

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of George White: S1736

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

To the honourable. The Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions holden for the County of Giles and State of Tennessee November Term 1832.

Your petitioner George White a citizen of Alabama Lauderdale County would respectfully shew unto your Worships, that at the commencement and during the revolutionary war he was a citizen of Caswell County State of North Carolina and resided near a place known by the name of the red house and that at the early period in life before he was twenty one years of age as free from his father with beginning of the war, as well as he now recollects, in the year seventeen hundred and seventy six, the day of the month he has now entirely forgotten, but recollects distinctly that it was a little before New Year's day, according to orders he, with a number of others, met in rendezvous at the house of our Captain Fernay [sic: possibly Peter Forney], when he enlisted in the service of the State as a militia soldier, and marched from thence through Salsbury [sic: Salisbury] to Camden in South Carolina, where he was stationed three months, but from lapse of time he cannot recollect with what companies he served, nor the names of any other officers, and he recollects that no battle was fought whilst out the first time and that at the end of three months he returned home with Capt. Fernay and recollects distinctly coming by his house, but does not know the day he was discharged nor by whom from the great length of time since that event - Your petitioner would further shew unto your Worships that some time afterwards he supposes it to have been in the year 1778 or 1779, the day and month he has now entirely forgotten from the number of years that have elapsed since that time, he entered the service again as a substitute in the place of one William Thomas under Captain William Witcher and Lieutenant Daltan who were at that time commanded by General [Benjamin] Lincoln and that he marched from Caswell County North Carolina through Guilford Courthouse and on through Salsbury to Stono in South Carolina, where your petitioner was stationed eight months and served as a Cook for the soldiers during the greater part of that time and that never expecting to have any use for his information relating to the officers under whom he served or the companies with which he was engaged, he has never charged his memory with many events which he from length of time has entirely lost, he therefore cannot recollect the companies with which he was engaged or any others officers save those already mentioned; but he recollects distinctly that the troops commanded amounted to three thousand and that they arrived at Stono and that the weather was exceedingly warm and that a battle was fought at Stono [Battle of Stono Ferry, 20 June 1779] in which your petitioner was engaged and that the soldiers after the battle suffered greatly from heat and want of water and your petitioner cannot now recollect the day on which this battle was fought but feels satisfied it must have been in the month of August; your petitioner was then discharged and came home but cannot now recollect by whom discharged or at what time and never expecting to want evidence of this character has lost his discharge. Your petitioner would further shew, that some time afterwards as well as he now recollects in 1781 or the last year of the war, the day and month it is impossible for him to recollect, he was drafted and again entered the service of his country under Captain Turner who was commanded by General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and that he again marched from Caswell County North Carolina through Guilford Court house and through Salsbury to fort Ninety six in South Carolina as well as your petitioner now recollects not far from Georgia where he was stationed and that during his stay there the fort was besieged [Siege of Ninety-Six, 22 May - 19 June 1781] and that he was sent on to guard and take care of the baggage and that a battle was fought at that fort but he cannot now recollect the day or the month, he recollects and states that he went on with the baggage and crossed Saluda river and then crossed broad river about a half a mile from a little mill and then marched to Camden and from Camden to the High Hills of Santee and there your petitioner was placed guard over some prisoners and that he was sent on towards home guarding said prisoners under the command of Major Rose, who when your petitioner arrived at the place of their destination, discharged

your petitioner but that it is impossible for him to remember at what time that was but thinks it was in the month of September and that he has long since lost his discharge never expecting to have any use for it, he recollects that after he left the High Hills of Santee a battle was fought, said to have been the last battle of the revolution after the capture of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown; he states from the great lapse of time it is impossible for him to recollect the companies with which he served or any other officers except those already mentioned or any of the more prominent events by which to establish his claim. - Your petitioner would further state that he is now in his seventy seventh year and that he was born in the year 1755 and that he now resides near the line of this county nearly forty miles from the county seat of his own county and that he for a long time resided near this place in this county and that all the testimony by which he expects to establish his claim to a pension is in this county near this place and that he is now so old and infirm as to be scarcely able to travel and that it would be impossible for him to establish his claim in his own county as he could not be able to collect his testimony and that he has a son living near this place who he expects to collect his testimony for him; your petitioner states that he has no documentary evidence by which to establish his claim, having long since lost all his papers, which could be of any service to him and that he knows of no person now living, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever 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. -

George hisXmark White

On this 20 day of November personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions holden for the county of Giles now sitting George White a resident of the County of Lauderdale, Alabama State aged seventy six years and some months who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say that the above declaration is true in substance and in fact and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

State of Tennessee} Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Giles County} May Term 1833

Your petitioner George White for the purpose of amending his declaration heretofore made in this court, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. for the benefit of the Surviving soldiers of the revolution declares and says that he cannot now recollect under what Colonel he served in any of the tours specified in his first declaration and which is appended and made a part of this, except the last tour, when drafted in 1781 in which he thinks he served under Colonel Rogers, but will not be positive as the lapse of time since that event has been great; he states that he served five months, the last tour when drafted as a private in the year 1781 as stated in his previous declaration to which he now refers. As to the Interrogatories propounded to claimant, he answereth and saith as to the 1st Interrogatory: that he was born in the year 1755 near Alexandria at that time called Belhaven on the Potomac River. As to the 2nd Interrogatory: he states that he has no record of his age and only knows his age from traditionary evidence received from his parents, from whom he always understood that he was born in the spring of the year of Braddock's defeat. As to 3rd question: he states that he was living in Caswell County North Carolina when called into service & since, but at what time I do not know, moved to Pulaski County Kentucky where I lived nine years, from there I moved to Giles County Tennessee, where I lived four years, from thence I moved to Lauderdale County Alabama, where I now live and have lived for the last twelve years. Answer to question 4th He says he enlisted the first tour and served as stated in his declaration, the second tour he was a substitute for William Thomas and the third tour he was drafted, Answer to 5th Question He does not remember and cannot call the names of any of the regular officers who were with the troops when he served, because he was a private and but seldom in their company and had no acquaintance with them nor does he remember if he ever knew any of the Continental or malitia regiments but well remember that he could tell the regiment to which a man belonged from the number of the regiment marked on the buttons of their coats and the general circumstances of his service are as stated in his declaration which he has above related to the Court. Answer to the 6th Question He received a discharge from every term of service. The 1st was given by Capt Fernoy, the second he thinks was given by Capt

Witcher and the last by Major Rose but has lost them all and knows not where they are. Answer to the 7th Interrogatory: I am known in my present neighbourhood by Jacob Karnaman[?] and Willoby Karnaman, Zaal Heus, Jesse Pratt and Joshua Stiss, all of whom have heard and believe, that I served as a Revolutionary Soldier and all of whom have confidence in my character for veracity. George hisXmark White

On this 19th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of our Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, George White, a citizen of Lauderdale County Alabama, aged about seventy six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, on his oath saith, that the above declaration and the facts therein embodied are true in substance and in fact.