Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Trusler W828 Elizabeth f34VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 12/28/11

[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.]

State of Ohio Franklin County SS

On this third day of July A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County of Franklin now sitting John Trusler a resident of Clinton Township in the County of Franklin and State of Ohio aged seventy-five 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 as a private under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was twice in the service, four months in his first term under Colonel Hugh Rose and Major Billy or William Penn (Captain not recollected), he entered the service about the first of March 1781 and left it about the first of July. He was in the battle of Guilford under General Green [Nathanael Greene]. He resided when he entered the service in what is now called Nelson County Virginia (formerly Amherst County). Marched into Carolina and was beat back. He was drafted (the Number of the Continental Regiment not recollected) nor the Regular officers except General Green.

In his second Term of service he was out five months under Captain John Loven [John Loving]. He went into service in a few days after his return home he thinks about the eighth or 10th of July and left the service he thinks the forepart of December in the same year. He assisted at the siege of York Town and the taking of Cornwallis [October 19th, 1781]. He was drafted. He marched from Amherst to Richmond, to Williamsburg and to York Town. Assisted in York Town in digging entrenchments.

Questions propounded by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. In Amherst County Virginia in 1758

2nd Have you any record of your age[?]

Ans. None

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live[?]

Ans. When called into service he lived in Amherst County Virginia about the year 1817 he moved from Amherst to Hawkins County Tennessee in the year 1830 he moved from Tennessee to Franklin County Ohio where he has ever since lived

4th How were you called into service[?]

Ans. He was drafted W

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. He was with many regular officers at Guilford and at York Town, but he was not acquainted with them. And his recollection has become so frail from old age and disease that he cannot name them, except General Washington & Green [Nathanael Greene]. Neither does he recollect the Regiment with which he served. He was marched about a good deal and did very great deal of labor, and was put to the most all kinds of service. He has no documentary evidence, and knows of no one who can testify to it.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge [?]

Ans. He never received a written discharge when our times were out our Captain gave us some rations and told us we might go.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. The Reverend Jason Bull & George Kirkland. He further states that about 20 years since he was very badly hurt by the fall of a tree, he has never been well since, and his recollection has almost entirely left him. 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 the Agency of any State.

S/ John Trusler, X his mark

[Jason Bull, a clergyman, and George Kirkland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 9: On April 9, 1853 in Union County Ohio, Elizabeth Tusley [sic], 78, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of John Tusley [sic], a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$36 per annum for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Amherst County Virginia April 22nd, 1803; that they were married by William Crawford a preacher; that her husband died in Union County Ohio August 16, 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 15: copy of a marriage bond issued April 18, 1803 two John Trusler & John Roberts conditioned upon the marriage of John Trusler to Elizabeth Dunning; issued in Amherst County Virginia.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for nine months in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned in a like amount commencing February 3rd, 1853.]