Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ambrose Yancey S46059 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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, Grainger County: August Term

On this 23rd day of August in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of our Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Grainger County now sitting, Ambrose Yancey, a resident of the County of Grainger and State of Tennessee aged 67 years who being first duly sworn according to all doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a Mounted Rifleman and as a substitute for John Yancey under the following named officers, to wit: Colonel William Campbell, afterwards Genl Campbell, in the company commanded by Captain Andrew Colvin Senr. about the last of August or first of September 1780 and left the service about the first of March 1781. He states that his Lieutenant's name was Samuel Newal [Samuel Newell?] and Ensign Robert Campbell. He states that he marched for the State of South Carolina immediately after he joined the company and encamped at a place called the Cowpens in the State of South Carolina under the command of Col Campbell and Capt. Colvin and was immediately after his encampment in pursuit of the British and Tories under the command of Col Ferguson. He states that they pursued Col Ferguson from the Cowpens to King's Mountain when we overtook him and a battle was fought. He states that in the battle of King's Mountain there were troops engaged in the battle commanded by Cols Isaac Shelby, John Sevier and Benjamin Cleveland and he further states that Col William Campbell was commander in chief at that battle: that Colonel Ferguson, the British commander, was killed and his Army taken and that before he fell, he received five bullets in his body. He states that Cols Shelby and Sevier commanded the center during the action, that Col Cleveland commanded the left wing and Col Campbell the right wing and marched up on the South East end of the mountain. He states that in that engagement the company commanded by Captain Colvin of which he was one was put in advance of the Virginia Regiment and was ordered to charge on the British advance guard and bring on the engagement and to sustain the action until the main body of the Army could be brought into the action. He states that he entered the service in the town of Abingdon, County of Washington and State of Virginia where he resided and he entered the service. He states that he served with no Continental Regiments or companies except the Virginia volunteer Mounted Rifleman but that General Greene commanded the Southern division and my officers communicated with, and were directed by, General Greene as he understood and believes but did not serve in an

¹ This MAY be the man identified in McAlister's VA roster as Capt. Andrew Colvill of Washington County, Virginia militia.

engagement with him. He states that after the battle of King's Mountain he was transferred to Captain Black's company and ordered to join the Regiment under the command of Col Arthur Campbell by Col, afterwards Genl. William Campbell in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians. He states that he served in all six months without being discharged or disbanded. He states that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. 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 state. Sworn to and subscribe the day and year first above written.

S/ Ambrose Yancey

but

[Charles McAnally, a clergyman, and Samuel Bunch gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories propounded by the court to Ambrose Yancey in the matter of his application for a pension:

Question: When and in what year were you born? Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I was born in Culpepper County, State of Virginia. I do not recollect the year as the record of my age has long since been lost.

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 entered the service I was living in the County of Washington, State of Virginia as before stated. I removed from Washington County, Virginia, to Sullivan County, Tennessee where I lived for several years; from thence I removed to Grainger County, Tennessee where I have lived ever since and now live.

Question: How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer: I entered the service as a volunteer and as a substitute for John Yancey as before stated. Question: State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I did not serve with any of the regular troops. General Greene commanded the southern division of the American army. I served in Colonel Campbell's volunteer mounted Regiment until after the battle of King's Mountain and I was then transferred to Col Arthur Campbell's Regiment under Captain Black against the Cherokee Indians as before stated.

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

Answer: in addition to the Reverend Charles Manly [could be McNally] and Colonel Samuel Bunch, I am known to Major Genl John Cocke, Nicholas Counts, Senior and the Reverend Tate who will testify as to their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution and answer my character for veracity.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]