

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Cox R2404

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 14 Apr 2013.

On this 16th day of October in the year 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of the County of Scott in the Commonwealth of Virginia, now sitting, John Cox a resident of said County aged seventy six 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 passed the 7th day of June 1832

That in the year 1774 1775 or 1776 as well as he now recollects, his father was drafted in a detachment commanded by Col [Charles] Lewis to serve a tour in the northwestern Territories of Virginia against the Indians who were then making war upon the settlements of Virginia and this declarant then quite a youth volunteered as a substitute for his father to perform the said tour of service, which lasted six months. This declarant then resided in the County of Montgomery in the said state, and joined the Company Commanded by Capt James Thompson, who died before joining the main Army Commanded by Col. Lewis. At his death, the declarant and the Company to which he was attached was put under the Command of Capt. Dickinson whose Christian name he thinks was William, but of this his recollection will not enable him to speak with certainty [possibly John Dickson]. They joined the main Army Commanded by Col. Lewis and marched to the point between the junctions of the Kenhawa [sic: Kanawha] and Ohio rivers, where the indians were entrenched in great numbers, and attacked them at this encampment, and defeated them with great slaughter [Battle of Point Pleasant, 10 Oct 1774, before the Revolutionary War]. In this engagement Col Lewis was wounded and Capts Dickinson and Skidmore were killed [sic: Col. Lewis killed; Captains John Dickson and John Skidmore wounded]. Col George Paris [sic: George Pearis] also belonged to the Army, and commanded the Regt after Col Lewis was wounded. After serving six months on this expedition, and in guarding the Frontiers this applicant was discharged, but has long since lost his discharge. During the war of the revolution, but in what year the declarant does not remember, he was drafted for a six months tour of service and marched to North Carolina against the British and Tories in a regiment Commanded by Col. William Preston in the company commanded by Capt. Russell whose Christian name he does not recollect. In this service this declarant was at the Battle at Ramsour's Mill, but he does not recollect the names of the Officers who commanded the American forces upon that occasion [see endnote]. He recollects that the first onset was disastrous to the Americans, but Col. William Campbell coming up with a large reinforcement at a critical time, rallied the retreating Americans, recommenced the engagement, and finally drove the British and Tories, making great slaughter. The tour of service for which the declarant was drafted having been served, this declarant with many others volunteered to go with Col. Campbell against an encampment of Tories in the marshes of Carolina commanded by a Capt. Fannon [sic: David Fanning], that intercepting them on an excursion from their encampment we attacked them unawares and killed the most of them. The declarant was then discharged after a service of something over six months and returned home. And he also long since lost his discharge for this service.

The Revolution having not yet expired, this applicant was drafted for another six months tour of service as a spy against the Indians in the southwest of Virginia on the head of Clinch, in a company commanded by Capt John Preston, son of Col William Preston; John Crockett being the Lieutenant. In this service five of the spies belonging to the company were encamped one night on Guyandotte River and were attacked early the next morning at their camp by a party of Indians, who fired on the men in the camp and run in upon them, wounding one of our men in the collar bone. One of the Indians seized upon one of our men and was about to tomahawk him, when this declarant ran up to his relief, and the indian seeing him approach, made a blow with his tomahawk at the Declarants head, who threw up his left arm and received the blow upon his wrist, and was badly wounded with the edge of the tomahawk. The

declarant then stabbed the Indian with his butcher knife, and killed him dead upon the spot. And the Indians were then beaten off. – The declarant was discharged at the end of his six months services and returned home, but he has also lost his discharge for this duty.

The Affiant was afterwards in an expedition against the Indians after their murder of Major Moore and the captivity of his family and was abroad about a month, having killed three of the Indians and retaking one of the prisoners.

The Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim to any pension or annuity whatever, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State whatsoever, nor has it ever been. – Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first before written.

John hisCmark Cox

NOTE:

No Virginia troops were present at the Battle of Ramsour's Mill in North Carolina on 20 June 1780. Preston and Campbell were together at the skirmish at Wetzel's Mill NC on 6 March 1781, and Preston may have been at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse on 15 March 1781, where Campbell did serve. However, Cox's description does not fit either of these two engagements.

Drafts into Virginia militia service were for a maximum of three months per tour.

I could find no record of an engagement between Campbell and Fanning.

Cox's claim was rejected because the "service he claims for is of a doubtful character and the alleged duration of the tours of much greater length than what was usual."