

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Cookman R2281

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[The pension application is not in the file, probably having been sent to District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners and applicants in present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]

William Cookman aged 75 yrs. Serv'd 2 yrs & 6 mo. (Applicant)

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1834 called on Cookman and received from him the following statement of his Revolutionary Services Viz. - he was born in the county of Northumberland in the State of Virginia and lived there until he was forty yrs old. removed to Frederick County remained there six yrs. and from there to Lewis County where he has resided for the last 30 yrs. - was young on the commencement of the War of the Revolution (not sixteen). the county in which he lived was bounded by the Chesapeake Bay & Potomac Rivers. the british vessels made frequent incursions in those waters and committed many depredations upon the inhabitants by carrying off their slaves and other property. All the people of the county that were able to bear arms were frequently called out as occasion required. - he was frequently in these excursions off and on for several years but will not pretend to say how long he was (in this way) in actual service whether one, two, three or more months. Cannot pretend to say, nor has he any different recollection.

In the year of Cornwallis' defeat at York Town [19 Oct 1781] he was drafted for a three months tour & served under Capt Thomas Kean. the company under the command of Capt Thomas Kean were on duty on the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay in the County of Northumberland. it never joined the regular army. the term of service expired just before Cornwallis' defeat - he got his discharge and came home - and with this terminated his services in the war of the Revolution — Jonathan Wamsly wrote his declaration gave him (substantially) the same account of his services that he has now given - he is an illiterate man cant write nor read writeing. Swore to no other or further service than now detailed. if his declaration claims other & further services, it is incorrect & he has been imposed upon. agreed to give Wamsley all that might be drawn and has accrued to March 1, 1833.

The forgoing relation of my Revolutionary services made by me to W. G. Singleton having been read by him, I find that the same has been correctly taken down. In Testimony of which I hereto subscribe my name.

William hisXmark Cookman

Witness Nathan Goff [Pension Agent at Clarksburg]

A true copy from original notes

W. G Singleton

This Mr. Cookman is a man of great Respectability and may be relied upon. this I understand to be his general character. Respectfully reported W. G. Singleton Special Com.