

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Critchfield R2547

fn14NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/20/10

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State of Tennessee Claiborne County: On this 30th day of December A.D. __ personally appeared in open Court before the Justices holding the County Court for the said County and now sitting John Critchfield a resident in the aforesaid County of Claiborne and State above written aged seventy-seven 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 under the following named officers and served as stated in the following. That he volunteered under Captain William Underwood in Surry County in the State of North Carolina; before I volunteered I was in Captain Wooldridge's Company of County Militia, but I joined the Volunteers under Captain Underwood as stated before the two Companies were organized on the 10th of the month of January 1781 and another Company the name of the Captain not recollected under Major Winston we volunteered for six months tour our Battalion was ordered to March on to the South to reinforce General Morgan there; a few days this was before that battle of the Cowpens, we marched in the direction of the Cowpens on through Wilkes County to a Creek called Hunting Creek one of the branches of the Catawba River and there received the news of the success of General Morgan & Colonel Washington over Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] and we was ordered back to General Green [sic Nathanael Greene] to reinforce him who was retreating from Corn Wallace [sic, Cornwallis]; General Morgan's main Army did join General Greene and crossed Dan River in the age of Virginia after which Cornwallis turned back to Hillsboro. Colonel Tarleton was over on the Hoe River [sic, Haw River]; and at a place called Whitsells Mills [sic, Weitzell's Mill] a detachment of the British fell in with us twice as strong as ours and the orders of our Major Winston was to us to save ourselves by retreating we then did retreat in the direction of General Greene's Army but we was unable to join Generals Morgan and Greene until after the battle of Guilford Courthouse which was in the forepart of the month of March; having been intercepted by the British; they were still stakes [?] in the country around; General Greene marched on to the South and Cornwallis marched on to Petersburg soon after the battle of Guilford we joined Greene our time was out the 10th of July in 1781 being a six months Tour as a volunteer a part of my time of service I was sick and left on the road so when the company was discharged I could not be there on account of my being sick; and never applied to the Captain for a written discharge after is the

reason I have no discharge. I have no documentary evidence of my service and I do not know of any living witness by whom I can prove it by and have to prove it entirely by my own oath; my Captain was alive a few years since but I have understood that he is now dead. As a reason why I have not applied sooner I can offer two reasons one is I had only served a six months tour and knew the allowance would be very small and I was in a situation at that time to live without it; but the main reason was I have lived very sequestered and very much out of the way of current information was informed that I would have to prove the actual services by two witnesses and I did not know where to find them the only ones that lived near me that I knew of died about the passage of the law and I gave it up not expecting to be able to prove my services. I was born in Sussex County State of New Jersey moved to Surry County North Carolina where I was and lived about thirty-six years on Thoms Creek. I was sixteen years old when I moved there and joined the service soon after; when I moved to this County and remained some years & moved to Indiana and back again to this County have lived twenty-four years here and in Indiana together Joseph Poter [sic, Joseph Potter or Joseph Peters?] was my Lieutenant and Samuel Caloway [sic, Samuel Callaway] was the Ensign in our Company. He hereby relinquishes every claim 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 and has no agent or attorney except his present agent Dr. A. Noell of Tazewell E. Tenn. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Critchfield, X his mark

[Jacob Cloud and Joseph Hamilton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The following Questions were propounded by the said court in accordance with the instructions from the pension commissioners and the answers duly recorded

Question 1. Where and in what year were you born? In Sussex County New Jersey in the year 1762

Question 2 have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age

3rd Ques. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Ans. In Surry County North Carolina and am now living in Claiborne County East Tennessee

4 Ques. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if so for whom?

Ans. I volunteered

5th Ques. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and or Militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I turned out to go to General Morgan under Major Winston in Captain Underwood's Company joined General Greene after the battle of Guilford and discharged in the South

6th Ques. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service gives you did of what has become of it?

Ans. I did not receive a written discharge for the reasons before given. I was sick.

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

Answer: Mr. Cloud, Dr. Hamilton, Elisha Wallen, Peter Hufnor [?], John Puseley [?] and indeed all of my neighbors