Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Sweeny S31403
Transcribed by Will Graves

f25VA 5/30/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Warren County: Sct.

On this 23rd day of July 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Warren, now sitting Moses Sweeney a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged seventy-nine 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

1st – That he was drafted into the service from the County of Pittsylvania (Virginia) about the 1st of July 1776 under the command of Captain John Winn whose Lieutenant was named Mosby & Ensign Payne in the Regiment of Colonel Thomas & the Brigade of General McDowell. He rendezvoused at Halifax old Court House and marched thence to Guilford (in C) and thence down Broad River – till we came to a Creek called Thicketty or Tipatha [?] which General McDowell would not cross but learning from the spies that there were Tories forted above on the Creek, he marched to the Fort and demanded a surrender – a short time was requested by the inmates of the Fort – it was given them – they ask for more – it was refused – they then marched out & surrender themselves prisoners & were paroled. We then marched to Guilford, where we stayed 8 or 10 days thence to Mecklenburg (North Carolina) where we received about 90 prisoners which were placed under Captain John Wind to guard them to Winchester Virginia. He (your applicant) marched from thence there and was there discharged about the last of September (his tour being for three months) and his discharge signed by his Captain, – He knew a Captain Jones on this tour and a Colonel Clark. There were about 25 or 30 Tories in the Fort.

2ndly He was drafted as a substitute for his father John Sweeny in August 1777 (he thinks) on a three months tour under Captain John Gregory, Lieutenant James George, & Ensign James Taylor, from the County of Pittsylvania Virginia – rendezvoused at wards ferry on Santee River & marched thence to the White Plains Pennsylvania under General Armstrong, Colonel Morgan being our Colonel, was then on the Schuylkill [River] & General Smallwood at Wilmington. I object was to guard the surrounding country & intercept provisions that were being carried to Philadelphia, then in possession of the British. He was in frequent rural skirmishes with the scouting parties of the enemy and aided in taking many prisoners. Captain Gregory's Company term of service being at length nearly out, the prisoners were placed under his guard & taken by him to Winchester Virginia. We were here discharged & my discharge signed by his Captain. On this campaign he knew a Major Rose and a Captain Durnell, a regular he thinks, but it has been so long ago & he is so old & forgetful that he cannot now remember the names though at the time he knew many.

3rdly He was again drafted from said County & state sometime in the fall of 1781 – under Captain Armistead Shelton & Lieutenant Gregory & Ensign Shelton – rendezvoused at White Thorn Bridge marched thence with our own company officers, with the intention of joining our Army at Yorktown But when we had reached about 20 miles of York we were met with the joyous tidings of Cornwallis' surrender [October 19, 1781], we were then marched back & his Captain gave him his discharge – this was a three months tour – my name is set down in my Bible at home. From Virginia where I was born I moved to Tennessee (Jefferson County) & thence I moved to Cincinnati & then to Kentucky where I live – I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. I have no living evidence of my services that he can get. His only witness being some distance off and Tennessee. S/ Moses sween,
Muses sween,

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the Virginia militia.]