

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Adam Cooper ¹ W1722 Elizabeth Cooper f50NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/9/10 rev'd 12/4/15

[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.]

The petition and affidavit of Adam Cooper humbly represents --

That sometime in the year 1780 he entered the Regiment commanded by Colonel Isaac Shelby -- as a volunteer, and that sometime in August of the same year he was engaged in a battle at Cedar Springs² where he received several severe wounds -- such as having the thumb cut off the left hand and the right hand so maimed as to be rendered almost useless -- The right shoulder blade chopped in pieces &c &c. -- which wounds rendered him unable to procure a living by labor -- he has a wife and six children whose support depends upon his labor upon his farm -- And that now owing to his age and the wounds which he has received he is unable to work his farm -- And the Petitioner further swears that he is the identical Adam Cooper as mentioned by Colonel Isaac Shelby in his statement hereunto annexed -- For these reasons your Petitioner prays that he may be allowed a pension for such time, and amount as may be deemed just & equitable.

Sworn to & subscribed before me at Asheville 8 October 1823

S/ G. Hefner, JP

S/ Adam Coop[er]



I Robert be Vance do hereby certify that I have examined the wounds of Adam Cooper who has made the foregoing Petition & affidavit -- And I am decidedly of opinion that the disability occasioned by the wounds above described is such as to prevent his making a living by labor his disability his total.

S/ R. B. Vance

[p 23]

Lincoln County Kentucky April 7th 1821

Dr. Sir

Your favour of the 25th of January last has been duly received; and I take the earliest

¹ BLWt24764-160-55

² This is a reference to the engagement known as 2nd Cedar Springs or Wofford's Iron Works, August 8, 1780. http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_woffords_iron_works.html See Shelby's letter and affidavit below.

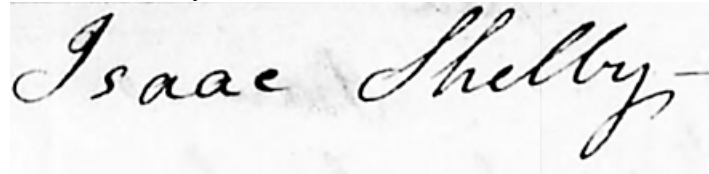
opportunity to enclose you such a certificate as I hope will answer your purpose. Any Judge of your Superior Courts of law, would advise you of the course necessary for you to take, indeed I believe it has, by the late law, then made the duty of particular Judges, do certify the Justice of such claims as may be sent on to Congress. I am sorry you did not apply for this certificate sooner, for I believe no man who fought in the Revolutionary War is more justly entitled to reward for his sufferings, then you are.

I am obliged to address this letter to you by the hand of another person being unable to write myself owing to a paralytic stroke that I received about a year ago, by which I have lost the use of my right arm; and am otherwise, much crippled.

I have not as you seem to intimate in your letter, lain on a bed of roses ever since I saw you but have suffered all those difficulties & privations incident to the settling of a new Country, surrounded by dangers from a cruel, savage foe at every point. It is true, I have been twice called to act a conspicuous part in the service of my Country, but the responsibility which these stations imposed upon me; required the utmost exertions to meet its expectations. I thank God that all is now peace, and that he has suffered me to live to see Kentucky become one of the free, respectable, an independent States, and taking her stand as such, in the great councils of the Nation.

With considerations of great respect & esteem, I am Sir your friend &c

S/ Isaac Shelby

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isaac Shelby". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 43]

I, Isaac Shelby Senr of Lincoln County in the State of Kentucky, do hereby certify; That Adam Cooper of Buncombe County, in the State of North Carolina, was a soldier in the Regiment which I commanded, from Sullivan County, in said State of North Carolina, against the British and Tories, in the war of the Revolution; and that the said Adam Cooper was severely wounded, inhumanely cut to pieces and taken prisoner, by the British Dragoons, in an action fought at a place called Cedar Spring, twenty-five or thirty miles South of the Cherokee Ford of Broad River, in the State of South Carolina, in the beginning of August 1780. That I saw said Cooper near two years after the said action, when he appeared to me to be greatly maimed and debilitated from the wounds he had received and rendered unable to procure a livelihood by his labor -- I have always believed him justly entitled to a liberal support from his Country.

February 12th 1823

S/ Isaac Shelby, Sr.

State of Kentucky Lincoln County: Sct

This day the within named Isaac Shelby Senr. Personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in & for said County and made oath that the within statements concerning Adam Cooper are true to the best of his knowledge and belief. Given under my hand this 12th day of February 1823

S/ W. C. Barnett, JPLC

[p 8: on August 12, 1848, in Buncombe County North Carolina, Elizabeth Cooper, 67 years and 2 months of age, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of

Adam Cooper who was a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that he died in 1830; that she married him October 1, 1795 and lived with him until his death and is still his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 48: On August 12, 1848 in Buncombe County North Carolina, James Cooper made oath that Adam Cooper the husband of Elizabeth Cooper was a citizen of Buncombe County North Carolina a great many years before his death in said County on April 26, 1830. The relationship, if any, of the affiant to the veteran or his widow is not stated.

James Cooper]

[p 10: on May 7, 1855 in Buncombe County North Carolina, Elizabeth Cooper, 75, stated that she married her husband in Buncombe County North Carolina on October 1, 1795; that he died in Buncombe County on April 27, 1830; that her name prior to her marriage was Elizabeth Forgay [could be Forgoy]³; and that she is making this claim for her bounty land entitlement as his widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing December 20, 1825 as a totally disabled private in the revolution. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$43.60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848.]

Elizabeth Forgay

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