

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Radford W25605                      Hannah Franklin                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 Nov 2015.

Kentucky Cumberland County

This day Came in person before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in aforesaid County James Radford a resident Citizen of said County & made the following statement Towit That he entered the service of the United States in the War of the Revolution from Buckingham County Virginia in the year 1780 in the month of May of that year as a drafted militia & served as an Orderly Sergant under Captains Peter Garron [possibly Peter Guerant], Wm Mayo [William Mayo], Peter May & Isaac Webb at different times during his service in Virginia & North & South Carolina, and that he served under this engagement eleven months. That he was at the Battle of Guilford in March 1781 [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] and while in the South was Commanded by Colo. Faulkner [Ralph Falkner]. He was at Gates defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] & was there Commanded by Capt Wm. Mayo. The troops were marched to Virginia to the Capture of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]; and he was again drafted as a Virginia militia in June 1781 and served for the full period of five months as Orderly sergant under Cpts. Mosely & Miller alternately and after the surrender of Cornwallis, he with others were marching the prisoners to Winchester, he was taken sick and discharged in Nov'r 1781. He received written discharges for his services the first was given him by Capt. Isaac Webb for eleven months service [see endnote] and the second discharge given him by Capt. Miller for five months, both of which he left with his mother in Virginia. The service rendered under the last engagement was rendered entirely within the State of Virginia. That he served each Tour with an embodied corps called into service by competent authority, that he was constantly either in the field or in garrison; and for the time during which the service under each engagement was performed, he was not employed in any civil pursuit. He further states that [one or two illegible words] taking of Cornwallis he was commanded by Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson — That he was born in Powhatton [sic: Powhatan] County Virginia in 1762 & that he has no record of his age only from the information of his parents.

He lived in Buckingham Virginia, when called into service, lived there for some time after the close of the war, removed to Kentucky in the year 1800 from Buckingham and now live in Cumberland County Kentucky, where he has lived for the last 23 years — He relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state.

That he was at each tour drafted into the service and served his own tours That at the surrender of Cornwallis, he recollects have seen Gen'l. Washington & LayFayette [sic: Lafayette]

That as before stated he rec'd. discharges for his services from Captains Webb & Miller and left with his mother in Virginia.

That he is acquainted with & known by Barrett White, Leanus Bowman, Benjamin Brummall (now a pensioner) [sic: Benjamin Brummal, pension application S14984] John Paull, Robert Brummall & others who live in his neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

Subscribed before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 1833                      James Radford

John Scott a resident Citizen of Cumberland County Kentucky made oath to the statement following That he was acquainted with the above named James Radford in the Army in South Carolina and saw him at the Siege of York, but how long he continued in service he cannot state, that he the said Scott is aged 70 years he saw Radford at Guilford battle and at the Cheraw Hills in the Winter of 1780.

Subscribed before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 1833                      John Scott

NOTES:

Militia tours were never for as long as 11 months, but the company commanded by Capt. Isaac Webb early in 1781 included Virginia militiamen who were forced to serve eight months without pay under Continental discipline for fleeing at the Battle of Camden. See the pension application of James Hopkins W3553.

In the file is a letter written in 1836 to the pension office in behalf of W. L. Radford, son and heir of James Radford, stating that the elder Radford had died a lunatic. According to the letter: "a woman who calls her name Hannah Radford as his widow now claims all the arrearages of pension. I believe it is true they were once lawfully married, though while the old man was rather in his dotage and from the great contrast in age &c she being much younger than him, she some two or three years before his death, abandoned him and took up her residence in another State where she lived separate and apart from the old man until she was brought back by some of her connections since the old man's death, to claim what she can in the Estate of the old man not wanted before her abandonment, and what she might grasp in the pension way I will say nothing about the manner in which she was living during the separation, but it may be conjectured from her wanton abandonment &c." Other documents refer to a son of James Radford named Luford Radford.

On 11 Jan 1854 in Williamson County IL Hannah Franklin, 64, applied for a pension stating that as Hannah Wilburn she married James Radford in Cumberland County KY around the last of August 1830, and he died in March 1836 in that county. She then married George A. Franklin on 20 Mar 1843, and he died several years later. On 25 Apr 1857 she applied for bounty land. In the file is a copy of a bond signed on 24 Apr 1830 by James Radford and Adam Short for the marriage of Radford to Susannah Wilbourn.