

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Christopher Olinger Va24

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/7/14

[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 Virginia, Russell County]¹

Jun 2, 1818

Christopher Olinger who resides in the County of Russell in the State of Virginia, wishing to become a pensioner under the law of Congress of the 18th of March last, entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States" declared on oath in Court, that he enlisted with John Wrentch as Lieutenant in the Flying Camp in the 2d Regiment under the Command of Colonel Scyhock for six months as a private soldier; that he marched with the Regiment from Hager's Town in Maryland to Philadelphia, from Philadelphia by water to Trenton, from Trenton to Brunswick, and from thence to Sandy Hook, New York, landed the day after Lord Sterling [William Alexander, Lord Stirling] was defeated on Long Island [August 27, 1776], stayed about that place till discharged. He further stated, that he afterwards enlisted at Carlisle under Capt. James Potter in the Regiment commanded by Colo. Smith, for three years and marched to White Marsh in Pennsylvania and there joined the army, that he was then taken from the ranks and was set to drive Genl. Thompson's Baggage Waggon, that they then marched to the Jerseys from thence to Kings Ferry on North River, from thence to the White Plains, from thence to Fredericksburg, where the mulatto was hanged, after that marched to Middlebrook where the detachment wintered. The spring following there were eight men taken to the gallows to be hanged, but only two were executed - General Thompson's headquarters were burnt the same spring. They marched from Middlebrook to New Windsor and West Point and wintered in Morristown, he was discharged after the Battle of Brandy Wine [Brandywine, September 11, 1777]. He further stated that he then left the Army and came back to Virginia, to Staunton, that he was then drafted for three months to the siege of Little York, and was at the taking of Cornwallis [October 17, 1778], was one of the Guard to Winchester under Capt. Buckhannan [perhaps Patrick Buchanan] in Colo. Lewis's Regiment, that he was discharged at the Barracks at Winchester and received no pay for three months, that he is now sixty six years of age, and is in indigent circumstances. And from the knowledge which some of the members of the Court themselves have as well as from other satisfactory evidence, the Court are of opinion that the said Christopher Olinger is a person of credit as a witness, that it was generally understood in the neighborhood of his residence previous to the passage of the said Act of Congress that the said Christopher Olinger had served in the Revolutionary War and is in reduced circumstances in life. All which is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of the

¹ Law Order Book 6, Page 42, Russell County Virginia court records

Department of War.

[State of Virginia, Russell County]²

Jul 6, 1819

This day personally appeared in Court, Christopher Olinger who at a Court held for this County the 2d day of June 1818, made a declaration on oath for the purpose of obtaining the pension allowed by the Act of Congress of the 18th of March, 1818, and further declared on oath, that he enlisted at Hagerstown in the month of July 1777, in the Maryland line on Continental establishment & continued in the service six months & was discharged near New York in January, 1778; that he enlisted again at Carlisle in Pennsylvania in April 1778 with Capt. James Potter of the ____ Regiment of the Pennsylvania line Commanded by Colo. ____ Smith and after marching to the White Marsh was put to drive Genl. Thompson's baggage wagon, and was discharged there from in the Spring of the year 1781, by General Thompson near the White Marsh in Pennsylvania and being interrogated in relation to the facts contained in his former declaration, the judge of the Court is of opinion that his several statements are substantially true. Which is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of War.

² Law Order Book 6, Page 131 Russell County VA court records