

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of John Norris R7700

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee McMinn County: County Ct. September Session 1835

On this 9th day of September 1835 personally appeared in Open Court before the Worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for McMinn County aforesaid John Norris a resident of the County of McMinn aforesaid aged about Eighty five years who being first duly sworn according to law doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832 – That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated.

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the County of Wilkes in the State of North Carolina he thinks about the first of August 1779. His officers were Lieutenant Joel Lewis Captain William [illegible last name obscured by ink blot] and Colonel Elijah Isaacks [sic, Elijah Isaacs] marched to a place called Reese's in Burke County North Carolina just before the arrival at that place they were met by the Tories against whom they had a skirmish from there returned into Wilkes County from there marched to the place called the Fox Knobs from thence marched to Lynches Creek where they joined General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] from there marched to a place called the fork of the Rivers called Rocky River and Pee Dee [River] where he was in a battle against the British and Tories General Davidson was ~~killed~~-wounded there from there we marched and joined General Gates [Horatio Gates] and marched to a place called Rugeley's Mill from there marched towards Camden and was met by the British and fought the battle called Gates' defeat or battle of Camden in the rout he was taken prisoner and continued a prisoner for some time when he made his escape and went home after having been in service twelve months he got no discharge his officers having been dispersed or marched off before he escaped from his confinement. He immediately on his return home for it was dangerous times for a Whig to be found at home he ~~went~~ turned out volunteer he thinks about the first of September 1780 at Wilkes And court house in the State of North Carolina under Captain William Lennore [sic, William Lenoir] Major Lewis and Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] marched towards Kings Mountain joined colonels Campbell and fought the battle called the battle of Kings Mountain he thinks Colonel Campbell on that day had the principal command Major Lewis was wounded in that battle and he was sent as a nurse with said Lewis to help take care of him to a Colonel Walker's after he had stayed with him some little time he was dismissed by said Lewis his Major but got no discharge after having been out in service six weeks. The first tour he believes that he was out in actual service much longer but from old age and the consequent loss of memory he will not be positive but he knows that he was out in service 12 months in his second tour at the King's Mountain he knows that he was out six weeks.

He was acquainted with General Gates Davidson and Greene [sic, Nathanael Greene] of the regular line.

He has seen a record of his age in an old Bible of his Grand father's and by that record he was born on the 20th day of October 1750 in Lunenburg County in the State of Virginia from there moved to Charlotte then to Halifax counties in Virginia then moved to Wilkes County in the state of North Carolina where he had his home during the revolutionary war from there moved to Granville district in South Carolina from there moved to McMahan County and state of Tennessee where he now resides & has resided for 10 years. He has no documentary evidence – nor does he know of any person by whom he can prove his services as a soldier of the revolution.

He is acquainted in his neighborhood with Aquila Leatherwood a clergyman and David Cantrell Esq. who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. 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

in open court the day and year above mentioned.

S/ John Norris, X his mark

[Aquila Leatherwood and David Cantrell [signature, however, looks more like "David Cahill"] certify as to Norris' veracity and his reputation as a soldier of the Revolution.]