

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Brookover S5300

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Commonwealth of Virginia

Wood county to wit

on this 4th day of October 1832 personally appears before Henry L Prentiss Bennet Cook Presley Woodyard and Mathias Chapman Justices of the peace for for said county John Brookover a resident of said county aged about seventy two years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress pass'd June 7th 1832

That on or about the year 1780 he being about 18 years of age he was an apprentice to a blacksmith by the name of Jacob Dunkle. he hired himself as a substitute and served in the Maryland militia about seven months he does not recollect the name of his officers but that they march'd from the three springs in Maryland (where his master resided). that he went direct from thence to little york in Virginia and was at the Seige of York and after Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781] he assisted in guarding the prisoners to Fredericktown in Maryland and was there discharged. That the third day after he was discharged he Enlisted in the regular service of the U.S. under Capt Francis Smith with whom he march'd to Williamsburg Virginia he was there placed under the said Smith aforesaid under Col Alcot who took the command with the french Artillery, and the said Brookover drove one of the Amunition waggons from Williamsburg Va To Fredericksburg from thence to Alexandria from thence to the head of Elk [now Elkton] Maryland from thence to Wilmington De from thence to Philadelphia from thence to Trenton N Jersey from thence through Milston [Millstone?] to the North River. pass'd General Washington's army, and went to a place called Crum Pond, where we laid about a month during which time General Washington sent[?] visited & reviewed our troops. from there we march'd to New England but was taken sick and does not distinctly remember to what place, but there he was discharged by Col Alcot. Who handed me my discharge out of his hands and written and signed by himself - before receiving my discharge the Col advised me to enter the hospital which I refused. he then gave me letter to his brother in law, — Black Esq. on our route Capt Smith was taken sick I think at Willmington and I saw him no more in service. a Capt Erow[?] commanded in his stead. I handed my discharge to my Father for safe keeping when I returned. he at that time lived on Carrols Manor in Maryland, but afterwards removed to the State of Ohio & has since died and the discharge has never been found by me. I believe I was born near Bladensburg Maryland at a place call'd the Woodyard - I have no record of my age. Some years after the peace I married and settled near Winchester Va from thence I moved to Muddy creek near Uniontown Pa; from thence I removed to this Wood County Va; where I have resided for about twenty years last past and do now reside. I do not remember the name of the man for whom I served as a substitute, but believe it sounded like Bell or some such name. I know of no person now living who knew me in actual service but soon after my return became acquainted with a man by the name of Ezekiel Carter, who I was satisfied had served at the same time with me in another company, but at the time or in the service we were not acquainted with each other but Nancy Carter the wife of said Carter did know of my enlistment & discharge. I received all my pay for the time I was in the regular service, which was as near as I can recollect about eleven months, but received no pay for my services in the Militia, either from principal or government. And I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension list Roll of the Agency of any State. and this is the first application I have ever made of the kind

John hisXmark Brookover

The State of Ohio Muskingum County SS} Before me Charles Lovell one of the Justices of the peace for said County personally came Ezekiel Carter Sergn't. of said County who being duly sworn according to law Deposeth and saith on oath that he verily believes that John Brookover of Wood County Va. in the year of 1781 did serve in the Revolution war about one year more or less I became acquainted with the said John Brookover in a short time after his return from the

service and have been partially acquainted with him ever since that time. I served in the Revolutionary War at the same time that the said John Brookover served and from Circumstances and my own knowledge of the revolutionary war I am fully satisfied that the said John Brookover did serve for the time which I have stated and I do further state that the said John Brookover at my first acquaintance with him was a man of sober and industrious habits and has remained as such ever since to the best of my knowledge [signed] Ezekiel Carter Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of June in the year of our Lord 1833
Charles Lovell Justice of peace

The State of Ohio Muskingum County SS} Before me Charles Lovell one of the Justices of the peace of said County personally came Nancy Carter who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith on oath that John Brookover inlisted and served in the revolutionary War for some length of time she thinks perhaps nearly one year at least he was absent from home about that length of time and I the said Nancy Carter doth further state that the said John Brookover at that time was a sober man and still remains as such to the present day to the best of my knowledge Nancy herXmark Carter Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 26th day of June AD 1833 - Charles Lovell And the said Nancy Carter doth further Certify on oath and declair that she the said Nancy Carter did see with her own Eyes the discharge of the aforesaid John Brookover when he returned from the service and further that she saw him give said discharge into the care of his Father and that said discharge is lost as she verily believes and further this Deponent saith not Nancy herXmark Carter Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of June AD 1833 Charles Lovell

State of Virginia Wood County To wit.
Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said county of Wood John Brookover who being duly sworn deposeth the following facts which he gives as explanatory and in confirmation of his former declaration (sent to the Pension department and returned for further proof
1st as to time declarant states positively that he is certain that he served as stated before the full period of eleven months if not more. That there is no clergyman in or near the residence of said Brookover whith whom he is acquainted or knows of. That the certificates of his good character heretofore produced were signed by men who have always been esteemed respectabe as far as declarant knows and believes. that all the services he performed as set out in his former declaration were in the actual service of the US under men as he believed at the time and believes were legally authorized to receive him John hisXmark Brookover Sworn and subscribed to before me this 5th July 1833 H L Prentiss

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners and applicants from Lewis, Harrison, and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]
John Brookover, Served 18 mo. has drawn \$150—

I the undersigned John Brookover, in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War, give the following narative of my age & Revolutionary services to Wit. Some time during the war of the Revolution - (cant tell in what year) I was an apprentice to Jacob Duncle a Blacksmith who resided in Carrols Manor Maryland - I ran away from my Master. Went down into Virginia Loudoun county and substituted in the place of a man whose name I cant recollect and marched from Loudoun county under some captain but I cant recollect his name nor the names of the Lieut. or Ensign, (this was the year in which Corwallis was taken) nor can I recollect in what season of the year it was in which I marched from Loudoun county as above stated. Cant say whether it was cold or hot - I marched to Yorktown Virginia. dont know who was my Colonel nor to what Regt I belonged. I was [illegible word] at York town & at the surrender of Corwallis but cant tell at what season of the year it was in which Corwallis did surrender Cant say whether the weather was cold or warm, at that time — I guarded the Presseners from York town to Frederick town - I was about seven months in actual service in this expedition - but I dont know for what

length of time I substituted. on my way to Frederick town guarding the Presseners as before stated I passed my Masters Shop - he attempted to take me. to avoid him and his hard service I immediately enlisted under Capt Smith marched directly back to Williamsburg. remained there about one month - and then drove one of the French artillery waggons to New England. but I cant tell to which of the States - the whole of the French army lay at Williamsburg. about 8000 in number. they the 8000 marched across the country to New England under the command of Colonel Aulk - who gave me my discharge. The French army took shipping at some port in New England & returned to France. Colonel Aulk command all the way on the march across the country - I was in this latter service eleven months — Henry L. Prentiss got my pension and charged me \$20. In witness that the forgoing statement contains the truth I hereto subscribe my name. Dec'r. 13, 1836

Note. this man has but a small portion of mind - but it does not seem impaired - he is a short able bodyed man. - his statement are false - he never done one particle of service in my opinion Such is the neighbourhood opinion — W. G Singleton
[On the cover of the report Singleton wrote "Fraud."]

Parkersburg Va Apr 13th 1837

J L Edwards Esq [Commissioner of Pensions]

Dr Sir My pension with all others was stopped in Wes[ter]n Va. some time ago and I have not been able to learn what disposition was made of mine - Will you be so good as to inform me as soon as convenient Yours Respectfully John Brookover