

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Lawson, W86
Transcribed by Robin Marshall

Polly Lawson

f42[Blank, sic, VA]

Annotated & Supplemented in italics by Will Graves 5/15/16

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } On This 28th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of the Court of Pleas Quarter Sessions, now sitting. Jacob Lawson a resident of Hawkins County aged Seventy two years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declarations in order to obtain the benefits 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 stated.

That he was born in the county of Bedford in the state of Virginia the year 1761 -- or thereabouts -- that he entered the said service as a substitute in the room of John Howell. For three months in the month of August 1779 -- under Captain Shelton¹ and was marched by said Shelton against the Tories, near the Blue Ridge, and was stationed with his company at a place called the Hollow, not far from the Flower Gap, and Ward's Gap, and continued doing duty with said company at said station, and at other stations near said Blue Ridge in Virginia until sometime in the month of November 1779 when he was discharged by his said Captains, but whether he received a written discharge or not he cannot now state tho' he thinks he did not as it was not customary with the militia's officers then to give such discharges. He states furthermore that said company of militia belonged to the regiment commanded by Col. James Lyon of Henry County in the state of Virginia, but who was not out during the tour above spoken of. Nor was there at the time declarant was out any other company of men doing duty with Captain Shelton's company at the above stations.

That again in the fall of 1780 sometime in the month of December, the day not recollected, this declarant entered the said services under captain William Cloud of Col. Lyon's Regiment in Henry county as aforesaid as a volunteer for three months. And was marched with said regiment to North Carolina against the British, and after a difficult and tedious march accompanied mostly by the heavy winds and high waters the regiment crossed the Haw River, about one hundred miles from where the troops set out. And after remaining there sometime stationed. Col. Lyon, contrary to the advice of his officers and wishes of his men retreated back to Henry County- or was supposed at the time, on account of his being afraid of meeting with the enemy and accordingly the regiment reached Henry County. When it had rendezvoused some time in the month of February 1781 having been gone fully two months- to which period this declarant served that tour- Shortly after reaching home and being somewhat mortified of the conduct of his said Col. This declarant again volunteered in the latter part of February 1781 under Captain George Haston [*George Hairston*] in the regiment commanded by Col. Penn [*Abraham Penn*] and Major Waller [*George Waller*]. The only officer whose name he now can recollect and was marched into South Carolina by Col. Penn for the purpose of joining General Greene, who was then watching the movements of Lord Cornwallis. And after a tedious and horrifying march they reached General Greene's Headquarters after passing the *Dan* river and other water crosses on their route, on the 11th of March, the day after the battle between Gen. Greene and Cornwallis [*Battle of Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781*]. When the declarant's company reached the headquarters of Gen. Greene, he was encamped at the iron works on Troublesome Creek about

¹ *There were two captains named Shelton of Henry County VA militia during the Revolution: James Shelton and Eliphaz Shelton.*

ten or twelve miles from the battleground. And a few days after joining Gen. Greene he determined to pursue Cornwallis who was retreating from Greene and accordingly the army took up a line of march but in consequence of bad roads and continual rains the army did not reach Ramsey's Mills until the latter part of March, at which place the enemy had halted but had left and crossed Deep river on to Wilmington -- After remaining some time at Ramsey's Mills, the company to which the declarant belonged was ordered to join the Light Horse at a ferry on Cape Fear River (name not recollected, of the ferry) at which place, the commander of the Horse he thinks it was Col Washington [*William Washington*] proposed to Captain Haston that if his company would furnish 12 recruits to serve one year in the light horse the balance of his company might go home and be excused from serving the balance of their tour and that accordingly the company did furnish 12 men by drawing lots who should go and giving something to those upon whom the lots fell and in that way the company which declarant was attached was discharged from serving the balance of his tour. Having served but two months after they reached home. Declarant further states that when his company reached Gen. Greene's head quarters, there was many officers both regulars and militia whose names he has since forgotten, but he can name some. Namely Gen. Lawson [*Robert Lawson*] whose tent he stood guard frequently. General Huger [*Isaac Huger*] who commanded the Virginia Continental who was wounded in the battle of the 15th March, Col. Washington Col Williams [*Otho Williams*] of Maryland Col^s. Campbell [*William Campbell*] & Preston [*William Preston who was wounded at Guilford*] Which different periods of actual service amounted to seven months but if the last tour is counted as three months, as Col Washington dismissed declarant's captain it should be. He will then be entitled to a credit of eight months service in the revolutionary war. That he has resided in Virginia or Tennessee ever since he joined the service. He hereby relinquishes any claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension role of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid }

Jacob Lawson, X his mark

S/ W. B. Mitchell Clk

At this same time personally appeared in open court John Willis² a resident of Hawkins county in the state of Tennessee aged about sixty Eight years. Who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare and certify that he is well acquainted with Jacob Lawson. Who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that at the time said Lawson performed the above services. This affiant resided in the same county and neighborhood to wit in Henry County Virginia, with said Jacob Lawson, and was out with said Lawson in two of the tours mentioned in his declaration above viz the one under Captain Shelton against the Tories in 1779 when they both served three months. The other under Col. Lyons and Capt. Cloud where they served two months. He also states that he well recollects the time when the troops left Henry County under Col. Penn to march into South Carolina against the British. And at which time in the month of February 1781 he saw the said Jacob Lawson leave home under the command of Capt. Haston in Col. Penn's regiment. And also saw him return home in about two months and that he always understood that said Lawson performed the two months faithfully honorably as his brother soldiers testified on all occasions. The affiant further states that he has been acquainted with said Lawson ever since. Residing in the same neighborhood, within about one mile of said Lawson in Hawkins county.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid }

John (his X mark) Willis

2 [John Willis S1603](#)

W. B. Mitchell Clk

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of this matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states and the court further certifies that it appears to them that John Willis who has signed the preceding certificate is a resident in said county of Hawkins and state of Tennessee is a credible person and that his statement is entitled to credit.

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } I Stockly D. Mitchell Clerk of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Hawkins County do hereby certify that the forgoing contains the original proceedings of said court in the matter of the application of Jacob Lawson for a Pension.

In testimony where of I have here unto set my hand and seal of office this 29th day of November AD 1832

W. B. Mitchell Clk

By Jas. B Mitchell Clk

[2 more pages unreadable, faded]

Pension Application of Polly Lawson: W86

Transcribed by Robin Marshall

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } On this Sixth day of May AD 1839 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Hawkins County in open court Polly Lawson a resident of said county & state aged seventy four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pension to certain widows. That she is the widow of Jacob Lawson who was a private in Col. Lyon's regiment of militia and she refers the comms of Pension to the declaration of her said husband now on file in the war department for the declaration of her said husbands services in the revolutionary war, that her said husband was on the pension roll at the Agency of Jonesborough in this state at the rate of _____ of 20 and 25 dollars per annum according to the best of her recollection at this time. She further declares that she was married to the said Jacob Lawson in the month of August in the year Seventeen hundred Eighty Four (1784) and that her said husband died on the 5th day of September 1833, Eighteen hundred thirty three. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the services but the marriage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred ninety four or at the time above stated. And that she has no record proof of her said marriage.

Sworn and subscribed in open court before the justices thereof the date above }

Polly (her X mark) Lawson.

Jas. M. Hord Clk.

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } I James M Hord clerk of the County Court of the county aforesaid do hereby certify that the forgoing contains the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of the application of Mrs Polly Lawson for a pension. I also certify that John Reynolds and Darin

Reynolds Esq. Whose names appear to the annexed affidavit or depositions and certificates are now and were at the time of signing the same acting Justices of the Peace for said County and that their signatures appear to be in their own proper hand writing. Given under my hand and seal of office in Rogersville this 8th day of May 1839.

Jas. M Hord Clk

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } On this 3rd day of March 1845 personally appeared before the justices of the county court of said county Lazarus Lawson, one of the surviving children of Polly Lawson late a Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States. And a resident of said county and state aged fifty one years who being first duly sworn, according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the acts of Congress passed on the 3rd March 1843 and June 17th 1844 granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary War. That the said Polly was the widow of Jacob Lawson decd. Who died on the 5th of September 1833 who was a private in the army of the Revolution and who was a pensioner at the time of his death of the United States. And the annual amount of the pension which he received under the Act of July 7th 1838 was twenty-three dollars, thirty-three cents per annum and that at the time of her death she was a widow never having married after her said husbands death. She died on the tenth July 1844.

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court the day and year above.

Lazarus Lawson [signature]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lazarus Lawson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a small flourish at the end.

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } I Robert Johnson, clerk of the court of Hawkins County do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of the application of Lazarus Lawson for pension. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 3rd day of March 1845.

R Johnson Clk

By Jas M Hord Clk

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } At a County Court held at the Court house in Rogersville on the first Sunday of March 1845 personally appeared in open court before the justices thereof Jasper Spears aged fifty five years a citizen of said county and being first duly sworn states that he was well acquainted with this Polly Lawson widow of Jacob Lawson late a pensioner of the United States. That she lived within one mile of declarant for about 18 or 20 years. That she departed this life on the 10th day of July 1844 at the house of Lazarus Lawson her son in said County. And the following are the names of her surviving children towit, Lazarus Lawson, Matilda Lawson who intermarried with Anderson Campbell of Hawkins County. Lewis Lawson Of McMinn County Tennessee, Russel Lawson, Sam Reynolds Lawson, and Elizabeth Lawson who intermarried with William Finnell and Anna Keaynes formerly Anna Lawson who intermarried with Thomas Keaynes now decd. The latter of Bradley County Tennessee. Said widow died the widow of Jacob Lawson decd. Never having married after the death of her said husband. Which testimony was satisfactory to said Court.

State of Tennessee }

Hawkins County } I Robert Johnson Clerk of the county Court of said County do certify that the foregoing contains a true copy from the records in my office which testimony was satisfactory to the Court. Witness my hand and seal of office at office in Rogersville this 3rd day of March AD 1843.

R Johnson Clk

By Jas M. Hord DCIk

Ann Reynolds About Seventy Three years of age after being duly sworn states as follows (viz) that she was present when Polly Lawson and Jacob Lawson was married. That they was married near her Father's house Hawkins County Tennessee by Thomas Murrel a Baptist Preacher. And that the said Polly Lawson has a daughter about fifty four years old and to the best of her knowledge and belief said Polly Lawson and Jacob Lawson was married near twelve months before said Child was born. She also states that the said Polly Lawson is now living and that her husband Jacob Lawson has been dead between five and six years.

Sworn and Subscribed to before us John Reynolds and David Reynolds, two justices of the peace for Hawkins County this 3rd day of May 1839.

Ann (her X mark) Reynolds

John Reynolds J.P.

David Reynolds J. P.

Hawkins County State of Tennessee

Personally appeared the 6th day of May A D 1839 before me John Reynolds a justice of the peace in and for the county state aforesaid. Lazarus Lawson and Anderson Campbell citizens of Hawkins County and both credible witnesses with whom I am acquainted. Being by me duly sworn according to law. Both say that Jacob Lawson the Husband of Said Polly Lawson died on the fifth day of September Eighteen hundred and Thirty three at his residence in Hawkins County aforesaid. Said Lawson was a Pensioner as stated in said Polly's declaration Said witnesses also declare _____ that said Polly has never been married since the death of her said husband.

Sworn to subscribed before me this 6th day of May A D 1839.

Lazarus Lawson

Anderson Campbell

John Reynolds JP

WAR DEPARTMENT

Revolutionary Claim

I certify that in conformity with the laws of the United States of the 3rd March, 1843, and June 19th, 1844. Polly Lawson, deceased, late of Tennessee, widow of Jacob Lawson, who was a private in the Revolutionary war entitled to receive a pension at the rate of twenty three dollars and thirty three cents per annum commencing on the 4th March, 1843 and terminating on the 10th July 1844, the day on which she died. The amount due is payable to Lazarus Lawson, Matilda Campbell, Lewis Lawson, Reynolds Lawson, Russell Lawson, Elizabeth Finnell, and Anna Haynes, only children of said Polly Lawson deceased.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount commencing March 4th, 1836.]