

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Caswell S3133

f6VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/6/06 rev'd 10/31/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Overton County

On the 30th day of August in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared before me John Gardenhire one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County of Overton John Caswile [sic] a citizen of the County and State aforesaid aged sixty eight 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 the 7th 1832: that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: he states that he was born in Gugeland [Goochland] County on James River in the state of Virginia then removed to Charlotte County in said state and was there drafted at Charlotte Court House for the term of six or nine months, he does not recollect which, but knows that he was in the service eight months that tour before he was discharged; he started in the month of February in the year 1779 and was commanded by Captain Walker, don't recollect his given name but he was from Prince Edwards [County], and under Colonel Burrell and his Brigade; General was by the name of David Mason; he don't recollect the number of the Regiment which he was in and was marched to Saulbury [Salisbury] in Roan [Rowan] County Virginia [sic, North Carolina] and lay there six weeks and was then marched to Maclingburgh [Mecklenburg County NC] then to Camden, Bacon's Bridge thence to the main Army and joined General Lincan [Benjamin Lincoln] about ten miles from Stono Ferry and was in the Battle of Stono [June 20, 1779]; he believes the Battle was fought on the 24th day of June 1779; he was then marched back to head Quarters, the name of the place he does not recollect, but there was a large tan yard there and lay about ten miles from Stono Ferry; there remained some time and was then marched back to Camden and was there discharged by General David Mason but his discharge is worn out and lossed [lost] but the date of it was about the last of October in 1779; he then returned home to Charlotte then in a short time went to East Tennessee to Sullivan County to live and lived there upwards of twelve months as well as he recollects; there was then a call [for] more men from that place and he then turned out a volunteer under Captain George Maxfield and was placed in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and went to the place of rendezvous which was at a place called Dungen's [?] Mill on Watauga [River] and then marched through the mountains to the Battle of Kings Mountain and was in that Battle [October 7, 1780] he thinks it was fought in the fall of the year 1780 or 1781 but is not certain which; he and his company then returned home to Sullivan County Tennessee; got no discharge; was [out] two months or upwards that tour; he then only remained at home about ten days; he then turned out a volunteer again under Captain Anderson under Col. Campbell [William Campbell] and was marched into Chote [sic, Chota?] Town [?] in the Cherokee Nation and was in two skirmishes, one at Tiloosa [Tellico?] the other in Chilhana with the Cherokee Indians; whipped them both times; he was gone two months that tour and he believes longer but is certain of two making in all twelve months which he is certain of and was in some other scouting parties but only for a short time and cannot say how long; he states that there is no person now in his power by whom he can prove his services; he is now blind and has been

so for twenty years and is now a pauper upon the County of Overton and is poor and standing in need of the Bounty of his Country; 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 any agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed or me this day and date above written.

S/ John Caswell, X his mark

S/ John Gardenhire, J. P.

[Samuel Bowman and Joseph Looper gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 15]

State of Tennessee Overton County

Personally appeared before me William Hayton an acting justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid on the 6th day of June 1833 John Caswile a citizen of said County – And made the following statement and declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 As an additional Declaration to the one heretofore made by him –

That he volunteered in the County of Sullivan as a volunteer cannot now recollect the precise date – he cannot recollect the Captain's name, it was either John Looney or George Maxfield – and remained in the County only when called out in readiness to obey the orders of the officers – and acted in character of volunteer rangers and acted in that character for at least twelve months. That Walter Greer who now lives in the County of Overton aforesaid was the Lieut. of said Company. The Indians (the Cherokees) were very hostile at that period of time and the trips and tours of the company were frequent and numerous – and he cannot at this distance of time relate them all with certainty among the trips they took were either three or four to the North fork of Holston [River]. There was a Fort on Clinch [River] called Blackmore's Fort which was greatly troubled by the Indians – and the company together with this applicant also visited and secured that neighborhood – and also in their routes visited Powell's River. Col. Stephen Copeland who now lives in this (Overton) County also belonged to the same – is not certain whether said Copeland was a private or under officer that the said period of service was during the revolutionary war – signed & subscribed the day and date above written – Applicant would have made this statement at the time he made the 1st one but he had been told and believes that nothing would be allowed for the kind of service specified in this.

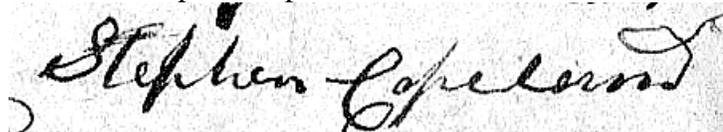
S/ John Carwell [sic] Seal, X his mark

[p 16]

State of Tennessee Overton County

This day personally appeared Stephen Copeland before me John Mangold one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement he states that he knew John Carwill [sic] in the County of Sullivan and State of North Carolina in the year 1780 that the said John Carwill turned out as a volunteer Ranger as a private for the time of fifteen months Joined a company of Light horse commanded by Capt. John Wood Lieut. Walter Greer and ranged under the command of Col. Shelby through the frontiers of Sullivan County for the time of fifteen months they set out in March or April as well as he recollects in 1780 and ended the trip in the summer of 1781 he thinks in July he also states that he is 77 years of age.

S/ Stephen Copeland

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Copeland". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent flourish at the end of the name.

Sworn to and subscribed before me 19th day of June 1833

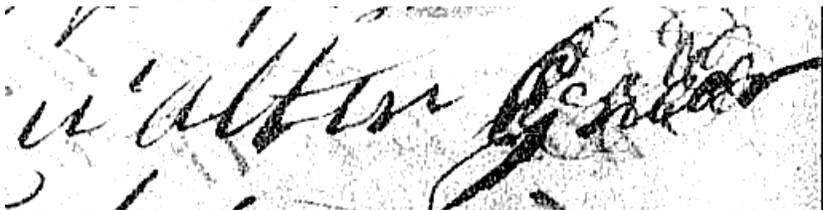
S/ John Mangold, JP

[p17]

State of Tennessee Overton County

This day personally appeared before me Walter Greer¹ who being 1st duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement he states that he knew John Cawell [sic] who has made the foregoing declaration that he turned out as a volunteer Ranger in the County of Sullivan North Carolina and joined a company of light Horse Rangers for the term of fifteen months in the early part of the year 1780 under John Wood Capt. & the said Greer Lieut. against the British and Indians in the revolution and the said Greer states that he was seven months in the service with the said Carwell [sic] and that he was attached to another company but frequently saw the said Corwill [sic] in the service afterwards and has no doubt but what he served the [indecipherable word]² fifteen months for he saw him in the service in the summer of 1781 just before the end of the tower [tour] affiant further says that he is now 73 years of age.

S/ Walter Greer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Walter Greer", written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured paper.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th July 1833

S/ Alfred Robertson, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$41 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the Virginia militia.]

¹ [Walter Greer S3415](#)

² A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sale", written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured paper.