Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Carson S17877
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Campbell County, }
Virginia, to wit. }
On this 3rd day of January 1834, personally appeared before me, Richard Harvey a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, William Carson, resident of the County aforesaid, aged eighty five 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 the 7th June 1832; who, on oath saith that he entered the service of the United States as a private in the militia of Bedford, now Campbell County; in the winter of 1780 & 81, he volunteered as one of the militia of said County under Colo. Charles Lynch. Capt. James Dixon; and marched to N. Carolina, was in the battle of Guilford in the month of march 1781 [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]; served out his tour of three months, and was discharged. As appears also by his written discharge from the hand of Colo. Lynch herewith filed. During the same year, in the summer & fall of 1781 he was called out, as a private in the militia of said County, and marched to Little York, under Captain David Baird [sic: David Beard]; was under Genl. [Robert] Lawson; but don’t recollect his colonels name, and served a three months tour; was discharged and came home soon after the taking of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. He thus served in all six months. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever, to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. He has no documentary, or other evidence excepting the discharge aforesaid.

[signed] William Carson

Questions.

1st. Where, and in what year were you born?
   Ans. I was born in the Kingdom of Ireland in the year 1748 in Colerain [sic: Coleraine in Northern Ireland], came to this Country in the year 1764.

2nd. Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it?
   Ans. I have none.

3rd. Where were you living when called in to service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live?
   Ans. When called in to the service, I lived in Bedford, now Campbell County Va: in the same place where I now live, and have lived ever since; on the same plantation.

4th. How were you called in to service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute; and if so for whom?
   Ans. The first time I volunteered under Capt. Dixon; the next, at the seige of York, I went in my turn; being called out.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect: and the general circumstances of your service.
   Ans. Genl. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] was the Commander in Chief, at the south, Colo. [Otho Holland] Williams, Colo. [William] Washington, & Colo. [Henry] Lee. were there also: and the militia general Lawson, Colo Lynch, and at Little York: Genl. Washington commanded; there was the Marquis Lafayette, and many others; I was again und general Lawson. Genl. [Edward] Stevens. Genl. De ReauChambo [sic: Rochambeau]. I had two very severe tours of duty; being during my two tours in two battles: and one of them the seige of York.

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?
   Ans. I have one discharge from Colo. Lynch, now filed: I rec’d. no discharge from my other tour.
7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Ans. Alfred S. P. Windsor, John Alexander, Richard Harvey, Thomas Cock, Barnet Finch, and many more.

North Carolina Iron works at camp March 16th 1781

Wm. Carson a Soldier in Gen'l. Lawsons Brigade of Volunteer Militia from Virginia having serv'd his full time out as a good soldier & a Citizen is hereby discharge by order of Gen'l. Lawson: —