Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Covey S3190

Transcribed by Will Graves

f13VA[NY] 11/9/06 rev'd 11/19/14

[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, Jefferson County: County Court: September Session 1832

On this _____ day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions now sitting Samuel Covey, a resident of said County in the State aforesaid aged Seventy one 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 was born in the State of New York Dutchess [Duchess] County where he was raised until he was Sixteen years of age, at which time under the laws of said State he was subject to military duty & being in the immediate neighborhood of a landing of the British forces he was constituted what was then called a "minute man" subject to be called at any time & bound to obey such call. He was first marched under the command of Captain Comfort Suddenton [Comfort Ludington] in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Henry Suddenton [Henry Ludington] & was marched to the Peekskill [River] in said State, but was in no general engagement. Afterwards he was marched under Captain Joel Meed 50 or 60 miles West of the North River in pursuit of the hostile Indians. After being thus for four years engaged in the service of his country in his native State, he removed to the State of Virginia and Washington County, where shortly after his arrival, he engaged as a substitute for Robert Campbell who was drafted for six months, under the command of Captain William Edmondson [William Edmiston] & Colonel William Campbell; that he was marched over the Watauga River & crossed the Yellow Mountain near the head of said River, crossed Broad River & went to Kings Mountain, and was engaged in the Battle [October 7, 1780] fought at that place – that he was partially acquainted with Col. Campbell, Major Shelby [Col Isaac Shelby].

On his return he volunteered & went under Captain Patrick Campbell & Colonel Archibald Campbell in pursuit of the Cherokee Indians – that they traveled down the Holston [River] & French Broad River until they came to said Nation. He states he has no documentary evidence having never received any discharge as he recollects & that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Samuel Covey

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[Humphrey Mount & Eliphalet Kelsey gave the standard supporting affidavit

State of Tennessee, Jefferson County

On the 22nd day of June 1833 personally appeared before me George Brannen-- and acting Justice of the Piece in & for said County, Samuel Covey, and made oath that he was born in Dutchess County New York in the year 1761 – that he has no record of his age – that he is known to Humphrey Mount and Elizabeth Kelsey in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief in his services as a soldier of the revolution. He further states that he has never had an intimate acquaintance with any clergyman in this Country consequently there is none who can make the necessary certificate & has therefore obtained the certificate of two citizens. He further states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: for nine months, I served as a private and although I was what was called a minute man for near four years, I was not in actual service but nine months – and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ Samuel Covey

Sworn to & subscribed before me the date above. S/ George Brannen, Justice of the Peace

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the New York and Virginia militias.]