Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Peter Alexander W8323
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky  }  SS –
Woodford County  }

On this 23rd day of October 1834 personally appeared before me Bernard James one of the
Commonwealths Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Peter Alexander a resident of said
County of Woodford and State of Kentucky aged Seventy six 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 was born in the County of Augusta State of Virginia in the year 1758 and resided there
untill the year 1787 at which time he removed to the County of Rockbridge State of Virginia, where he
resided untill the year 1803 in which year he removed to the County of Woodford State of Kentucky
where he has resided ever since

That he was drafted and entered the service of the United States under the following named
officers and served as herein stated. Col. John Dickerson [John Dickenson], Maj’r Samuel McDowell, Capt.
Charles Campbell  Lieut. Joseph Alexander, Ensign Samuel Davidson. That he resided in the said County
of Augusta State of Virginia and there entered the service in the month of September 1777 and left the
same in the latter part of December of the same year. He left Augusta as aforesaid and marched through
the big levels of Greenbrier [Big Savannah at present Lewisburg WV] passed Walkers Meadows, crossed
the Gally [sic: Gauley] Mountains and Rivers and fell in below the falls of the Kenhawa [sic: Kanawha
River], then down the bottoms of the same passing the burning springs [in present Wirt County WV] and
big Cicamore [sic: Big Sycamore], then down to the mouth of the great Kenhawha to a Fort [Fort
Randolph at Point Pleasant] He had not been there many days before the Indians killed a man by the
name of Gillmore There was some Indians in the Fort, Cornstalk & Son and Red-Hawk and probably
others. Gillmore’s friends rushed in and shot them, he counted thirty Guns that was fired at them. [See
endnote.] Gen’l. [Edward] Hand met us at the Fort but being disappointed in his force to go against
the Indians [in present Ohio] he gave us a portion of his provisions such as Flour &c. He was here honourably
discharged and returned home In this Tour he was over three months in the service

He was again drafted in the same County and State and entered the service in the month of May
1781 under the following officers  Gen’l. William Campbell  Col Huggart [sic: Thomas Hugart] Maj’r John
Wilson, Capt Patrick Buckhannon [Patrick Buchanan], Lieut. John Boyd, Ensign John Crawford.
Buckhannon returned home and he was then attached to Capt Francis Long’s Company. He stood centry
the first night on the south mountains from thence marched through Charlottsville [sic: Charlottesville]
Muhlenberg] were frequently with the Army. He saw Gen’l. [Daniel] Morgan once but don’t think he had
any command though he made a speech to the Army. He was not at the Battle of James Town [Green
Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781] in consequence of a little skirmish that took place a few days before in
which some of the Company to which he belonged were wounded and taken to the Hospital He was sent
with them to assist them and continued there a few days. He continued in the service untill some time in
the month of August. He was then honourably discharged and returned home after having been in the
service on this Tour over two months He was again drafted in the same County and State, and entered
the service in the month of May 1782 under the command of Capt John McKitrick [John McKittrick]. He
marched by the Warm Spring  Jackson River and through Greenbrier then crossed the mountain and
thence into Taggerts Valley [sic: Tygart Valley] and remained there untill his time had expired which was
at the expiration of two months. He was in different Forts in the Valley In this Tour he served full two
months (it being a two months Tour) at the end of which he was honourably discharged and returned home.

He also states, that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

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.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. [signed] Peter Alexander

NOTE:

In Nov 1777 at Ft. Randolph Chief Cornstalk, his son Chief Ellinipsico, Red Hawk, and other warriors being held as hostages were murdered in retaliation for the killing of Lt. James Gilmore. For another account of this incident see the pension application of William Pryor (S8979).

On 2 May 1843 Jannett Alexander, 81, applied for a pension stating that she married Peter Alexander on 27 Mar 1787, and he died 14 Feb 1842. A record of the marriage was requested from Augusta County but not found. As proof of marriage she submitted a part of the family record from her Bible showing the birth of Peter Alexander, the death of a child, and their marriage, certified by her son-in-law Warren Hearn, and transcribed as follows:

BIRTHS
Peter Alexander Was Born April 1758
DEATHS
David Alexander Died August 1793
MARRIAGES
Peter Alexander was married To Jannt Steele on 27th March 1787