

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Cowan (Cowen) W25444 Nancy Cowen f70NC fo
Transcribed by Will Graves 12/10/10: rev'd 1/2/20

[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 North Carolina Haywood County: Superior Court of Law SPRING Term A.D. 1825

Personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for Haywood County, Joseph Cowan aged sixty-six years a resident of this County, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, That he enlisted in the County of Mecklenburg under Captain Robert Smith of Colonel Thomas Polk's Regiment of the North Carolina line on Continental Establishment for one-year on or about May 1776. That he joined the Regiment at Wilmington and marched to Hedleys point [sic, Haddrell's Point] near Fort Sullivan [sic, Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island] in South Carolina that he was in one Engagement near to Fort Sullivan on Bald head Island in the Bay, That he returned to Wilmington and marched on North to Halifax in Virginia. That he marched & countermarched in the southern campaign, was at the battle of Ramsour's in the militia, afterwards Cowan's Ford in the skirmish with Lord Cornwallis when General Davidson was killed, and before that time had been personally discharged at Wilmington the year following his time of Enlistment having expired that he has lost his discharge –

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

That he was by Trade a farmer & Hatter but now unable to work at anything for he has lost one I in Ramsour's Battle & can see but little out of the other, That he has an old wife afflicted with the Palsy, to the orders about 13 & 15 being with him, That he lives on the State's land & very unable to work, and no means of assistance but by public or private charity; and no other means of proving his Service in his power but his own oath, That the reason of his not applying for a pension before this, has been first that he was ignorant of the course to be pursued, second, that when he did do so the papers were made out wrong & he got nothing

Sworn to in open court eighth of April 1825

S/ John B. Love, Clk.

A list or Schedule of Joseph Cowan of the County of Haywood North Carolina as being the only property by him (to wit)

One Bed & furniture much worn	\$10.00
Two old Bar shear plows	2.00
two other old Shovel plows	1.25
Two old Axes small	1.25
One pair of old Gears for horse	1.25
An old Set of Hatters Tools	15.00
One Small pot, & tow old ovens without lids	3.00
One old pan	.75
One of Iron Wedge	.50
One note of hand on a Son	16.00
An old Gun & an old Sword	3.00
An old Chest	1.00
An old Cuting knife & two old Sythes	1.10
An useless wooden Clock	.75
One old Smoothing Iron & other household furniture	1.00
An old Small sword	.50
A Large family Bible & some other old Book	10.00
	\$68.25
	<u>49.00</u>

I am Justly indebted to Albusus Erwin of Burkd \$27.00 \$19.25 Balance
& Interest on the same over five years

Also I am Justly indebted to John B. Love 22.00
also some Interest on the same \$49.00

Sworn to in open Court eighth day of April 1825

S/ John B. Love, Clk.

S/ Joseph Cowan, X his mark

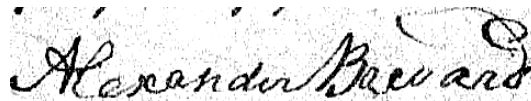
[p 27]

State of North Carolina Lincoln County: This day came before me one of the acting Justices of the Peace in & for said County of Lincoln, Alexander Brevard, who being duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith, that sometime in the month of August in the year A.D. 1776, he the deponent joined Colonel Thomas Polk at the boundary house on the Cape Fear River, as Cadet, where said Polk was then lying with part of his Regiment, all new recruits. Shortly afterwards he the deponent was appointed a Lieutenant and attached to Captain Robert Smith's Company, who had a pretty full company & among these, was Joseph Cowan, the very man who is now before me. This deponent was in and with Colonel Polk's Regiment in Wilmington & Halifax and back again to Wilmington in the Summer & fall of 1776 and with the Regiment at Haddrell's Point near Charleston in the winter of 1776 & 1777. This deponent is well satisfied that the said Joseph Cowan was all this time in Smith's Company, but when he was discharged, he does not know but expects that it was in the spring of 1777, as the term of enlistment of the number of the men would then expire as they were enlisted for 12 months, while the North Carolina line – was on its way to the North – further, this deponent saith not.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 23rd January 1826

Witness: S/ D. M. Torney, JP

S/ Alexander Brevard



State of North Carolina Haywood County: Superior Court of Law April Term 1826

On this 6th day of April A.D. 1826 Personally appeared Joseph Cowan in open Court being a court of record for the County of Haywood resident in said County aged 68 years who first being duly sworn according to law on his oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 & first of May 1820 – That he the said Joseph Cowan enlisted for the term of one year on the ___ day of May A.D. 1776 in the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain Robert Smith in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Polk in the line of the State of North Carolina on the North Carolina Continental Establishment. That he continued to serve in the said Corps until about April or May A.D. 1777 when he was discharged from the Service in the town of Wilmington State of North Carolina. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present that his name is not on the Roll of any State to his knowledge except North Carolina, and that the following all the reasons for his not making Earlier application for a pension that he did not know that he was entitled to a pension until he met with an old friend who told him so about two years ago when he applied for one.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. That since the 18th of March 1818 the following changes have been made in my property that at that time I was worth about \$78 and have used all of it to support me but about \$12 due me if good doubtful \$22 leaving what I know for my Support as old debts and in addition thereto that he has bad claims of persons who think they can keep him out of it to the amount of \$18 besides his tools valued at about \$16 and some small portion of farming tools worth about \$10 – that he is by Trade a Gottee [?], cannot now [indecipherable word] Unable to work and helpless and lived with a son and two daughters who are poor and take care of his old wife and himself – as heretofore given in according to former application.

S/ Joseph Cowan, X his mark

Sworn to and declared on this sixth of April 1826 before me and in open court.

S/ John B. Love, Clk.

[p. 13: on February 9, 1854 in Jackson County North Carolina Nancy Cowen, 85, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of Joseph Cowen, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in 1799; that he died October 30, 1735



[p. 17: partial family record]

Joseph Cowen was Born the 22d day of Augus AD 1800

Wm Cowen was Born the 3d day of December AD 1801

[p 18: In her bounty land claim, the widow added that she was married in 1799 by one Glass, a justice of the peace in Burke County, NC and that her name prior to her marriage was Nancy

Buchanan.]

[Facts in file: the widow states that she had 5 children by her husband; Joseph, the eldest]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of eight dollars per month commencing April 8th, 1826, full one-year service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]