

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Benjamin Allen R106

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } SS

McMinn County } On this 2nd day of Dec'm. 1844 personally appeared in open Court before the worshipful County Court Mr Benjamin Allen a resident in the County and State aforesaid aged Eighty one 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 That he entered in the Militia service in May 1780 in the Town of Staunton Augusta [sic: Augusta] County virginia under Captain McCamy [sic: John McCamey] and marched from Staunton to a place called Clover Lick on the Greenbrier River in said State of Va [in present Pocahontas County WV] and their built a block house for the purpose of guarding the frounteers from the Shawnee Indians and served Three months and their discharged by Capt McCamy and served the above tour as a substitute for his affiants Brother he further declairs that he entered the second time in the war of the Revolution September 1780 [sic: 1781] in Augusta County Virginia under Capt Allen and marched from Augusta County to Petersburg Va. and their joined Col Boyers [sic: Boyer's or Bowyer's] Regiment and about five weeks after affiant joined Col Boyers Regiment Col Boyer was broken of his Commission from Petersburg affiant was marched to Yorktown Virginia and was at the taking of Lord Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct 1781] and was discharged after serving in the aforesaid campaign three months making the service in all six month in the war of the Revolution Affiant further declairs his reasons for not making application sooner for a pension that he affiant was in good circumstances reverse of fortune has now rendered necessary to make this application

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an anuity except the present and he declairs that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State Sworn to to and subscribed in open Court
Benjamin hisXmark Allen

[The following addressed to Jacob Newman of Knoxville TN]

Staunton Jan'y. 21st 1845

Dear Sir, Your letter of date the 9th Inst reached me several days ago, since which time I have devoted several hours each day in search of the information which you desire, so far I have discovered nothing which would be of service.

There is no record of the Militia drafts to be found in the clerks office, nor can I discover from an examination of the old acts of Assembly collected and published by Mr Henning under the name of "Hennings Statutes at Large" that any record of the drafts was required by law to be returned to the clerk's office –

I have examined the records of the Courts martials held in Staunton commencing in 1748 and running up to 1796 but I cannot find the name of Capt Camp [sic] or Capt Allen nor can I find the name of Benjamin Allen; from the said record it would appear there was a draft of Militia in January 1781 the following is the entry to wit

"At a Court Martial held for the first Battalion of Augusta Militia for the trial of sundry delinquents for not appearing on the last draft of Militia in January 1781 & this 21st of May 1781 &c &c &c"

It does not appear from said record that any draft was made in May 1781. I think it probable that there was a draft in September 1781 from the following entries on said Record made at a Court Martial held on the 13th day of March 1782 to wit –

"Peter Alexander [see endnote] and Hugh Alexander of Capt Tates [William Tate's] Company are both acquitted for not appearing at the Rendezvous on the 20th Sept 1781;" on the 12th of Oct 1781 there is this

entry in said Record to wit "William Smith of Capt Buchanan's [probably Patrick Buchanan's] Company, for not appearing at the rendezvous under the command of Leuit Col [Samuel] Vance the 20th Sept 1781 is acquitted-" I do not know whether the above extracts will afford you any clue to the investigation you are making if they should it will afford me pleasure if you can direct my attention to any other source within my reach which may enable me to find what you want, I will make the examination for you and communicate the result for I am always gratified to be able to serve an old acquaintance.[The rest of the letter not related to Revolutionary War.]

With respects Yours &c Charles Kinney

NOTE: Peter Alexander's pension application (W8323) states that he was drafted in May 1781. He would therefore probably not have been subject to being drafted in Sep 1781.