

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of George Doherty S1807

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, Jefferson County

On this 12th day of September A D 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Justices of our Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now in session, George Doherty, Senr., a resident of Jefferson County, State of Tennessee, aged eighty three years 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 June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1774 (the day & month not recollected) under the command of Col. Charles Lewis and in Captain John Lewis' company, as a private soldier and rendezvoused at a place called Big Savannah in Greenbrier County in the State of Virginia, thence he was marched to the mouth of New River at a place called Point Pleasant and on the 10th day of October 1774 had an engagement with the Shawnee & Dolleway [sic, Delaware?] Indians, which commenced about sunrise and lasted the whole day. In the engagement and shortly after the commencement of this fight, Col. Charles Lewis was killed with several other persons. Thence he was marched to the Shawnee towns on the Scioto River, where they were met by the Indians and begged for a Treaty of Peace, from thence he was marched home where he was discharged, having served three months & fifteen days. He states that he received a discharge for his services, but the same has been long since lost and destroyed.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1777, the day and the month he does not recollect, he was commissioned a Captain and issued orders to raise a volunteer company and after he had raised a company and was intending to march, he was employed by William McDonald, the contractor agent to make guns for the United States. Arms were very scarce and his services in that capacity were much needed. He continued in the service in that employment together with several other persons, at the expense of the declarant for twelve months, during which time he made and delivered to the Agents Contractor William McDonald one thousand dollars worth of guns, which was paid to him in Continental money which depreciated in the hands of this applicant and was entirely lost to him.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1778, he removed to Greene County then in the state of North Carolina now in Tennessee and in the fall of the same year, to wit, 1788 [sic, 1778] he entered the service of the United States and was commissioned a Captain under the command of Cols Sevier [John Sevier] and Campbell [William Campbell] and rendezvoused at the Great Bend of the Chucky River thence he marched to Boyd's Creeks where he had an engagement with the Indians & killed thirteen, thence he marched to Chota where he burnt four Indian towns, thence he marched to the old Hiawasse town and thence to Chichewa [?] four miles below where he had a skirmish with the Indians and drove them out and burnt their towns, thence he marched through the Cherokee Nation & returned home having served three months.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1779, the day and the month this deponent does not recollect, he entered the service of the United States and was commissioned a

Captain under the command of Col. Sevier. Rendezvoused at Sherrill's [?] on the Nolichucky River thence he marched to the War ford on French Broad River where he was stationed for some time and ranged along the frontier, part of his time he was engaged in guarding a Garrison, during which time there was no contractor or supplies furnished the company except what was purchased at different homes by the applicant & after having remained in service twelve months, he returned home, having received orders to discharge his company.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1780, the day and the month not recollected, he raised a volunteer company and met Colonel Sevier at a place called the Greasy Cove on the waters of Nolichucky River where he was appointed and acted as Captain of a company under the command of Col. Sevier. Thence he marched to the Upper Cherokee towns in the Tennessee River where he was in an engagement with the Indians, killed several, and burnt the towns. He then returned home having served three months.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1780 (the day & the month not recollected) the Indians still committing some depredations, he was ordered to raise a company of minute men to be in readiness to march at a moments warning to any place where the Indians were committing their depredations and shortly after the company was raised a notice that the Indians had commenced their hostilities against the whites, he immediately called his company together and marched in pursuit of the Indians, and overtook them near Point Rock, now on the line between North Carolina and Tennessee, fired on them, killed one Indian and took possession of several stolen horses which the Indians had stolen from the whites. He then returned towards home & on his return march he passed the residence where his brother John Doherty lived and on arriving at the place he was informed that the same company of Indians which he had been in pursuit of had killed and tomahawked his brother. He then returned home ~~which concluded~~.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1781 he raised a company of volunteer riflemen and marched them into South Carolina and joined General Greene [Nathanael Greene] who was stationed with a lot of Army at the high hills of Santee where he remained for some time, thence he was ordered & marched with his company acting as Captain & joined General Marion who was stationed on the Wateree River where he was then in nine miles of the British, where he was kept in service, acting on scouting parties & preventing any communications or intercourse between the British & other persons in a clandestine manner, until he received the news of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He then returned home with his company having been in service six months—for the services of this trip he was paid in North Carolina change tickets which was of no value to this applicant and entirely lost to him. When he first entered the service of the United States he was in easy circumstances, had a wife & two children. He had received his patrimony both from his father and his wife's father & that at the close of the war he was reduced to poverty, having spent his all in the service of his country. Since the Revolutionary War, he has been at all times in public life & still is, acting in the capacity of a Justice of the Peace.

He does hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Pension roll of the Agency of any state.

The following questions are put to the applicant by the County Court in session -
Question: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born the 18th day of January 1749, Augusta County in the State of Virginia.

Question: Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age.

Question: Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer: When I was called into service, I lived in Augusta County in the state of Virginia, during the Revolutionary War, I moved to Greene County, Tennessee where I lived eight years, then I removed to Jefferson County where I now live.

Question: State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops when you served such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: In my first campaign against the Shawnee and Dollaway [sic, Delaware?] Indians, Genl Andrew Lewis, Col Charles Lewis and Capt John Lewis, during said campaign Col. Charles Lewis was killed. My second campaign I was commissioned a Captain and drafted a company and was then employed in making guns - 12 months. My third campaign was commanded by Cols Sevier and Campbell; my fourth campaign was commanded by Col. Sevier; also my fifth. I was then appointed a Captain of a small company of minute men. I then raised a company of volunteer riflemen and marched and joined General Greene and then General Marion.

Question: Did you ever receive a commission and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it?

Answer: I did receive commissions signed by Governor Caswell of North Carolina.

Question: State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and good behavior, your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I am acquainted with the Reverend Isaac Webb and Andrew Gap also Jacob Black, James Bradford and George Turnley [?].

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year above written.

S/ George Doherty

S/ Joseph Hamilton, Clerk