## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Walter Cunningham S9263

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia } Harrison County }

On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of August in the year 1832 Personally appeared in open court before the justice of said county of Harrison in court now sitting Walter Cunningham a resident of Simpsons Creek [Simpson Creek] Harrison county aged 83 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 7 1832

That in the year 1776 he resided in the county of Shenandoah State of Va. That in the summer of the aforesaid year he visited the county of Monongalia in said state, That when there he enlisted in a company of Rangers under the command of Capt David Scott [pension application \$25425]. That he was employed in reconoitering the country between the Monongahela and Ohio Rivers That while thus engaged the company was frequently successful in discovering the approach of Indians and in conveying inteligence to the forts and settlements, so as to apprize and guard them against danger.

That he was discharged at the termination of three months the discharge is here with enclosed

In the fall of 1777 after having returned home to Shenandoah He enlisted under Capt Michael Rader [pension application S7349] marched to fort Pit [sic: Fort Pitt at present Pittsburgh] was attached to a regiment commanded by General [Edward] Hand. From thence he descended the Ohio river to Wheeling where he was discharged after having served three months. He was never directly engaged in any battle during his continuance in said service.

That he has no documentary evidence except the accompaning discharge signed by lieutenant John Mahon. That he knows of no living witness except his brother Adam Cunningham whose affidavit is here with subjoined [not found]

That he removed from Shenandoah to Harrison where he now resides many years ago.

That he is acquainted with John Wilson David Davisson William A. Harrison John J Allen and various other persons in the neighbourhood where he resides to whom refference may be had

That he hereby relinquishes all claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Sworn and subscribed to this [blank] day of August 1832 [signed] Walter Cunningham

Walter and Thomas Cunanham is discharged the Ranging [illegible word] Companey Febuary ye 1 day 1777 giving under my hand John Mahon

[Anthony Coon or Kuhn (pension application \$9213) certified that Cunningham had served the tour under David Scott.]

Walter Cunningham. draws \$20 —

July 12 1834, Mr Cunningham made the following statement of his age and services as a Soldier in the war of the Revolution — born and lived in the county of Shenandoah [formed from Frederick County in 1772] unlet [until?] the year 1776. in the fall of that year he came across the allegany Mountain to see his Brother on Bingamon Creek, now Harrison cty. - Capt David Scott was there Enlisting men for Rangers - he Enlisted under Scott for three months - and ranged on the West fork - on Bingamon - fishing creek and through the lower part of Harrison County as at present bounded. - he was out on the tour Ranging and scouting until his term expired which was on the 7<sup>th</sup> [sic] day of February 1777. Knows nothing about the authority under which Scott acted. nor does he know whether he was commissioned as Captain by the State [one or two illegible words] got his discharge & returned home made a crop in the succeeding summer [several interlined illegible words] and in the fall volunteered under Capt. M. Reeder for three

months to go against the Shawnee towns on the Ohio River, marched to Winchester and joined three or four more companies – (Thomas Buck, John Niswander [sic: John Nisewanger], & Tho Baldwin were captains of the other companies) marched from Winchester to Fort Pitt. then joined Genl. Hands army. went thence to Fort Wheeling remained there sevral weeks. – the companies returned to Pitt. after he got Back his 3 months expired got his discharge from Capt. Rader and went home, – he gave one discharge to Colonel Johnson. Anthony Coon served with him the first term. – proved his last term by Adam Cunningham

Note - the service detailed in the first tour must have been irregular and unauthorized - it was a neighbourhood Maltia [militia?] — as to the second tour, is it probable that men would have been drafted in Shenandoah county for three months for service on the ohio River in the then state of the Country and roads, it would have taken an army three months to have marched from Shenandoah Cty across the Alleganey Mountains to the Ohio River.

W. G Singleton [Special Agent] Nov. 1834 Since writing preceding note – I have seen Capt. Rader under whom Cunningham alledges to have marched from Shenandoah to the Ohio River — Rader satisfied me beyond all question that he did march a company from Shenandoah County to the Ohio River to Pittsburg & Wheeling and was in service 3 mon – & I also know that Capt Buck of Frederick County also marched a company from same county to the same places and at the same time — so that I must be mistaken in the opinion first intimated.

W. G. Singleton

NOTE: In spite of Singleton's recantation, Cunningham was stricken from the pension roll as being unqualified under the law.