

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Cowley S39336

f24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/4/11 & 1/2/20

[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.]

South Carolina

Robert Cowley of Chester District in the State aforesaid being Solemnly Sworn Declareth, that in the year 1776 he enlisted as a Common Soldier for fifteen months in the sixth South Carolina Regiment of the Army of the Revolution [under] Colonel Thomas Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], Captain James Duff, that he did duly [serve] with that Regiment until the expiration of his enlistment and was regularly discharged on the first day of June 1777 and that the annexed is a part of his discharge the signature to which has been torn off and lost by accident. The Declarant further states that he is informed and believes that this Regiment was placed by the constituted authorities on the Continental establishment and clothed, paid & subsisted by the United States.

The Declarer further saith that he is a native of the United States that he has always heretofore and still resides therein and that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his Country for support.

Sworn to & subscribed or of November 1818.

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

S// David Johnson

State of South Carolina Chester district

Personally appeared Hugh Knox¹ Esq. before me James Anderson one of the Justices in and for said District who being duly Sworn agreeable to law affirms and saith upon his oath that he the deponent was an Enlisted Soldier in Captain William Brown's company and sixth Regiment of South Carolina Commanded by Colonel Thomas Sumter and that to his the deponent's certain Knowledge Robert Cowley was a Soldier in Captain James Duff's Company in the sixth Regiment of South Carolina aforesaid from early in the Month of May 1776 until in June 1777 when the Soldiers of said Regiment were discharged, the term of their Enlistment being then fully completed and ended.

Sworn before me this 5th day of November 1818

S/ Hugh Knox

S/ Jas Anderson, JP

State of South Carolina, Chester District

On this fourth day of November 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record of his said District Robert Cowley aged Sixty Six years resident in South Carolina in said District who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he Served in

¹ [Hugh Knox W10180](#)

the Revolutionary war as follows, viz., In Colonel Sumter's Regiment & in Captain Duff's Company and the date of his original declaration is the 23rd day of September 1819 and the number of his pension Certificate is 14839 and 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 Service of the United States, in the Revolutionary war passed 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 nor have I any Income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me Subscribed

Schedule of Property

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Track of 130 Acres of Land | 225.00 |
| One Horse | 100.00 |
| One Mare | 35.00 |
| One Colt | 25.00 |
| 3 Cows & Calves and 4 yearlings | 40.00 |
| 3 Sheep | 4.50 |
| 14 or 15 Hoggs | 15.00 |
| 2 pots 2 Ovens & a Skillet | 7.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$450.50 |

Amount brought over

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 2 Tables | 1.00 |
| Knives & forks | 2.00 |
| Pewter plates Dishes &c | 5.00 |
| Earthen Ware Do &c | 5.00 |
| Chairs | 3.00 |
| 2 Plows | 2.00 |
| 3 Hoes | 1.50 |
| Truck Waggon | 3.00 |
| 200 Bushels of Corn | 60.00 |
| 5 Stacks of Fodder | 10.00 |
| 17 Geese | 8.00 |
| 2 Ducks & Chickens | 2.00 |
| 3 Axes and one Mattock | 4.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$558.00 |

My Occupation is that of a Farmer I am not able to pursue it will being very old, my family Consists of myself and my wife who is fifty two or three years old, two Sons, one will be twenty one years old on the 14th of next March the other is nine years [old] & four Daughters of age Sufficient to support themselves.

Sworn to and declared on the fourth day of November 1820.

Before S/ David Johnson

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

State of South Carolina, Chester District

Robert Cowley on the 27th day of October 1826 personally appeared in Open Court, being a Court of Record for the district aforesaid, resident in said District aged Seventy three 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 the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818, and the 1st May 1820. That he the said Robert Cowley enlisted for the term of 18 months on the 1st January 1776 in the provincial Service in which Service he remained until the declaration of

independence, he was then transferred over to the Continental Service commanded by Captain James Duff in Colonel Thomas Sumter's Regiment (as my discharge in the Office will shew). That he thereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present, that his name is not on the roll of any State except South Carolina, and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension.

That he heretofore had a Sufficiency But by being Security to an Administration Bond (as the annexed Certificate of the Ordinary will show) his estate both real & personal has been swept from him, and he is now without any thing for his Support. Save one horse & Cow, a few Hogs, & some little household furniture. That he is a planter by Occupation, & that he is now cripple in one of his wrists, so that he is not able to make a Support, that he has a wife & one child resident with him, his wife is by the name of Mary Cowley, his Son, Thomas I. Cowley, his wife is something like Fifty years old, his Son about 13, his wife is unable to contribute to any degree to their Support, his boy can plough which is not sufficient for the support of the family. And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st 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 to so 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 Service of the United States in the revolutionary War, passed 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, nor have I any means other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. That he had in his possession on the 18th March 1818, one tract of land containing about 250 acres which was sold by the Sheriff of the District of Chester on the first Monday in February 1826, to William Cowley for \$105 of money appropriated to the bond which he was Security to (as the annexed Certificate of the Sheriff will shew) that since the 18th of March 1818, following changes have been made in his property

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| One horse 16 years old | \$25.00 |
| One Cow & two yearlings | 14.00 |
| 12 head of hogs | 24.00 |
| One bed and Furniture | <u>25.00</u> |
| | \$88.00 |

Sworn to & Subscribed in open Court

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

State of South Carolina, Chester District

On this the fourth day of May 1846 personally appeared Robert Cowley a resident of Chester District in the State of South Carolina aged ninety six 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 Provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. That he enlisted in the regular State Troops under Colonel Sumter, Major Henderson & Captain Duff. We were called the sixth Regiment of Rifleman. We done our first duty at Charleston & on Sullivan's Island opposite Charleston, where we fought the Battle of Fort Moultrie then called Fort Sullivan on the 20th of June 1776. We then went to the Cherokee Nation against the Indians & fought the Battle of what was called the half moon or horse shoe, we closed our tour of Eighteen months service in Guarding the Frontiers from the Indians, when I received my regular discharge, which discharge he sent to Washington City when he applied for a pension under the acts of 18th March 1818 & 1st May 1820. He further states that he was promised a portion of Land as a part of his Bounty when he enlisted but he never received any, & he now hopes the proper department will examine his claims and awarded him what is due.

He further states that after the end of his Eighteen Months Enlistment he went into the Militia service as a substitute for David Aiken under Colonel Winn, Major Bonds [?] & Captain Frost & performed a tour of three months duty in the neighborhood of Charleston. After this he was drafted & served a tour of six months duty under the command of Colonel Winn & Captain Turner he rendered this Service in the States of South Carolina & Georgia & in Florida against the Indians. The next Tour of duty he performed as a Substitute for John Gallagher, a Tour of six months under Colonel Brown & Captain Robbins. This service was also rendered mostly in Florida. He was then drafted & sent into service he thinks under Captain Feemster. They went down the Country & Met the Governor & his Guard, who told them that Charleston was taken & they then came home. The balance of his Services was done as a volunteer under General Sumter during which term of Service which lasted twelve months he was in the Battle of Fish Dam on Broad River – in the Battle of Blackstock's & the Battle of Cowpens which took place in January 1781 -- & soon after which his services in ended.

This deponent further states that he is informed that although he draws a pension under the acts of 1818 & 1820 as above stated, he is entitled to an increase of pension under the act of 7 June 1832. That the reason that he did not apply for this increase sooner is that he had no knowledge of his being entitled to it, until informed of it a very short time ago by a friend & Neighbor.

This deponent further says that he is now ninety six years of age or nearly so, that he lives 13 miles from Chester Court House, the nearest place to him where any Court of Record is holden, that by reason of his great age & consequent Bodily infirmity he cannot leave his own home & therefore as the only practicable mode makes this declaration before a Magistrate. That the facts stated are to the best of his Memory which by reason of his great age is liable to err, but he has at least tried to state the truth.

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & year above written.

S/ Littleton Hill, Magistrate

This is to Certify Robert Cowley Duff Company in the Sixth South Comanded by Col. Thos. Sumter Time by Act of Convention is this day [illegible word] Discharged from Said Jegt. Given this 8th day of June 1777. [no signature]

This is to Certify Robert Cowley
Duff Company in the Sixth South
Comanded by Col. Thos. Sumter. Time
by act of Convention is this day
Discharged from Said Regt. Given
this 8th day of June 1777.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing December 6, 1826, for 18 months service as a private in the South Carolina Continental line.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to Robert Cowley AA10
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1547
Transcribed by Will Graves 1/2/20

[p 2]

[No.] 1294

[Book] Y 11 June 86 [1786]

Robert Cowley for 148 days duty as a horseman from 5th November 1780 to 29th of July 1781 alternately at 20/ [20 Shillings] per day –

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Charged [old South Carolina] Currency | £148 |
| Deduct less on 2 nd Charge | |
| one day at 20/ | <u>1</u> |
| Currency | <u>£147</u> |
| Stg. [Sterling] | £21 |

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3]

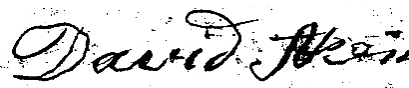
| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| from November 5 th 1780 | State of South Carolina Robert Cowley | |
| to the 9 th February 1781 | to 96 Days in the horse Service | |
| | 20/ per day | 96 |
| from June 6 th 1781 to July 2 nd | to 52 Days on horse mans duty deduct 1 day at 20/ per day | <u>52</u> |
| | | 148 |

the above account was once
Returned to the Auditor's office & said
to be Lost or mislaid

Duly attested this 30th May 1786 before
S/ J Brown, JP


[p 4]

Received 11 June 1786 full Satisfaction for this account in an Indent No. 1294 Book Y per order
S/ David Aken



The Within Service is Aproven [sic] and Certified by me
S/ Thomas Robins Capt

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.



under Dd. Hopkins [David Hopkins] Lt. Colo.

[p 5]

I do hereby Empower David Aken to Receive my Indent for the amount of my account against the State of South Carolina & his Receipt shall be a sufficient Discharge from me

To the Commissioners of the Treasury

Signed & acknowledged this

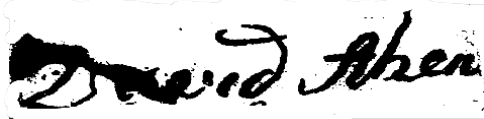
25th of August 1787

before S/ Jo Brown, JP

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

[p 8: Printed form of Indent No. 1294 Book Y]

[p 9: Reverse of the above Indent with several endorsements by David Aken including the following:



and the following from the veteran:

I do hereby assign to Joseph Brown Esquire the whole balance Due on the within Indent for value received of him this 14th April 1788

Test: Jno. Anderson

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark