

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Willis Coal (Cole) W6936 Ruth

fn68NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/22/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Morgan County: On this the __ day of October 1832,

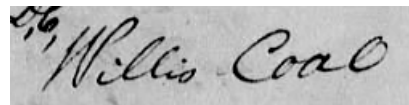
Personally appeared before the worshipful Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of said County now sitting, it being a court of record, Willis Coal a resident Citizen of the County of Morgan and State of Tennessee aged about 69 years, agreeable to his best information but has not had any record of his age 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 day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under Captain William Seal and Colonel Philip Alston as a volunteer for a three months tour to go against the Tories and against Colonel Fannen [sic, David Fanning] he entered said service the precise time not recollected being no scholar and never taking notice of dates but he thinks it was something like one year before the end of the war and said three months Tower [tour] included the most of the summer season of the year he entered said service in the Bounds of what composes Cumberland County North Carolina we were called the County Light horse we marched through various places and crossed deep River at Wilcox Iron works the day we heard that Colonel Fanning had taken a great many prisoners at Hillsboro we marched to a place called X Creek [sic, Cross Creek] and after going the Country to various places was finally discharged by his said Captain for a three months Tower being in no battle the whole Time, and in some time thereafter, and believed to be about 12 months after he was drafted and went off from the same place from whence he started to serve the first Tower he was put under Captain Smith his Employment was to go against the Tories if necessity required and to guard droves of beef cattle to various places for the use of the Army his last three months Tower ended at the close of the war, was discharged, he was Born in Virginia in Isle of Wight [County] moved to North Carolina to the place where he was when called into service, when he was an infant, after the war moved to Nansemond County Virginia, stayed there about twelve years, and moved to the same place in North Carolina stayed there about 10 years and moved to Carter County Tennessee and staid there about five years, and then moved to Anderson County still Tennessee and finally moved to Morgan County Tennessee where he has lived &, he states that his two discharges that he had from his said captains are in some way lost but don't know in what way. He therefore has no documentary Evidence of his services and knows of no person by whom he can prove his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

Attest S/ John Brown, DC

S/ Willis Coal

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Willis Coal". There is a small mark above the first letter of the first name.

[John H Hughs, and Nicholas J Kington gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 52]

State of Tennessee Morgan County: On this the 26 day of April 1835 personally appeared before me Thomas S Lea – one of the justices of the court of pleas and quarter sessions for the County of Morgan aforesaid it being a court of record Willis Coal a resident citizen of said County and after being duly sworn according to law Deposeth and saith that he has no record of his age nor never had and that at the time of making the Declaration to which this is an amendment he was 69 years old agreeable to the best account he can get knows not the date of his birth being entirely unarmed he states that he is entirely blind of one I and cannot see well with the other and from lameness, old age and bodily infirmity is unable to attend court. States that owing to old age and loss of memory and never taking notice of dates he cannot state the period or periods of the war that he served with precision but from his own best recollection his first three months Tower included part of the summer season of the year 1780 or 1781 not certain from age and want of learning and sometime thereafter he entered the service he is not able to designate the time that in the being between his first and last tower with certainty his said last tower ended near the close of the war and included a part of the warm season of the year, and was making in the whole six months service as a private soldier.

This applicant states that it was out of his power to obtain the testimony of a clergyman as to his neighborhood reputation as a soldier there being no clergyman any place within the vicinity of applicant, and that it is still out of his power for the same reason applicant states that he thinks he can prove his character for veracity and reputation as a soldier by John Green, Eli L. Taber, Emmet J. Kington of his neighborhood and the most part of his acquaintance.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Thomas S. Lea, JP

S/ William Coal, X his mark

[fn p. 10: On April 10, 1855 in Fentress County Tennessee, Mrs. Rutha Cole, 85, filed for a Widow's pension under the 1853 act and for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Willis Cole; that her name prior to her marriage was Rutha Phillips; that she married her husband in Morgan County Tennessee; that they were married by John Kington, JP, about __ years ago; that her husband died February 27, 1855 and that she remains his widow; that she is very poor and entirely blind and has been for some years.]

[fn p. 14: On August 16, 1855, the widow described herself as being 90 odd years old; and thinks she was married to her husband about the year 1820 or 1825.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$22.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for three months service as a private in the cavalry and three months service as a private in the infantry]