

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of James Cook S12616

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Butler County Sct

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the court of Butler now sitting James Cook a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 York County Pennsylvania in the year 1762 and moved to the State of Virginia when very young. That he first volunteered in the Militia service in September or October 1780 for the term of three months under the command of Captain Robert Adams and Colonel William Leftridge [sic: William Leftwich], all of Bedford County Via [Virginia] and they marched through Charlotte Prince Edward and Amelia Counties and in the course of a week or two days from the time they set out the joined the army under the command of General Robert Lawson stationed at Petersburg Virginia that in this term he was in no battle and does not remember the name of any of the officers under the command of General Lawson except one Captain Maston Clay He does not remember whether he served out the time for which he enlisted, but he remembers that he was legally discharged by Capt Adams verbally that he returned to Bedford County in Virginia and in January or February 1781 he volunteered again for the Term of three months under the command of Captain William Jones and marched under command of Colonel [Charles] Lynch to join the army of Genl Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] in North Carolina that in the company that marched with him to join Genl Green were Cpts Thomas Helm, Jacob Moon and David Beard, that they marched through Halifax County and crossed Dan river on their way to Greens army, that he was in the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] where Cpts Moon, Helm, and Jones were killed, the Lieutenant being absent the command of his company then devolved upon John Cox Ensign, sometime thereafter, about the expiration of the three months for which he volunteered he was verbally discharged by Colonel Lynch and he again returned to his home in Bedford Via. In September 1781 he again volunteered for the term of three months under the command of Captain David Beard and marched under Colonel David Trigg [sic: William Trigg] through the counties of Charlotte, Prince Edward, Amelia Dinwiddie and some other Counties (the names of which he cannot recollect) to James River and marched down it about fifty miles, and passed through a little Town called Cabin Point [in Surry County] and crossed James River at Swan Point in sight of James Town thence to Williamsburg about 12 miles from James Town and thence to York Town about 12 miles from Williamsburg. when he arrived at Yorktown Colonel Trigg was discharged and a man by the name of Tucker (whose christian name he never knew) [St. George Tucker] was appointed in his stead. He was at York Town during the Siege and until after the capture of Cornwallis [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct 1781]; he knew none of the officers at the siege of York Town except Washington, LaFayette, [Gen. Anthony] Wayne, and Lawson nor does he remember the Regiments in which he served during any period of his services. He states that after the capture of Lord Cornwallis all Captain Beards Company except himself and fifteen others obtained Doctors discharges and went home, and that Capt Beard after attempting and failing to obtain discharges for the rest advised them to desert and meet him at Williamsburg where he would give them discharges, and thus deserted himself leaving him Cook and the said fifteen without an officer. he further states that being thus left General LaFayette advised them to go with the British prisoners to Winchester upon which they joined the company of Capt Giles and marched with the prisoners above Fredericksburg where half of them was sent to Fredericks Town [Frederick] in Maryland. he went under Capt Giles with the other half to Winchester where he was discharged by Capt Giles. that he returned to Bedford County and after living there about thirty years,

moved to Butler County in the State of Kentucky where he has resided ever since. He further states that for the services above set forth he has never received any compensation and that he has never made application for a pension of any kind, that he is in narrow circumstances and that age and sickness have compelled him to make application for the provision made by Congress. 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

James hisXmark Cook

Questions by the Court

Where and in what year were you born

Answer by Applicant

I was born in York County Pennsylvania and in the year 1762

Que by Court – Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it

Ans by Applicant – I have a record of my age at home

Qu by Court – Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live

Ans by Applicant – I lived in Bedford County afterward Campbell Virginia when I entered the service and resided there for about thirty years when I moved to Logan County Kentucky now Butler County Kentucky where I have since resided

Qu by Court – How were you called in to service, were you drafted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Ans by Applicant – I volunteered every time I went into the army

Qu by Court – 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

Applicant – I knew Wayne, Lawson, Lynch Leftridge Washington and LaFayette the numbers of the Regiments I cannot recollect I volunteered three times for three months each time, was in the battle of Gilford and the siege of York Town

Qu by Court – Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans by Applicant. – My first two discharges were verbal and given by Captain Adams at Petersburg and Colonel Lynch in North Carolina. When I left the service at Winchester, I and fifteen others received a written discharge and also a payroll from Capt Giles which was put into the hands of Sergt Oliver Branch [possibly Olive Branch, pension application S8101] the officer who marched us home, when we arrived home he went to Richmond taking them with him and I have never heard of him since

Qu by Court – State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Applicant – Benjamin McReynolds and Jesse Scofield