

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Perkins S3677

f15GA

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.]

State of Tennessee County of Warren

On this the 10th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Warren in the State of Tennessee now sitting present the Worshipful William McGrigger, Aron Higginbotham and Samuel Duely [?] -- Esquires and presiding Justices of said Court Moses Perkins a resident in the County and State aforesaid that he is in the County of Warren and State of Tennessee aged 75 years to the best of his belief, 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 June the 7th 1832.

He entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated:

That in the fall season of the year 1778 he cannot state the day or month but knows it was about the time mentioned he entered the service of the United States. He volunteered into the service in Wilkes County State of Georgia. He attached himself to a company commanded by James Gray of which company Abingdon Perkins was Lieutenant, he does not recollect the name of the Ensign of the company, he rendezvoused at Dula's Station [sic, Dooly's Station?] in the County of Wilkes aforesaid and there joined the company aforesaid which company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel John Dula [sic, John Dooly?], commandant and Lieutenant Colonel Elijah Clark, he does not recollect the names of the Majors of the Regiment, but he thinks one of them was Thomas Duly [sic, Thomas Dooly?] the brother of Colonel. At this time the Indians and Tories were exceedingly troublesome on the frontiers of Georgia, such was the extent of their cruelties that many defenseless families stationed themselves either in Dula's Station or Fort as it may be called for protection, at this place and in this station his Regiment was stationed for the purpose of protecting that section of the country from the inroads of the Indians and -- and whites -- they being Tories who lived with them, (who frequently visited them in both large and small bodies[]), he here remained thus employed until his Tour expired he does not now recollect how long the Tour was but he is certain that he served at least 6 months and he thinks longer, it was in the first of the fall season (fodder pulling time) when he entered he does not recollect the precise day: At the expiration of his tour which he thinks was sometime in the first part of the Spring of 1779, he does not recollect the precise time he was at Dula's Station in Wilkes County State of Georgia verbally discharged by his Captain James Gray. During this Tour he heard of Savanas [Savannah's] being taken by the British, from Dula's Fort he went to his residence which was in the same County.

Sometime in the spring season he cannot state the precise time he thinks it was about the first of April 1779, he again entered the service of the United States, he was drafted into the service does not recollect for what length of time he rendezvoused at Washington in Wilkes County State of Georgia about the time last aforesaid, he was attached to a company commanded by Captain James Gray of which Abingdon Perkins was the Lieutenant, does not recollect the name of the Ensign, his Company was attached to a Regiment commanded by John Dula Colonel commandant and Elijah Clarke Colonel Lieutenant [sic, Lt. Col.] does not recollect the names of the Majors of the Regiment, in a very few days after he rendezvoused the entire Regiment marched in the direction of Savannah, with a view as he understood of joining the other forces and opposing the advance of the British to the upper parts of Georgia from Washington they marched as far down the country as Brier Creek, he does not think it was very far from Savannah and going to which they crossed Little River, went near though not through Augusta, not having formed a Junction with any other forces, applicant and his Regiment retreated towards the upper Country: they first in their retrograde march went to Augusta where they remained for some time at which place there were troops stationed he thinks they were regulars from there he and his Regiment were marched back to Wilkes County in Georgia, and to a Fort in that County called Clarke's Fort, it was on Long Creek, he was there stationed for the protection of the frontiers against the Indians and Tories, after having remained there for some time he was marched to Nails Fort on Broad River in the same County and about a day's march from Clarke's, there he remained for some time, and was then marched back to Clarke's, and was in this Tour frequently marched from the one of these forts to the other as necessity required, he was thus employed until his tour expired he does not recollect the length of time constituted the Tour but he is certain that he served at least 6 months. In marching from Washington to Brier Creek he does not recollect of passing many places of notoriety the country was newly settled and but thinly inhabited, for this Tour he was verbally discharged about the first of October in 1779 at Nails Fort in Wilkes County State of Georgia. Shortly after this the Tories killed Colonel Dula at his own house.

In the Spring season of the year 1780 he does not recollect the precise time he again entered the service of the United States, he volunteered into the service he does not recollect for what length of time in Wilkes County State of Georgia, he entered the service and rendezvoused at the Gourd Vine Station in Wilkes County State of Georgia, he attached himself to a company commanded by Captain Peter Rockman does not recollect the names of the Lieutenant or Ensign, this company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Elijah Clarke, Colonel commandant (promoted by the death of Duly) and John Cunningham Colonel Lieutenant, at the place of rendezvous they were joined by a Regiment from South Carolina commanded by Colonel Andrew Pickens and Colonel Robert Anderson, he is not certain whether Perkins was a Colonel or General at all events he assumed the command in chief, applicant does not recollect the names of the Majors of his Regiment; At this time it was understood that a body of Indians and Tories had collected and were marching from the Cherokee Nation to attack the frontiers of Georgia. Applicant's Regiment and that of Anderson were marched against them, from the place of and in a few days after the rendezvous of the troops they marched into the Cherokee Nation on the South Bank of the Oconee River they came in contact with the Indians and Tories, they fought and defeated them, they were on their way to the settlements -- they killed some of them and took some prisoners -- among which number was 2 Tories to wit Adam Luny who was taken by applicant and Daniel Murphy each of whom they hung on the bank of the River to a tree, they having been guilty of some great acts of atrocity, this Battle took place at the Bigg Shoals [Big

Shoals] on said River, from there they were marched back to the Gourd Vine Station in Wilkes County in the State of Georgia, where he was in the spring of the year of 1780 for really discharged by his Captain Peter Rockman, he served in this tour at least 3 weeks.

After the expiration of the last mentioned Tour he cannot state the precise time but thinks it was in the first part of the year 1781 or the latter part of 1780, he again entered the service of the United States he volunteered into the service, he attached himself to a company of mounted militia commanded by Captain Peter does not recollect the Lieutenant which company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel commandant Elijah Clarke and Lieutenant Colonel John Cunningham he entered the service volunteered and rendezvoused at Washington in Wilkes County State of Georgia. The object of this Tour was to overrun the Cherokee Nation. They were also joined by the Regiment of General or Colonel Pickens and Colonel Anderson from South Carolina, from the place of rendezvous, they marched to the Chatahoocha River [sic, Chattahoochee River] in the Cherokee Nation, there they took two Indians prisoners, from there they were marched to the Indian Town called the Long Swamp town, on the Hightower River [Hiwassee River?] -- There they killed several Indians and took seventeen prisoners from here they were marched to a village or place called Vans on a Creek name not recollected here they took 4 or 5 Tories prisoners of whom they hung one by the name of Williams. From here they marched to a Creek called then Scillacoa [sic, Salacoa] a branch of the Coosa River, here they camped for some days, heard of some Indians, there at a place called the Pine Log Town then marched to it and took 18 Indians and one Tory prisoners. Here they remained for a few days, and the officers turned some of the Indians lose with a talk for their Brother Indians, from there they were marched back to Washington Wilkes County State of Georgia, there the South Carolina Regiment left them, and applicant was permitted to go home for a very short time and did join his Regiment again at that place at the time designated for the purpose of marching into the Creek nation which he did at the place and time designated, where he now joined his company he found that his Captain had been removed from the command how and for what cause he does not recollect or know it was then commanded by Captain John Burks: His Regiment was now joined by a Regiment from the lower part of Georgia commanded by General or Colonel Twiggs, he does not know whether he was a General or Colonel. He and those regiments then marched as far as the Oconee River into the Creek Nation, here they heard unfavorable accounts of the number of Indians ready to meet them and considering it perilous to advance any further stopped and tried ineffectually to treat with the Indians. He was then marched back to Washington in Wilkes County State of Georgia when and where he was discharged by his Captain John Burks in writing, he does not recollect the precise time but it was about 5 1/2 months from the time of his entering the service for this Tour. -- In this Tour he served at least 5 months.

He has no documentary evidence of his services, he knows of no person who he can procure by whom he can prove his services, or any part of them.

To the first question he says he was born in Lincoln County State of North Carolina, sometime in the year of 1758, he cannot state for the want of recollection the day or month.

2. To the 2nd interrogatory, he says at this time he has no record of his age, he once had it was burnt up in his house which was consumed by fire.

3. When called into the Service he lived in Wilkes County State of Georgia, where he resided until some years after the revolution, he then moved to Pendleton District State of South Carolina, where he lived until about the year 1804, when he moved to this Warren County in the State of Tennessee, where he now and has ever since lived with the exception of about 6 years,

which time he lived in the State of Alabama.

4. The first Tour he volunteered into the service, 6 months

The 2nd Tour he was drafted into the service -- 6 months

The 3rd Tour he volunteered into the service -- 3 weeks

The 4th Tour he served he volunteered into service served 5 months

5. He cannot state the names of any of the Regular officers with certainty or Continental regiments nor can he state anything more upon the subject of militia regiments than is stated in the body of his declaration he thinks it possible the Regiment that marched with them to the Indian nation from South Carolina and commanded by Colonels Anderson and Pickens were Regulars and they Regular Officers he is not certain, he was not with any of the Regulars at Augusta, though he lay near them, and did not learn any of their names.

6. For the 4th and last Tour he received a discharge in writing it was given by his Captain John Burks it has long since been lost or destroyed he does not know how or when, for the other 3 tours he was verbally discharged.

7. He is known to Clemma Sullivan a clergyman, Major Joseph Colville, Waldoo Cutter -- and [indecipherable word] others all of whom now live and have for many years in his present neighborhood and he thinks they will testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the revolution.

At the time applicant served in the Revolution he was an humble member of society, lived on the frontiers, and was principally employed in its defense, or in services conducive thereto, he therefore is not able to state from his own knowledge many of the incidents of the revolution --

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Jos Colville

by L. Colville, DC

S/ Moses Perkins, X his mark

[Clemma Sullivan, a clergyman, and Waldoo Cutler gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$59 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 17 months and 21 days in the Georgia militia.]