Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Drewry Lawson R6201 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } On this 30th day of January in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty five Personally appeared before me William Babb an acting justice of the peace for said

County and one of the justices of the Court of pleas & quarter sessions for said County of Hawkins Drewry Lawson, aged seventy nine 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 substitute for one William Hooker [possibly husband of Jerusia Lawson Hooker, pension application W10119] of Henry County in the state of Virginia under Col [Abram] Penn a Militia Col in the County of Henry in said State of Virginia in the spring of the year as well as he now recollects, but on day of the month or in what month this declarant does not from mental imbecility now recollect - but he believes it to have been in the spring of the year 1780. This Declarant states that he received a furlough from said Colo Penn and he was enjoined to be in readiness to take the field whenever called on. This Declarant further states that in the fall of the year following [see note below] he was called out on a tour of duty as a Militiaman (volunteer) for eighteen months was place under the command of Captain George Haston [sic: George Hairston] whose company together with another company under the Command of Captain Peter Haston [sic: Peter Hairston] marched from Henry Court House in the state of Virginia to Pittsylvania Court House in said state where he was paced under the command of Captain [Eliphaz] Shelton From Pittsylvania Courthouse this Declarant was marched to Hillsboro [sic: Hillsborough] in the state of North Carolina where he was placed under the command of Captain Morton and Regiment commanded by Col. Blufore [see note below] who was a Col in Genl Gates' Army. This affiant states that he was marched from Hillsboro to Salisbury in said state where Captain Morton took sick and was put in the Hospital; from Salisbury he was marched into South Carolina for Camden as he was informed but on the way thither he was taken sick and lay sick as well as he now recollects about six weeks, from which place he was taken by a relation to his house in the state of North Carolina, and did not recover entirely in four or five months all of which time he was unable to perform military duty this declarant states that he never saw, after he was taken sick (being left by the army) any of his Officers and never obtained a discharge from them. he states that he served during that tour six months.

This Declarant states that the next time he entered the service was against the indians on the north western frontier as a substitute for a certain David Taylor in the state of virginia but in what County or what year he does not now owing to his decayed recollection recollect but believes it to have been in August or september in the year 1781 under Captain Paris [sic: George Pearis] of Colo Cloyds [Joseph Cloyd's] regiment on a tour of three months, that he was marched towards the Ohio River where they discovered several indian traces but did not see any, and their provision growing scarce they were after an absence of two months and a half compelled to return on account of the scarcity of provisions; in this tour he served two months they were disbanded and never again called into service: this affiant states that he removed from the State of Virginia to the settlements on the Holston then a wilderness where he was frequently engaged on scouting parties against the common enemy the indians in defence of the frontier. He states that he was acquainted or at least knew Genls [Nathanael] Greene & Gates but owing to mental and bodily infirmity he cannot now recollect all the circumstances relative to his service, but he served in both companies as above stated amounting to eight months actual service. besides from the time he entered the service until he was called into actual service (being five months) in all thirteen months for which he claims a pension. he has no documentary evidence that he knows of and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. He was born in Pittsylvania County in the state of virginia, he has no record of his age and when called into service was living in Henry County in said state of virginia He is

acquainted with Vardy Collins and Morgan Collins and who will testify to his character for veracity and belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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

Drewry hisXmark Lawson

NOTES:

The tour said to have begun in the fall of 1781 must have begun before the defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC on 16 Aug 1780. The usual tour of duty for militiamen was three rather than 18 months. "Col. Blufore" may refer to Col. Abraham Buford, although he was not in Gates's Camden campaign.

A letter in the file dated 27 Sep 1847 states that Drury Lawson of Claiborne County TN had inquired about the outcome of his application.