

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin D. Corder, S38622
Transcribed by J Richards

f14VA
3/12/11

Punctuation, grammar and spelling have been maintained from the original; no modifications have been made.

State of Kentucky, Hart County, to wit

On this 12th day of May 1834 Benjamin D Corder a resident citizen of said county appeared in open court in the Hart Circuit Court, for said county, and being first duly sworn according to law, made the following statement in order to obtain a pension from the government of the United States under the act of Congress of the 7th day of June 1832. Said Corder stated that he was 69 years of age on the 4th day of April 1834. and that he rendered service, and served under the officers hereafter named in the American Revolution.

He in the year 1781 ran away from his father with whom he was living in the County of Fauquier in the State of Virginia, and went to Fredericksburgh [Fredericksburg] Virginia at which place in the month of March, he thinks about the first of the month in the said year 1781, he volunteered in the militia of said state to serve a tour of three months; he joined and served in the company commanded by Captain John Ball. The lieutenant's name was Thomas Nelson, the ensign was of the name Wm Madcap,¹ in the regiment commanded by Colonel Elias Edmonds from Fredericksburgh [Fredericksburg]. The troops and himself in the number were marched to Hickory Nutt Church [Hickory Nutt Church]. From that place they were marched to the Maishin Hills [Malvern Hills] where they remained about two weeks where he remained, which tour then expired while he was at, Maishin Hills, and he was then discharged, but immediately without returning home, again, he entered service for three months more, which was in the month of June 1781, while performing service in this tour, he was marched to a place called Chickahominy and from there to a place entered the Burnt Quarry and round about that section of the country, watching & keeping the enemy in check; he was in no general engagement with the British, but was in several affairs that may have been called skirmishes, to the best of his recollection. When his second tour of service expired he was at Williamsburgh, where he was discharged at the barracks at that place. He then in like manner without returning home, again, entered service for the third tour of three months, in the same company tho Captain Ball on account of sickness had returned home & a part of the second tour the company was then commanded by Len alias Leonard Sharp as Captain, but who commanded the company through the third tour he does not remember, but recollects that Sharp did not, as his tour had expired & he returned home; he recollects he had the same messmates - to wit, John Smoot,² Enoch Haddicks, Frank Southard and George Southard³; the company was then put in a regiment commanded by Colonel __ Mathis, this company had belonged to the infantry: from Old Williamsburgh [Williamsburg], where he entered for the third term he was marched to the Siege of Yorktown where he continued to serve as long as he was required & was discharged by his officers, and went home. During the siege he recollects that two of his acquaintances, to wit, David Bradley and James Grant, were killed.

Each of the campaigns or tours were served in the same company and during the third tour the same captain did not command. He remembered well the accounts & circumstances of the British pursuing Colonel Mathis near the Burnt Honory, but by the fleetness of Colonel Mathis's horse he made his escape.

¹ This might be a mistaken reference to John Metcalf who is listed in McAllister's roster of Virginia Militia officers as serving as an ensign from Fauquier County.

² This might be [John Smoot S1252](#)

³ This might be [George Southworth W6142](#)

He was discharged at Elliot's Warehouses in Virginia but who the officer was that discharged him he does not remember, he well recollects however the circumstances of his discharge there which was late in the fall of the year 1781. He is not confident, but thinks the man's name was Weatherby who gave him his discharge, he was a dark skin small man he distinctly remembers. His discharge he has long since lost or destroyed so that he cannot now find it.

He was born in Fauquier County Virginia, the record of his age is in his father's prayer book, now in existence as he believes whose affidavit he has taken to prove two of the tours of his said service - he served for himself & volunteered as he has stated. He remembers Major Welsh who was at the Maishin Hills and was a regular officer, he remembers also Colonel Stephens, who was afterwards General Stephens of Culpepper [Culpeper] who he frequently saw while in the service, and others.

In the course of about six years after the Revolutionary War, he removed from Fauquier County to Frederick & lived there about twenty years, and from there removed to Washington County Kentucky in that part, which is near Marion County, & from there he removed to Hart County in April 1834 where he now resides. He has, one other witness only that he knows of living by whom he can prove any of his service; by her, he believes he could prove only what he has proven by those affidavits he has taken. He has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no other testimony beyond what he has stated. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity from the government, except the present & declares his name is not on the pension roll or agency of any state in the union. He further states that he was but little known in this county & does not know that he can procure any clergyman to certify as to his belief of his services or that such is the tradition in his neighborhood and it is quite inconvenient to procure one from Marion County.

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

Benjamin (his X mark) D. Corder

And the said circuit court after making the examination and putting the inquiries required by the Secretary of War and examining the affidavits of William Corder and Nancy Corder presented to the court, do declare their opinion that the said Benjamin D. Corder was a soldier of the Revolution and serve as has stated in his declaration above which is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of War, and the Commissioner of Pensions.

I George T. Wood Clerk of the Hart Circuit Court, do certify that the above, is the original, of the matter, of the application of the said Benjamin D Corder for a pension; In testimony whereof I hereto act my hand & office the seal of said court on this 12th day of May 1834.

George T. Wood

Clerk of the Circuit of Hart County Ky

[Joseph Whitehead, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]

Proof of military service:

Confirmation of military service in the above pension application was provided in documentation found in *Neglected and Forgotten: Fauquier County, Virginia, French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, & War of 1812 Veterans from the Military Record Series of the Fauquier County, Virginia, Clerks Loose Papers, 1759-1825* by Joan W. Peters, published by Willow Bend Books, an imprint of Heritage Books, Inc., 2004, Bowie, MD. Page 4 provides an extract from 1782-001 Revolutionary War Soldiers, Misc Lists, Fauquier County Militia (original) Req. C 7106. List #2 outlines those who served in Capt. John Ball's unit and enumerates **Benjamin Corder**, Private, who served 2 months, 10 days.