Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Virginia Bounty-Warrant Application of John Curle VAS669

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[From bounty-warrant records in the Library of Virginia.]

Nelson County January 1833

Mr Richardson Curle

I received your letter by your Son. I could not then read it but have since called up my remembrance on the subject it treats. Yes, I will tell you in the year 1775 I was chosen Captain of a Company of Volunteers to assist in guarding the Country against the depredations of Dunmores Tenders [Lord Dunmore's fleet], Tories &c between the York & James Rivers. late in the fall of that year I received the appointment of Captain to raise a Company of Men in New Kent County to be then raised and placed in the Sixth Virginia Regular regim't To serve three years on Continental Establishment. I believe about this time of the year my first Lieutenant John Hockaday enlisted a youth named John Curle to serve in my Company. the Regiment was raised and trained in Virginia, until summer, when We marched to the North and joined the Continental Army under General Washington. We were unlucky during the Fall beaten allmost everywhere, driven through the Jerseys – had the Small Pox among our Troops – lost a great number of our Men as but few of the Virginians had ever had the disease - the [illegible word] was always severe a great number of our men sickened and died - [illegible word] - the tender and weakly part of the Virginians were unable to keep the Field nor was I able to assemble together many of my Company until late in the January following. Our Duty was severe and hard the year throughout – on the 20th of February 1778 I was promoted to the Rank of Major in the Virg'a. Continental Line of course had no further command of the Company, as Captain having been such to it for more than two years. My conclusion was that your Father John Curle had fallen Victim to hardship and disease and had died in some Hospital or obscure place, with a great number of others until I received your Letter, but I will not conclude without saying that I thought John Curle a good well disposed youth at that time, and was doubtless a willing Soldier. with best wishes I am/ Yr Friend &c/ [The signature is missing from the online image, but is evidently that of Thomas Massie, pension application W7403.]

Virginia New Kent County to wit

This day Edward Slater [S18205] aged February the 6th 1833 seventy four years personally appeared before me, William Ratcliffe a justice of the peace for the County of New Kent in the State of Virginia who first being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of almighty God deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with John Curle of the County of New Kent and that said Curled removed from said County to Lynchburg and hath since died, that the said John Curle enlisted in the Service in the Revolutionary war for the term of three years in the united states service and that he served his term out that he belonged to the 6th Virginia Regiment Colo Buckner commanded said Regiment and as well as I recollect his given name was Mordica Buckner [sic: Mordecai Buckner] his Capt. Thomas Massie of this County and as well as I recollect William Armistead was a subaltern officer in the same Company; that he was out of the state, I do firmly believe, having a Brother who was in the same Company, and having heard him frequently state, that they were in the Battle at Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and further this affiant sayeth not given under my hand and seal this 11th day of Novem'r in the year 1832

NOTE:

On 24 Aug 1833 in Lynchburg Richard Tyree, Edward Price, and Jesse L. Perry provided

evidence regarding the heirs of John Curle. Tyree stated that, "he was well acquainted with the late John Curle who died in [two illegible words] in the month of March [illegible year] as well as I now recollect for thirty years and upwards. I knew him while residing in the County of New Kent in this state from which county I always understood he enlisted as a soldier in the Continental line during the revolutionary war and serv'd some years in that Capacity. I have also known the said John Curle and his family since his residence in this town and know that Richardson Curle and Sally Curle who intermarried with John Hockaday a resident of this town were the only legitimate children and heirs of the said John Curle dec'd. The said John Curle's son married my step Mother and acted as my Guardian which family connection more especially rendered me well acquainted with his." Price added that Sally Hockaday had died, and Perry stated that she left five infant children. The names of these children, as well as other details, are in the bounty-warrant application made by the heirs of John Curle for the services of his brother, Jacob Curle BLWt2041-100. See also the bounty land applications of Richard Curle BLWt2040-100.