

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Campbell W10579

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Ohio } S.S.

County of Hamilton }

On the 19th day of February in the year 1834, personally appeared before the court of Common Pleas of said County of Hamilton & state of Ohio, John Campbell, a resident in Fulton township in said County, aged seventy seven years, the 15th day of October last 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 act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

That on the 9th day of March 1780 [sic], he volunteered in Lexington, Rockbridge County, in the State of Virginia, in the Company, commanded by Captain Alexander Tilford [sic: Alexander Tedford], and in Colonel [William] Campbell's Regiment, for a period of nine months [sic: see endnote], and marched immediately, with the greatest speed, to Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina, and arrived there late in the night of the fourteenth of the same month, and on the morning of the 15th joined the Army, then commanded by Gen'l. Nathaniel Greene [sic: Nathanael Green], and participated in the battle on the day last mentioned [15 Mar 1781]; that, in this battle the American Army were defeated, that the officers recollected by him as being in the battle at Guilford Courthouse, were Gen'l. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg, not present], Gen'l. Stevens (or Stephenson) [Edward Stevens], Col. Wm Washington [William Washington] of the Cavalry, & several other officers of less note, whose names, it is deemed unnecessary to mention; that the Regiment of Col. Campbell to which he belonged, was stationed on the left of the American Army, and in common with the North Carolina Militia, threw down their arms and run off [see endnote]; that the whole Army reached a place called "Hawfield" late on the night after the battle, & halted there during the following day; that he the said declarant, served out his said term of nine months, with the exception of about two months, during which he was confined at Camden in South Carolina by the Ague and fever; that he was not engaged in any other battle during his said first term of service, but was engaged in several skirmishes; that after the expiration of said term of nine months he received a discharge from Lieutenant Sam'l. Paxton [Samuel Paxton], then commanding Captain Kilford's [sic: Tedford's] Company, (the said Kilford having been killed in the said battle) – that he the said declarant returned home to said County of Rockbridge, in the state of Virginia, and after remaining there a short time, went with several others of his neighbours to Camden, South Carolina early in the month of June in the year 1781 and enlisted in the company commanded by Capt. Johnson for "during the war;" but remained in the service only six months, & then received from Lieutenant Hays of said Johnson's Company, a regular discharge, said Johnson having deserted from the American Army and joined the British taking with him, as it was said, a considerable sum of money in gold, then on the way to Camden, to pay the American troops; that he has forgotten the name of the Colonel to whose regiment said Capt. Johnson's Company was attached; but recollects that a Major named Stewart, belonged to the same, and appeared to be in command of it; that he the said declarant, knows of no other reason for his obtaining a discharge after having been an enlisted soldier only six months, than this: the British Army had in a great measure abandoned the Southern states, and the war was considered at an end, or at least so near so as to justify discharging the regular troops in those states, either generally or partially [see endnote]; he also states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no persons, 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 Agency of any state.

John hisXmark Campbell

Interrogatories propounded by the Court; & the respective answers thereto.

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Rockbridge County, (then Augusta) in the state of Virginia, on the 15th day of October 1756.

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

Answer. I have none, neither do I know that the time of my birth was ever recorded; but I have been often told by my mother, that I was born at the time & place above stated.

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

Answer. I was then living in said County of Rockbridge, & remained there until about six years after the termination of said War; I then removed to the vicinity of Knoxville in the state of Tennessee, where after residing about six years there, I returned to Rockbridge County aforesaid, & there remained until about twelve years since, when I removed to the said County of Hamilton, Ohio, where I now live.

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

Answer. I at first volunteered for a term of nine months, and served out that term, and early in the month of June in the year 1781, I enlisted to serve "during the War"; but was discharged after having served only six months, as stated in my declaration.

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.

Answer. I cannot now recollect the names of any regular officers, besides those already mentioned, who were with the troops where I served; nor can I add anything to my former statement in relation to the Continental & Militia Regiments but in relation to the circumstances of my service, not already detailed, I will add, that during the time of my service as an enlisted soldier, the regiment to which I belonged was stationed at Camden, in South Carolina, in garrison, guarding the military stores &c belonging to the United states; but was not at any time engaged in a battle or skirmish.

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

Answer. I received a written discharge, at the termination of the respective periods of nine months as a volunteer, and six months as an enlisted soldier, the former given by Lieut Paxton & the latter by Lieut. Hays – but both of them have been long since destroyed by fire.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. I am known to the Rev'd Wm Burke Post Master in Cincinnati, Septimus Hazen, Thos. Brainard, Jno. Whetstone and numerous others, who can testify to the facts referred to in the above question; but I merely refer to the accompanying certificate given by a few of them. John hisXmark Campbell

NOTES:

It is clear that Campbell's first tour began in March 1781 rather than 1780, and it lasted three, rather than nine months. His pension was \$30 per year, the amount appropriate for a total service of seven and one-half months.

The statement that "the Regiment of Col. Campbell... threw down their arms and run off" is not supported by other accounts, which state that Col. Campbell's Riflemen made a stubborn resistance.

The actual reason why the Revolutionary War was considered to have ended late in 1781 was that Cornwallis had surrendered his southern army at Yorktown on 19 Oct 1781.

On 15 April 1856 Sarah Campbell, 74, applied for a pension stating that as the widow of John Crewey she married John Campbell in Mason County VA in Aug 1805, and he died 6 Nov 1839. On an application for bounty land dated 4 Nov 1857 she was said to be 76 and a resident of Fulton (later Cincinnati), and she was said to have married John Campbell in 1803. On 12 March 1862, aged about 86,

while visiting her son Henry Campbell at Twenty Mile Stand in Warren County OH, she applied again, stating that her marriage to John Campbell occurred about 4 miles from Point Pleasant about the year 1802, and he died about 26 Nov 1839. She stated that her family record had been burned with her house in Piketon OH many years before. She listed her children by John Campbell as follows: Bethany, who died young; Hiram, who died about 12 years before; Sarah, wife of John Walls of Terre Haute IN; James, about 49, of Hamilton County; Daniel, who died in 1834; Henry, 44. She stated that before her marriage to John Campbell she had been married to John Cruvey, who died near Point Pleasant about 1798 or 1799, by whom she had the following four children: Polly Stevens (Mary Stephens), a widow living in Hamilton County; Martha Cranmore, also a widow of Hamilton County; John Cruvey, living 6 miles from Maysville KY; and Abraham Cruvey, who died young. On 24 Aug 1855 Sarah Campbell was said to have turned 72 on 11 Sep 1854 and to be a resident of Cincinnati, where John Campbell died on 6 Nov 1839. On an application for bounty land dated 10 May 1860 Sarah Campbell stated that as Sarah Cruvey or Crewey she married John Campbell in 1806 or 1807. Martha Cranmore, about 58, made a supporting statement.