

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Daniel Ashcraft W23466

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky

Grayson County Sct

On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court before Charles H. Stateville Joseph Boone, & John Patterson the Court of Grayson County now sitting Daniel Ashcraft resident of Grayson county and state of Kentucky aged 64 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the act of congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, That he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War and served as herein stated.

That about the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1781 he volunteered as an Indian Spy under the command of Captain John Vertrees [John Vartreese] who was stationed in Soverns Valey about 40 miles south of the Falls of the Ohio River [at present Louisville], the settlement of said valey being forted from the Indians and the government kept up a guard to guard said forts and settlements of Soverns Valey during this summer he served as an Indian spy about five months and during the time he was on a campaign against the Indians on the northwest of the Ohio River and on the Wabash, he was then under the command of Colo. Patrick Brown, that in the year 1782 he volunteered as an Indian Spy under the command of Capt Joseph Friend and spyed for Indians about the settlement & forts aforesaid and stood as a guard for said forts and settlement during the whole of the summer, and during the time he went on a volunteer campaign under the command of Colo John Butler against southern Indians on the Tennessee River, during this summer he was in service about four months – and that in the year 1783 he again volunteered as an Indian Spy and guarded the forts and settlements aforesaid and spyed for indians and during the summer he volunteered and went on a campaign against the Indians on the north west of the Ohio River under the command of Colo. John Hardin, on this campaign they killed 12 or 13 Indians and took two prisoners and retook some horses which had been stolen by the Indians in the summer he was in service as aforesaid about five months — that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except the depositions of James Logsdon [James V. Logsdon, pension application S30547] hereto annexed and made a part of this declaration. He states that he was born in the year 1768 March 13<sup>th</sup> day in the State of Pennsylvania and raised in the State of Virginia – that when he was called into service he lived about 50 miles south of the Falls of the Ohio River in the now state of Kentucky it was then the State of Virginia that he has lived since the revolutionary war in the state of Kentucky that he now lives in Grayson County State of Kentucky where he has lived upwards of 35 years – that he never received a discharge from the service.

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

[signed] Daniel Ashcraft

Febuary the 10 1833

This Day come before me J W ellberger a Justice of the peace for sd County James V Logsdon and maid oath that Dannel Ascraft was out as Raingers against the mawme endians and was out against them five months under Captain Patreck Brown in the yeare 1781 also that he was with said Dannel Askraft out against the weaws and mawmees [sic: Maumees, AKA Miamis] in the yeare 1782 under Patrack Brown Captain and Curnal John Harden and was out about thre months and cild and took som prisonners Also was out with said Askraft against the Cherecees endions in the yeare 1783 and was under Capt Joseph Freind and was gone about three month allso was out with said ashcraft out against the Pottewattomys

[sic: Potawatomi Indians] and was out about three months under the Command of Jeneral Wilkason and our Captain was David Calldwell [David Caldwell] also the sd Donnel ashcraft was out as a spy after the endions 1784[?] and was out but a short time and seven of us was against Nines endians and we had a fight and we lost one man and had two wounded and the said Donnel ashcraft was one that was wounded and we cild seven out of nine and But one escapt

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On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833 personally appeared in open court the Court of Grayson County a court of record Daniel Ashcraft who geing first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath make the following statement by way of amendment to his original declaration for a pension which original Declaration was sworn to on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1833. That about the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1781 he volunteered as an Indian Spy under the command of Captain John Vertrees in the militia of Virginia, that we were stationed in Soverns Valey about 40 miles south of the Falls of the Ohio River then in the State of Virginia, the settlement of said valey being forted from the Indians and the government kept up a guard to guard said forts and settlement of Soverns Valey and during the time of his service this summer he went on a Campaign against the Indians on the north west of the Ohio River and on the Wabash, he was then under the command of Colo Patrick Brown of the Militia of Virginia that in this sumer going on the campaign and spying for indians and guarding the forts he was in service of the United States at least five months. That in the Spring of the year 1782 he volunteered in the militia of Virginia as an Indian spy under the command of Captain Joseph Friend and was stationed at the Forts in Soverns Valey aforesaid and guarded the forts and settlement and spyed for Indians during the most of the spring & summer and during the time he went on a campaign under the command of Colo. John Butler (of the militia of Virginia) against the Southern Indians on the Tennessee River, during this tour he was in service at least four months in this service they had a skirmish with the Indians and he was wounded and killed seven indians. That in the year 1783 he again volunteered as an Indian Spy and guarded the forts and settlements aforesaid and spyed for Indians and during the summer he volunteered and went on a campaign against the Indians on the north west of the Ohio River under the command of Captain Ballard and of Colo. John Hardin of the Virginia Militia. On this Campaign they killed 12 or 13 Indians & took two prisoners and retook some horses which had been stolen by the indians that during this spring & summer he was in the service aforesaid at least five months

Questions propounded to the applicant by the Court – 1<sup>nd</sup> Where and in what year were you born – Answer I was born in the state of Pennsylvania on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 1768

Question 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it

Answer I have the record of my age in my bible, taken by myself out of my fathers bible

3<sup>rd</sup> Question Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live

Answer I lived in the State of Virginia now State of Kentucky, when called into service and have lived in Kentucky ever since the revolutionary war, and now live in Grayson County Kentucky where I have lived for upwards of 35 years –

4<sup>rd</sup> Question How were you called into service were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom

Answer I was always a volunteer

Question 5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Answer. There was no regular officers that I recollect of, the Colonels under whom I served were Colo. John Butler, Colo. Patrick Brown and Colo. John Hardin all of the militia of Virginia and the general circumstances of my service are the same as state in this and my original Declaration

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given

Answer I never did receive a discharge

Question 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the persons to whom you are known in your neighbourhood and who can Testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

Answer – Abraham Vanmatre, John Litsey, Henry Litsey, Joseph Day, Thomas Purcel, Noah Herrel Own Willis Charles H Stuteville Jeremiah Bozorth Jack Thomas, James H Northam John Whitely and Hoseah Stone  
[signed] Daniel Ashcraft

[The following is in the handwriting of Daniel Ashcraft:]

August the 15– 1840

this morning I Daniel ashcraft of lawrence County and State of Illinois Set down to make out a short memorial of my first settling in Cantucky we landed at the mouth of baregrass [sic: Beargrass Creek] by Lewisville the 15 of Jenuary 1780 and mov'd. sixty miles to South of lewisville and settled on violin waters of green river. and the indians soon found us out and was in Rold in Captin John virtres Company it was then Jefferson County the Curnel lived at lewisville and the indians was so trobleson he had to Rase a Cumpany of Rangers to gard the forts and settlement between the ohio and forts and I was one of the Cumpaney and that was our imployment Every Summer from march tel the falling of the leves and in that time I went fore Campanes three against the waubash indianes and under Captain beer [possibly bur] and Curnel brown and one under Curnel John harden and one under General wilkeson and one under Curnel butler a gainst the Cherokee indianes and in Eighty Eight we was out between the ohio and settlement and struck a trale of River indianes Cuming in to doomistled and persud them and over took them neere the settlement and kild nine laust one man kild and too wounded my self was shot through the thigh and sholder and I feel the affects to this day and my wife that now is in Eighty too was shot through the leg and has been a Cripple ever sence and my father in settling Cantuck was kild by the indianes and three uncles and one aunt my memorial I sent from kentucky to Congress only Extended to Eighty three which the pople in the County teles me if I had sent a morial of all my sarvises I should of Drade three times what I do now Mr Rian if you will be so good as to take this and transcribe it in form and send it on by Mr Cacy and Direct him to Call on willis green and albert y hass both from kentuky they will asist mr Rian if you will undertake for me and send on to Congress and sucseed in giting my pension in larged I will Reward you [one or two illegible words] out of it  
this from your old [three illegible words] [signed] Danil ashcraft

NOTES:

On 25 Feb 1840 Ashcraft applied to have his pension transferred to Lawrence County IL, where he had moved, because "being no longer able to support by labor the object is to get some assistance from my sons who lives here."

Contrary to what Ashcraft was told, he was not eligible for an increased pension under the act of 1832 for services after the formal end of the Revolutionary War on 15 April 1783.

On 3 June 1846 Sally Ashcraft of Richland County IL, aged 68 years and 11 months, applied for a pension stating that she married Daniel Ashcraft on 18 Oct 1793, and he died 6 June 1842. As proof of marriage she submitted the original family record said to have been written by Daniel Ashcraft and transcribed below.

Daniel Ashcraft was born march the 13<sup>th</sup> 1768

Sally ashcraft wife of D Ashcraft was born march the 22<sup>d</sup> 1775

Jediah Ashcraft and Anna his wife was married feb 10<sup>th</sup> 1820

S'd Ashcraft was aged 25 years & 2 months laking 2 days

His wife aged 22 years and 4 months laking 19 days

Emelia R williames a daughter of Thomas and Luza[?] williames was born march the 14, 1841  
[different handwriting] Daniel Ashcraft and Sally Dye was married oct the 18 1793  
Herman[?] several illegible words] born on the [?] 1872 and [?] 21 years old [?] married  
Emilia Ray[?] was born on the 28 of September 1806  
Thomas J Ray & Emilia Ashcraft was married on the 20 of october 1833  
[different handwriting] Thos. Williams and Leweze Ann Ashcraft was married Aprile the 30 1840  
Jediah Ashcraft son of Dnl and Sally Ashcraft was born December the 12<sup>th</sup> 1795  
Hannah ashcraft a Daughter of Dnl and Sally was born November the 12 1797  
James ashcraft son of Dnl and Sally ashcraft was born July the 14<sup>th</sup> 1800  
Isaac ashcraft son of Dnl and Sally ashcrafts was born november the 22<sup>d</sup> 1802  
Eleanor ashcraft a Daughter of Dnl and Sally ashcraft was born October the 22<sup>d</sup> 180[?]  
melia ashcraft a Daughter of Dnl and sally ashcrafts was born September the 28<sup>th</sup> 1808  
Louizean ashcraft a Daughter of Dnl and Sally ashcrafts was born march the 10<sup>th</sup> 1811  
John ashcraft a son of Dnl and Sally ashcraft was born January the 24<sup>th</sup> 1814  
[different handwriting] Sarrah Ann Ashcraft a daughter Jediah and Anna's his wife was Born Oct 3<sup>d</sup> 1820  
[different handwriting] Elizabeth a daughter of Jediah and Anna Ashcraft was born feb 6<sup>th</sup> 18[?]  
Sally Elin ashcraft a Daughter of Isaac Ashcraft and polly his wife was born aprile the 4<sup>th</sup> 1832  
Rebecca petty ashcraft a Daughter of Isaac and polly ashcraft his wife was Born february the 12<sup>th</sup> 1836  
Mandy Jane ashcraft a daughter of the above Isaac and Polly Ashcraft was born July 31<sup>st</sup> 1838