and after being encamped there some time, the Corps or a part was marched to Wilton, there was then encamped at the same time regular Troops, but who commanded them he does not know – On this campaign he served his full Tour of three months – Sometime after declarant returned from this Tour he removed with his family into Nottoway County, where he arrived just before Christmas Though he cannot recollect the year, and shortly after Christmas he was again called into service under Captain John Dennis and rendezvoused at Butterwood Spring – at this place Colonel Downman and Major Edmondson joined the Corps and took the command – and marched through Dinwiddie County, and then to

Cary's Mills in Chesterfield County – then crossed James River and then to Wilton – At this place General Muhlenberg took the command – while declarant was encamped at Wilton the Negroes and Tories were plundering and committing other outrages of James River, and Colonel Richard Randolph was sent with a detachment of infantry in pursuit of them, and defeated them at the dwelling house or at the Farm of Colonel Charles Carter – An express came to Wilton, to the commanding General demanding a reinforcement to bring off the property taken from the Tories and Negroes; and it was brought to camp and exposed at public auction, and amongst it was two Negroes – and the auctioneer using some language which displeased Major Boyd, who drew his sword and struck the auctioneer, and wounded him dangerously – Boyd as he understood was chastened for the offense – After his full three months Tour he was discharged and returned home – Declarant moved back to Amelia [County] with his family – and was again drafted and placed under the command of Captain Wm Criwlay [??]¹—and rendezvoused at Chesterfield Court house – and a detachment was sent to the Manasaw [?]² Town for arms & munitions, and were met by the Continental Troops bringing them – the Corps was equipped and marched by Colonel [indecipherable name]³ to the Isle of Wight to Mackey's Mill – Colonel Downman, and Major Edmondson [one or more indecipherable words]⁴ at Mackey's Mills under General Bob Lawson [Robert Lawson] – At this place declarant was as one of the sick sent back to Cabin Point to be placed in the hospital, and there being no hospital, declarant with the rest of the sick were discharged, and he went home – soon after his return home he again entered the service under Captain John Dennis, and was marched to Wilton, and from Wilton he was marched to Ausbins[?]⁵ and back again to Wilton – the Marquis Lafayette was stationed at Wilton at this time, and he took a detachment of regulars and Militia, and on a Saturday and Sunday he can and aided the British encampment at Petersburg.*

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Lewis Nolen, JP

S/ David Pearson, X his mark

[Randolph B Hall, a clergyman, and Charles Parks gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

*During the cannonade the British commanding General & Staff and General Stephens took refuge at Mrs. Spence's, and there Stephens was killed – After the cannonade, the Army crossed the River and was ordered to Petersburg, but the order was countermanded and returned to the encampment at Wilton – and from there the Corps was marched to Richmond – The Corps was here under the command of Lafayette, Muhlenberg and Lawson, and was marched north to meet General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] – and the command moved up through Virginia and crossed the Rappahannock [River] at the Raccoon Ford, and thence into Culpeper County, and information was received that General Wayne was at Culpeper Church – Declarant was discharged in Culpeper and returned home – In this last campaign declarant was to serve four months – Declarant had been at home but a short time when he was again called out, under

1 *cap. Wm Criwlay* The War Dept. interpreted the name as "William Crowley" or "Crawley"

2 *Manasaw*

3 *Col. [indecipherable]*

4 *Major Edmondson*

5 *Ausbins*

Captain Richard Oglisvie [sic, Richard Ogilvie?]; and he being unable to do duty, he was furloughed for forty days, and before the forty days was expired, all the drafted man were ordered to join their respective Corps, and declarant set out on his march for headquarters, and after arriving within two days march of York, he met the Troops returning, announcing the intelligence of the capture of the British Army [October 19, 1781] – and he returned home after a service of four weeks – He thinks he was in service eighteen months or upwards – though he cannot recollect the dates at which times he entered and quit his different campaigns – he cannot read and he has no record in his possession to aid his memory – and he has lost his discharges.

Lewis Nolen, JP

S/ David Pearson, X his mark

Interrogatories

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in James City County Virginia – but the year I do not recollect

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer I have no record of my age

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer I was living in Chesterfield, and Amelia and Nottoway – I have lived in Virginia – in the aforesaid Counties and Halifax – and since in Tennessee.

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

Answer – I was drafted

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer – I do not recollect any Officers belonging to the regular service but Lafayette – I saw some regular soldiers, but what they were or who commanded them I do not know –

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 I did from General Muhlenberg, but I have lost them.

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

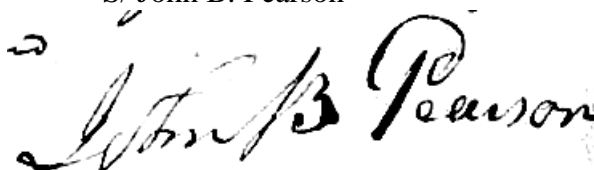
Answer Elijah Hickeybothan, William Wallace, William Duglass, John Stroop, Joshua Coleman

John B Pearson makes oath, that he was acquainted with the applicant David Parson[sic] during the revolutionary War, and more particularly at the close of it, when he could recollect more distinctly the occurrences of those times – and he well recollects, that the applicant served one full Tour of duty in the service of the United States under Captain Crawley and that he knew of his performing before and after said Tour of duty, other service, making more than the period of six months.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Lewis Nolen, JP

S/ John B. Pearson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John B. Pearson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John B. Pearson".

The amended declaration of David Pearson in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832
State of Tennessee Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the County and State aforesaid at his own house in said County and State the revolutionary soldier David Pearson, who subscribed and swore to his first declaration before Lewis Nolen a Justice of the Peace for said County of Rutherford on the 18th of October 1832 and which declaration is hereto annexed, who being duly sworn deposed and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise periods or length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and at or near the times specified, and in the following grades – For the period of six weeks under Captain Joseph Bass as a private drafted militia man in the year 1778 – For three months in the year 1779 as a drafted militia man under the command of Captain Paulding Anderson – For three months [in] 1779 as a militia man under the command of Captain Knight – For three months as a militia man under Captain Joseph Jennings the last of the year 1779 or first of the year 1780 – For three months – For three months a militia man under command of Captain John Dennis in the year 1780 – For three months as a drafted militia man under the command of Wm Crawley in the year 1780 – For four months in the year 1781 under the command of Captain John Dennis as a drafted militia man – In the year 1781 which was his last Tour under Captain Richard Oglesvie, he served two months as a drafted militia man, including his actual service, and the term he was furloughed – making the whole length of declarant's services twenty-two months and two weeks and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ David Pearson, X his mark

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of April 1833 – the applicant being blind and infirm and unable to attend Court.

Given under my hand do do

S/ J. W. Conly, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 18 months in the Virginia militia.]