

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Charles Cornelius S6775

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Virginia Goochland County (to wit)

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the county court of the county of Goochland Charles Cornelius a resident of the county aforesaid and state of Virginia, aged seventy 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 June 7 1832

That he entered the service of the united states, in the Virginia State troops, in the spring of the year, soon after Burgoyne's troops were conveyed into the State of Virginia [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and taken to Albemarle Barracks in VA in Jan 1779], that he was enlisted by one Joe Saunders [Joseph Saunders], in the County of Culpeper, and state of Virginia, that he marched to Albemarle Barracks, in a company commanded by Mark Thomas, that immediately after, Thomas quit the place and the company was commanded by Capt [Thomas] Porter, who continue to command the company during the continuance of the service, That [John] Roberts, was Major, and Frank Taylor [Francis Taylor] was Colonel of the Regiment, That whenever the troops guarded at the Barracks, broke their parol, they were transfered to Winchester, and he frequently accompany'd them, that finally on the breaking in of the British from the south [Feb 1781], the remainder of the troops were sent to Winchester and the whole guard were marched thither, and that he continued in the service at that place until he was discharged, that his written discharge was sent to the war office in order to obtain his pay, and that he has not recovered it again, that during the whole period of his service he acted as corporal, That when enlisted he lived in Culpeper, his native county, about seven miles from the Court house, That subsequently, he served a tour in the militia of his native state having been drafted soon after his discharge, and return to his native county; That he served in the Company commanded by Capt Bohannon [Ambrose Bohannon] of Culpeper, as a private, That he marched with his company backward and forward for some time, and was discharged at springfield near William'sBurg [sic: Williamsburg], that he was not acquainted with any of the officers in the regular service, that he was not in any battle, and that he has lost his discharge

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. [signed] Charles Cornelius

NOTES:

On 7 Sep 1835 Cornelius applied to have his pension transferred from Virginia to Tennessee, having moved to Madison County where he intended to remain for the following reasons: "His Children were all leaving him and coming to Tennessee, and he preferred being near them, and in addition he lived upon a very sterile piece of land, and had been able to rent good land in Tennessee. He was therefore prompted by affection and interest to remove." Albert Cornelius witnessed this application. On 7 Aug 1837 Charles Cornelius applied for a transfer of his pension from Tennessee to Mississippi, having moved to Pontotoc County. He stated that he originally intended to move from Virginia to Mississippi, but he stopped for a year in West Tennessee while selecting a place of residence and had purchased land in Mississippi, where he expected to spend the rest of his life. On 29 June 1839 Cornelius wrote to the Pension Office from Pontotoc MS stating that he was "very needy, indeed distressed for the amount due [him] from the Government."

A letter from the Pension Agency in Jackson MS dated 19 Jan 1846 states that Elizabeth Cornelius had applied for the pension of her late husband, Charles Cornelius, for the period 4 Mar - 4 Sep 1843.