

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Samuel Cochran: W280

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee}

Sumner County} SS.

On this the fourteenth day of August AD 1832 personally appeared in open court before William Edwards Thomas Anderson & John L Ivory Esqrs the Court of pleas and quarter sessions for said county now sitting Samuel Cochran a resident of the county aforesaid and state aforesaid aged seventy two years upon the 24th April 1832. 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 7th June 1832. That he entered in the service of the united states under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He enlisted upon the 14th day of January 1777. under Captain Henry or Harry Conway in the County of Henry state of Virginia. He and his company was attached to the 14th Regiment of the Virginia line - commanded by Colo. Chares [Charles] Lewis. That he resided in the county in which he enlisted to wit- Henry. He enlisted for the term of three years. the 14th Regiment was attached to Genl. Weeden or Wheden's [sic: George Weedon's] Brigade. in March they marched to Alexandia then in Virginia [sic: Alexandria VA]. we then went through the opperation [inoculation] of the small pox we then marched to Baltimore. then passed Wilmington. into Delaware. and from that to Philadelphia which was he thinks about June 1777. we then went by the Delaware to Trenton we passed Princeton New Jersey and Brunsick [sic: Brunswick] from there we passed the Raratan [sic: Raritan] river, and joined head quarters at Medlebrok [sic: Middlebrook] New Jersey where we were attached to Weedens brigade. in a few days we took up the line of march north Genl. Washingtons main army commanded by Genl. Washington, and proceeded to the high lands of New York. Then arrived an express at head quarters that the enemy were about to land at the head of Elk [in Maryland] and make a march upon Philladelphia. Genl. Washington here retraced his steps and made a heavy march to prevent Philladelphia falling into the hands of the enemy. we met the enemy at Brandywine and then fought a hard fight. The enemy took possession of Philladelphia a few days after the battle which was in Sept. [the 11th] 1777. upon the 4th of October 1777. we again met the enemy and fought the battle of German Town This was the last general action he fought in Pennsylvania. Genl. Washington took up Winter quarters at the valey forge [sic: Valley Forge]. He continued with the army that winter and in the spring [two words illegible] to wit - in June [the 18th] 1778. the enemy left Philladelphia and made a march upon New York. We pursued the enemy and over took them at Monmoth [sic: Monmouth] Court house and had a hard fought battle called by that name [28 June 1778]. The respective armies were maneuvering till the approach of winter and we went into winter quarters upon a mountain in sight of MedleBrook. after the winter broke we were engaged during the year 1779 in scouting parties marching and maneuvering but no decisive action was fought. we went into winter quarters at Morrystown New Jersey. His time of service of three years now drawing to a close and the 14th Regiment was broke up and Genl. Washington sent him and others to Philladelphia to take charge of 500 prisoners and take them to Frederick Town, Maryland, which service he performed and was discharged from the serrvice in the summer 1780. by Colo. James Webb. In February 1781. he volunteered his services in Colo. Linches [sic: Charles Lynch's] Regiment in the county of Bedford in the state of Virginia some short time afterwards he was attached to Colo. William Washington Regiment of Draggons [sic: Dragoons]. He was in the battle of Gilford court-house [sic: Guilford Court House NC, 15 March 1781], after which he was honorably discharged in Sept 1781. he volunteered his services in Colo. [William] Callaway's Regiment in Bedford County Virginia and that he beseged Lord Cornwallis in Litle york [sic: Yorktown] in Oct 1781 - whose army marched out and grounded their arms and surrendered themselves prisoners of war. after this he was honorably discharged in Virginia by Colo Callaway & here his services in the revolution ended. He further states that he served in the first instance as a private about one year. previous to this Colo Lewis having resigned Colo Davis was appointed by Genl. Washington to take the command of the 14th Regiment who appointed him a 1st Corporal till 1779, and was then promoted by Colo

Davis to 2 Sergent, in which capacity he served till he was discharged in the summer of 1780. by Colo Webb who had the command of that detachment. He further states that all the documentary evidence he has of his service is that his name is found upon the list of soldiers of the Virginia line of Continental troops, and that he served a sufficient time to bring his case under the law which appears from a letter of the Hon'l. J L Edwards dated the 9th Jany 1832. 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 [signed] Samuel Cochran

NOTE: On 10 May 1844 in Sumner County TN Sarah Cochran, 78, applied for a pension stating that she married Samuel Cochran in Franklin County VA [formed from Bedford County in 1786] on 10 Aug 1784, and that he died 7 Jan 1842. The file includes parts of a family record with the following information: "Samuel Cochran Son of Wm & Jemima Cochran & Sarah Northcutt were Married August the 10th day 1784." A typed summary states that he was living near Blackwater River in Bedford [now Franklin] County VA, and she was living in Henry County at the time of their marriage, and that they moved to Tennessee in 1818. In the file is a declaration made by Meredith Hodges, 55, in Sumner County on 10 June 1848 stating that his father had been a neighbor of Cochran in Franklin County and had moved to Sumner County in 1812, and that Samuel Cochran's family moved to the same neighborhood a few years later. Hodges's declaration quotes from the Cochran's Bible the names and dates of birth of their children.