Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Young R11962 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 1 Nov 2014.

State of Kentucky Bracken County Sct.

On this 21st day of October 1839. Personally appeared before me, Joseph Schoolfield one of the Judges or Justices composing the county court of Bracken county being a court of record and having a seal, John Young a resident of said county, and aged 87 years who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 and the several acts in regard to the payment of pensions to Revolutionary soldiers. The declarant states that he was a citizen of Henry county Virginia when he volunteered in the army of the Revolution the first time. He together with the troops he turned out with, were to go at any call that might be made for them, and the length of service indeterminate until the corps were disbanded: from his (the declarant's) advanced age and infirmity he does not recollect the names of the officers in the light horse troop in which he served at that time. He states he served as a volunteer in an expedition against the tories in North Carolina in a troop of light horse commanded by Capt. Taylor he thinks his name was George Taylor and an Ensign by the name of Townsend: the date he does not recollect but knows it was during the Revolutionary War. He states that he served under Colonel Duntan[?] and Colonel [Archelaus] Hughes as volunteer and under them marched from Henry county into North Carolina & met a party of Tories commanded by General Roberts at a place called Ramseys or Ramsour's Mill [possibly Ramseurs Mill in Lincoln County NC, 20 Jun 1780] when and where a severe engagement took place and the Tories were defeated, and within a month or two the corps were disbanded. He states that he marched from Henry county Virginia as a volunteer during the war, under Capt. John Cuningham [sic: John Cunningham] in order to join Colonel Bluford [sic: Abraham Buford], but when they reached Hillsborough [NC] Capt Cuningham's company were stoped to guard the artillery at that place. He does not recollect how long it was before they were disbanded but he knows he turned out in that corps as volunteer during the war. Sometime after this period the troops had been discharged from that service; he marched from Henry county where he lived until near the close of the Rev. War, as a volunteer under Capt. Christy [William Christian]; he thinks the volunteers turned out for six months; at the call of Congress they marched to join the continental army just before the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] but before they joined the army, or armies at Washingtons encampment, the battle was fought. This, he thinks, was before he went to join Colonel Bluford's command. The declarant states that after Bluford was defeated [at Waxhaws SC, 29 May 1780] he joined another company to go for eighteen months. The dates of the several services above mentioned he cannot recollect from his infirmity and advanced age, being now he thinks 87 years old. He was born in Orange county Virginia, the 22nd day of February 1752 or 1753, the same day of the month General George Washington was born. He knew Gen'l. Washington personally. He lived in Henry county until the close of the war. He always served as a volunteer, and always went when called out. He states when he first heard of the acts of congress making provision for soldiers of the Revolutionary War, he was old and rendered frail by disease, and is now induced from his utter helplessness to ask a pension from a government he contributed to establish. He moved from Henry to Berkeley county Virginia, then afterwards to Mason county Kentucky 50 or 51 years ago, and then to Bracken county where he has lived ever since, say 41 years. He recollects that James McGill was in the company when marched to Brandywine, also the name of Sam'l. Bayley [Samuel Bayley or Samuel Bailey] who was in the company commanded by Capt Geo Taylor. But these men with whom he served are both dead; and he could state the names of several others who served with him, but he believes they are all dead, and he knows of no living witness by whom or to whom he could refer as having any knowledge of his service. He states if he ever received a written discharge, he does not recollect it, or by whom it was given, but always served as a private soldier except on one occasion he acted as lieutenant for a while in Capt. Taylor's company but had no commission. He hereby

relinquishes all claim to any pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any state or Territory. He refers to the Hon. John Chambers late member of congress from this district and major John D. Morford John King and John Hamilton of this county who may have frequently heard him speak of serving in the war of the Revolution. The declarant states that from bodily infirmity & decrepitude he has been unable for some years to attend at the court of this county, living now about 12 miles from the county seat. He has no record of his age. It was once put down in his fathers Bible, but that has long since been torn out & lost.

NOTE: John Young's application was initially rejected because the Pension Office confused it with that of John Young S30811, which was also initially rejected because it was thought his service as an express rider was as a civil employee. On 6 Aug 1844 the present John Young's application was finally rejected because he was "unable to furnish such details of his services under several engagements as to enable the Dept. to investigate his claim understandingly. The statement as far as it goes shews that his memory is too much impaired to authorize his taking an oath or that he has no personal knowledge whatever of the service."