Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Britton S8087 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 Mar 2015.

[The following are from digitalcollections of the Library of Virginia.]

To the honorable the Speaker and house of Representatives of the general assembly of Virginia your petitioner Begs leave humbly to shew to your honorable Body that he did inlist in the Revolutionary war for the term of two years in Colo. Joseph Crockets [sic: Joseph Crockett's Western Battalion] Regment your petitioner served out his full time and obtain'd. a legal Discharge But has lost it by acident your petitioner Never obtain'd. the land he was entitled to nor any other Compensation worth mentioning your petitioner being now far advanced in years and having lost his Companion and left with a very helpless famely one Child insane that has to be watched Continually and having no land or Estate Wherewith to support his famely Nothing But the labour of his own hands to secure a scanty living your petitioner thus Reduced to a state of indigence looks up to your honorable Body as the only source from which he can Recieve Relief the prayer of your petitioner is that your honorable Body would have him placed on the list of pentioners that he may thereby be ennabled to procure the Real Nessessarys of life Concious of your willingness to Relieve the Distressed your petitioner Rests Satisfyed and will Ever pray

Loseph Britton

[In different handwriting] Dec'r. 19th 1829 ref'd to Rev'y Claims

Harrison County To Wit

This day Wm. Wamsley [William Wamsley, pension application S7806] personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, and being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he was acquainted with Joseph Britton about the year 1782 at which time he Britton was a regular soldier in Col. Crockets Regiment attached to the Va. line, that they both marched in s'd. Regiment from the County of Albermarl in Va. to Pittsburg [sic: left Albemarle County in March 1781], at which place this deponent was taken sick, he understood however, and verily believes that the aforesaid Britton descended the Ohio River with the Regiment aforesaid, in an expedition against the Indians under Gen. [George Rogers] Clark, & further this deponent saith not. J. Johnson [Joseph Johnson] J.P. Dec'r.[?] 26th 1829

State of Virginia }
County of Harrison }

On the 21st day of August in the year 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of said County of Harrison in court now sitting Joseph Britton a resident of Harrison County aged 70 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 June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the fall of 1779 for the term of two years in a company Commanded by Capt. John Chapman [pension application R13115] of the County of Frederick and State of Virginia. That he remained in Winchester where he enlisted untill the spring following when he marched with said company to Albemarle County where he joined the regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Crockett, where he remained during the summer. in the fall or winter following he marched to Frederick Town barracks State of Maryland where he continued to guard the prisoners untill the spring following [prisoners surrendered by Burgoyne at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and marched from Albemarle Barracks in 1781]

From thence he marched to Sheperdstown [sic: Shepherdstown]. From thence to Pittsburg, where he joined Col [John] Gibson and was under the command of General Clark. From thence he decended the Ohio River to Wheeling [May 1781]. From thence to the falls of Ohio [at present Louisville KY] where he remained untill December 1781. He never engaged directly in a Battle during said service but was frequently detailed in scouting parties and upon one occasion he assisted to Bring some twenty or thirty persons who had been killed by the Indians near to Boons Station [sic: Boone Station 2 mi N of Shelbyville]. Upon another occasion and when out upon a scouting party Capt. John Chapman and Capt. Abram Tipton [Abraham Tipton R18512] were fired upon by a party of Indians and kiled [near Beargrass Creek, 2 Sep 1781]. That he Britton was not immediately present at the time but herd the report of the guns and assisted in the burial of said officers. He recollects the following named officers whom he knew in the service to wit Major Wales [sic: George Walls R18785], Adjutant Moore, Capt. Carney, Capt. Mellon [sic: John Millen] & Capt. William Cherry [R13143] paymaster and Ensign Henry Daring.

He has no documentary evidence his discharge having been destroyed in the pocket of his pantaloons by washing That he removed from Winchester to Monongalia County from thence to Harrison where he has resided untill the present time with the exception of five years which he spent in the Town of Chillicothe State of Ohio. He is acquainted with the Honorable Mr. Creighton of Ohio, William A. Harrison, John J. Allen, George J. Willliams, and various others in the neighborhood where he resides to whom reference may be had. He does not know any living witness by whom he can prove the above services except William Wamsley whos affidavit is herewith subjoined

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

And the said court do hereby declare there opinion that the abovnamed applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states.

Jacob Coplin JP

William Wamsley personally appeared before me [Matthias Winters] a Justice of the peace for the County of Harrison & State of Virginia who being duly sworn saith That early in the year 1780 he was acquainted with Joseph Britton who was at the time a soldier in a company commanded by Capt. Chapman attatched to Col. Crockett Regiment that said Regiment was then stationed at Albemarle Barracks. that he march in company with said Britton to Frederick Town M.d. from thence to Sheperdstown Va thence to Monongalia [sic: Monongahela] River remained there untill late in the fall of said year, at which time deponent was taken sick and was unable to decend the River with said Regiment. he understood at the time that said Britton was enlisted for two years & was always understood that he served the full period of his enlistment. This deponent is 73 years of age was a soldier in Col. Crockets Regt. is now an applicant for a pension

Sworn and subscribed before me this 14[?] Dec'm. 1832

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix in the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.]

Joseph Britton draws \$80—

on the 14th July [1834] Joseph Britton made the following statement of his age and services as a

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soldier in the War of the Revolution – is in his 72 year of age. – that in the year 1779 when in his sixteenth year of age he Enlisted at Winchester Virginia under Capt. John Chapman for two years. Was sworn in by Mr. Edwd. McGuire – Captain Chapman was recruiting in Winchester and the surrounding country. the company rendesvouzed at Winchester & marched to in the Spring of 1779 to Albemarle Barracks then joined the Regt. the Virginia line commanded by Col Joseph Crocket George Wales was Major, continued under Capt. Chapman and remained at the Barracks during the summer of 1780. in the fall late Burgoins Hessian Prissoners were removed in two divisions to Winchester & Frederick town he went with the Prissoners to the latter place & remained there during the succeeding winter. in the next spring the Reg't. (commanded as before stated Col. Crockett &c) took up the line of march pursuing the Braddic [sic: Braddock] Road to Pittsburg & then joined Gen'l. Clarks army. took on provisions & then Gen'l. Clark with his army went down the river to Louisville at that place his tour expired got his discharge & went home – his service expired shortly after Cornwallis was defeated [19 Oct 1781] – he refers to John Peper of Winchester for proof of his Services. Peper was his messmate

A Copy

W. G Singleton Nov. 18, 1834