

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Zacheus Copland S2470

f23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 12/7/10 & 9/9/21

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

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State of Tennessee, Jefferson County

On this 10th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court before the County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County now sitting Zacheus Copland a Resident of the County and State aforesaid aged sixty eight 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 entered the service of the United States as a Substitute for his Father Joseph Copland as well as he recollects it was in August 1780 the term of service was not quite three months.

That he served in the North Carolina Militia under the Captain James Elliott of Sullivan County that he resided at that time in Sullivan County. His Colonel was Isaac Shelby of Sullivan County the rendezvous at Washington County now Dungan's Mill, Watauga River and marched from thence up Doe River and across the yellow Mountain, thence across the Blue Ridge into Burke County, from thence through Rutherford into South Carolina and lay at the Cowpens the night the British was fought at King's Mountain [October 8, 1780] I was with the footman under the command of Major Herron [sic, Hearn or Herndon?] and Captain Jonathan Webb of Sullivan County at that time and in consequence of having no horse was not in the battle. During the Campaign Colonel William Campbell of Washington County Virginia, Colonel John Sevier of Washington County, North Carolina, Colonel McDowell [Joseph McDowell] and Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland]; McDowell as such as I can recollect was from Burke County, North Carolina served along with us.

That in December 1780, I served a second Tour of duty for one or two months as a Volunteer under Captain George Masefield [George Maxwell] of Sullivan County, Col. Clark [Elijah Clarke] had the command. That we rendezvoused on Holston River near Dodson's Fort we marched from thence and crossed French Broad River at Buckingham's Island, from thence to Tennessee River, and crossed at Choto [sic, Chota?] Fort, into the Cherokee Nation, then through part of the Nation and destroyed some of their Towns, and killed some Indians, and that Captain Elliott who was my Captain during my first Campaign acting as a private was Shot dead by a wounded Indian near the Mouth of Tellico River.

That sometime in the fall of 1781 I served a third Campaign as a volunteer for a term of three or four months under Captain Roger Top [Roger Topp] of Sullivan County, Col. Isaac Shelby and Lieut. Col. Anthony Bledsoe commanded & during this Campaign, Colonel John Sevier and Lieut. Col. Robinson [Charles Robertson] of the Washington troops were along with us. We marched up Though River and crossed the yellow Mountain and Blue Ridge, and

marched through the same Country as in the first Campaign, then through Lincoln into South Carolina, and passed General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] at the high hills of Santee; Crossed over Santee, and joined General Francis Marion, I believe Colonel Horry [Peter Horry] of the Cavalry, And was engaged in scouting and harassing the British, we took their Hospital and some prisoners, at Moncks Corner, and was with General Marion at Santee when we received Intelligence of the Capture of Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781], sometime after we were dismissed and returned home to Sullivan County. I do not recollect from whom I received my first and second discharges, my third I received from Col. Anthony Bledsoe and they were sent on to Hillsboro and land entered by my Father with them. I know of no person by whom I can prove my services, and all the documentary evidence that I have is the discharges if they are as he believes, filed in North Carolina.

1st: Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Chatham County North Carolina on the 4th of August 1764

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

At home in my Bible

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

In Sullivan County. In Sullivan and Jefferson County, in Jefferson County.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

My first term I served as a Substitute for my Father Joseph Copland. The Second and third terms I served as a Volunteer

5th 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.

In the last Campaign there was General Francis Marion and Major Horry of the Continentals Colonel Isaac Shelby, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Bledsoe and Captain Roger Topp of the North Carolina Troops In the Second Campaign. Colonel Clarke and Captain George Masefield [George Maxwell] of Sullivan County. In the first Campaign Colonel Isaac Shelby and Captain James Elliott of Sullivan County North Carolina. Major Herron Captain Jonathan Webb. Col. William Campbell of Washington County Virginia Colonel John Sevier of Washington County North Carolina Colonel McDowell & Cleveland, as well as I can recollect McDowell was from Burke County – as to general circumstances I have already given them.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

I received three discharges, I do not recollect from whom I received the two first, the third I received from Col. Anthony Bledsoe, they were sent on to Hillsboro North Carolina and my Father Joseph Copland entered land with them.

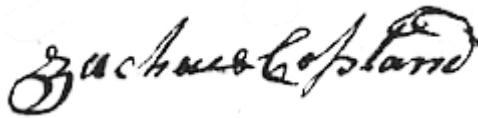
7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

William Taylor and Thomas Gilbreath

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 to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Zacheus Copland



S/ Joseph Hamilton, Clerk
the standard supporting affidavit.]

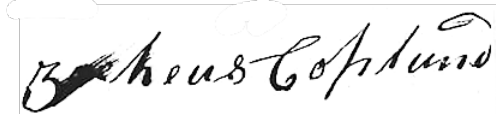
[William Taylor & Thomas Gilbreath gave

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State of Tennessee Jefferson County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Zacheus Copland who being duly sworn, Deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, for two months I served as a substitute for my father in August 1780 in the North Carolina Militia as a private; That in December 1780 for one month as a volunteer I served as a private on horseback under Captain George Masefield [Maxwell] of Sullivan County. That sometime in the fall of 1781 for three months I served as a private in the mounted Infantry under the command of Captain Roger Topp of Sullivan County and for such service I claim a pension.

And that his reasons for not getting the Certificate of a Clergyman are as follows. That he was under the impression that to citizens would be sufficient and there was no Clergyman residing in his neighborhood that was acquainted with his revolutionary Services. Given under my hand the 10th day of June 1833.

S/ Zacheus Copland



S/ Richard Bradshaw, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for three months service as a private in the Infantry and four months service as a private in the cavalry, all in the North Carolina militia.]