

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Cooper W4424

Mary

fn39NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/6/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee White County: SS

On this 9th Day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County of White Alexander Cooper a resident of said County aged about seventy-eight years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein after stated. –

In the month of June in the year 1777 to the best of his recollection he entered the service, on what was then a frontier, on Watauga River in East Tennessee – before the formation of this State – for the purpose of fighting the Cherokee Indians and protecting the frontier. The particular place at which he entered the service is now within the limits of either Greene or Washington County in what is at present the State of Tennessee – Colonel Christian [William Christian] had the command of the troops. He belonged to Captain James Robertson's Company. Robertson afterwards became a General, and his character and conduct are identified with the history of Tennessee. At the time he entered Captain Robertson's Company, John Sevier held the rank of Lieutenant in said Company. He Sevier was afterwards a distinguished commander against the Cherokees, and Governor of the State. He was stationed at "Fort Robertson" at the Sycamore Shoals on Watauga River – he remained there as well as he recollects, until the last of November following – during which time, the Fort was attacked by the Indians; Captain Robertson at this time had the command of the Fort. None of the men, under his command were killed. This attack was made on the same day that the Battle was fought with the Indians at the Long Islands of Holston [River]. He quit the service at this place, about the last of November 1777 at which time he received a discharge from the above named Captain James Robertson, which discharge has long since been lost. On this occasion he volunteered his services. –

After these occurrence his, this Declarant removed into the State of North Carolina, Rutherford County where he engaged for a term of three months to go against the Cherokee Indians under Captain Nevill, this was in the same year that Lord Cornwallis surrendered his Army at Little York, 1781. On this occasion he was drafted and he believes it was about the first of September 1781. He served out his three months having been stationed at "Mills' Stationed" on Green River, and was not in any engagement or Battle – during neither of these terms of

service had he any opportunity of becoming acquainted with any of the officers of the Regular Army.

Answers to the Questions propounded by the War Department. –

1. This declarant was born on the 28th of January 1754 in Lunenburg County Virginia. –
2. The record of his age has been lost about fifty-five years ago, during the insurrection of the frontier on Watauga.
3. The place of his residence when he entered the service has already been stated. –
4. From North Carolina (after the close of the Revolutionary War) he removed to what is now the County of White in the State of Tennessee, where he now lives and where he has lived ever since. –
5. The first period of his service, he volunteered. The second time he was drafted, as has been already stated.
6. The general circumstances of his service have been as fully stated as his memory will permit. –
7. He received a discharge as above stated from Captain Robertson which has been lost. On the expiration of his term of service when he was drafted in Rutherford County North Carolina, he has no recollection of having received any discharge – if he did receive any, it was likewise lost.

He refers to the following persons in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution the is: Samuel Johnson, Esquire, David Snodgrass, Esquire, John Rose, William McKinney, Reverend Andrew McBride and Reverend Corder Stone. –

He has no documentary evidence by which he can establish the foregoing services – nor does he know of any living witness whose testimony he can procure to prove the same. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to in open Court 9th October 1832

S/ Jacob A. Lane, Clk

S/ Alexander Cooper, X his mark

[Andrew McBride, a clergyman, and Samuel Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

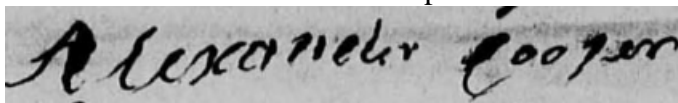
[fn p. 28]

State of Tennessee White County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Alexander Cooper who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served during his first tour mentioned in the foregoing Declaration not less than six months. He served during his second tour of three months making in all nine months and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed before made this 19th day of June A.D. 1833

S/ Wm Bruster, JP

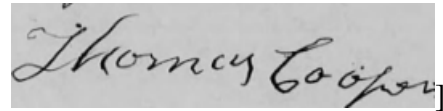
S/ Alexander Cooper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexander Cooper". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[fn p. 8: on May 27th, 1844 in White County Tennessee, Mary Cooper, 89, applied for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Alexander Cooper, a pensioner for his service in the revolution; that she married him in the state of North Carolina in the year 1783; that she knows of no person now living by whom she can prove her marriage and that she has no

family record thereof; that her husband died February 9, 1844 and she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 36: On October 20, 1851 in White County Tennessee, Thomas Cooper, 59, a resident of White County Tennessee, filed a claim as the administrator of the estate of Mary Cooper in which he states that he is the son of Alexander and Mary Cooper; that prior to her death his mother filed an application for a pension as a widow of a revolutionary soldier; that she died March 12, 1849 and that she left the following children surviving her: affiant, Thomas; Rhuben [sic, Reuben?] aged about 70; Samuel about 66; Nancy about 64; Mary about 62; Lucy about 58; Elizabeth about 54; Rebecca about 52; Drusilla about 50

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Cooper". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for eight months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]