Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Cowherd S10482 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky Green County S.S.

On this Twentyeth day of August 1832, personally appeared before the Circuit Court of the County of Green James Cowherd a resident of the County of Green in the State of Kentucky aged Seventy Four in January next year who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the armey of the united States in the year 1777 on the 14th day January for the Term of three years with Capt John Gillison and served in the 10th Virginia regiment of the Continental line under the following named officers Edward Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] Colo. – Gillison Capt. That at the time of inlestment herised in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County Virginia – from thence he was marched to New castle in the State of Dellewar [sic: Delaware], from thence they marched to a place called Bonbrook or Middle Brook [sic: Bound Brook or Middlebrook] in the State of New Jersey where they joined Washington armey - at which place I was made and Orderly Sargent and sent back to virginia for the purpose of getting recuits under Lieutenant Thos. Barbee [Thomas Barbee BLWt258-300] – from thence he returned to the armey at Valley Forge – and served in the same Company and Regiment as Sargent, this was in the winter 78 – from which place we pursued the enemy to Monmouth meeting house - where the celebrated Battle was faught [28 Jun 1778] - from thence we marched to the White plains – from thence to West point, from thence the army took winter quarters on the Raritan River – from which place I was again dispatched to Virginia for the purpose of taking charge of same recruits and marched from there under Capt Alex'r Parker [Alexander Parker] in a Reg't. commanded by Colo. Richard Parker - the number of said Regiment not recollected - from which place we marched to Augusta in the Sate of George [sic: State of Georgia] from thence to Savanna and was there during the Seage [Siege of Savannah, 16 Sep - 19 Oct 1779] – thence we started in a vessel to go to Charlestown and was cart away and landed upon Musketoe Island [sic: Mosquito Island] from thence in to Florady [sic: Florida] - where we were made Prissoners and brought to St Augusteen [sic: St. Augustine] - and remained a Prissoner from 29th Octr. 1779 and was released in Charlestown about the 25 February thereafter – having inlisted for three years and served upwards of said Term - and was discharged by Colo. Rich'd Parker as a Sargent which discharge I think was sent to the State of Viginia as my application for the land allowed by the Government to the Soldiers. This affiant, does not know that his services can be proven by any person in this section of Country – but that a certain Joshua Barbee [pension application S12592] who resides in this State served in said Reg't and he will indeavor if it is claimed necessary hereafter to procure his testamony to his said services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the presant, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] Jas. Cowherd

State of Kentucky Mercer County Sct

On this 13th day of August 1832 personally appeared before me David G Gowan a Justice of the Peace for said County Joshua Barbee of said County aged 72 years on yesterday who being duly sworn according to law states – that on yesterday he received by mail a letter from James Cowherd of Green County Kentucky requesting his affidavit as to his Revolutionary Services. In the year 1777 on the 12th day of march as well as I now recollect the Company of Captain John Gillison of the 10th Virginia Regiment rendezvoused at Culpper Court House The Reg't was then commanded by Col. E. Stephens (whether

Edward or Edmund I cannot now say certainly) – James Cowherd and myself were at the time enlisted soldiers in said Company. We were marched thence to New Castle in Delaware, where we received the Small Pox [inoculation], & where we were detained some time. As well as I now recollect we joined Washington Army early in June of that year at Middle Brook in New Jersey Said Cowherd was some time after detached with my Brother Thomas Barbee then a Lieutenant in the same Reg't and Company, to Virginia on the recruiting service, from whence he returned sometime in the spring of the year 1778 – A vacancy of Sergeant occurring in said Company sometime afterwards said Cowherd was appointed to fill it in which rank he served in said Company and Regiment till towards the close of the year 1779 when my term of service expired, when I was discharged. he still remaining in service in the same rank to the end of his Term. Said Tenth Regiment was at first commanded as before stated by Col. Stephens, who resigned sometime in the year 1777, and it was afterwards Commanded by Col. John Green. Said Reg't was during Green's Command reduced from the Tenth to the Sixth James Cowherd of whom I speak has risided in Green County Ky. upwards of Thirty years past, near to the residence of my Brother Elias Barbee [S12972], now present, and is older than myself by one or two years. I on this day commencd my 72nd vear -[sic] Joshua Barbee

[Elias Barbee stated that James Cowherd came to his fathers house in Virginia as a Sergeant in the recruiting service under his brother, Lt. Thomas Barbee.]

State of Kentucky }
Green County Sct } [20 Dec 1832]

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid James Cowherd who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of the length of time, old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot state positively as to the precise length of his services in his different grades set forth in his previous affidavit, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than three years and two & half months as stated in his previous declaration and the period mentioned below, he served in the following grades to wit

He inlisted on the 14th January 1777 and served as a private until the last day of June in the same year, being five months and sixteen days – and from the first day of July 1777 he served as orderly Sargent until the last day of March 1780 being two years and nine months

And for which service I claim a pension. This affiant states the word winter is used to Identify the time he returned to the army at valley forge, and not when he was appointed orderly sargent, as will be persieved by inspecting Elias Barbees affidavit and my declaration he further states he was released or exchanged 25 February 1780 but not discharged from the armey until last of March or first of april thereafter [signed] Jas. Cowherd

[James Cowherd's discharge, signed by Col. Richard Parker, is illegible in the online image from the bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia. The following are more legible.]

Certify that James Cowherd Inlisted with me in the 6^{th} Virg'a Continental Reg't the [part missing from online image] Jan'y 1777 for the term of three years, which [missing] he faithfully serv'd [missing] April 83 John Gillison Capt/ 6^{th} Virg'a. Reg't

1st Augs't. 1783

Rec'd of Colo. Thomas Merrewether [sic: Thomas Meriwether] a Certificate to Obtain James Cowherd's land warrent F. Cowherd

Petition for bounty land.

James Cowherd - Sergt C. L.

Joshua Barbee, a Revolutionary Soldier, and a credible witness, says that James Cowherd was in the Va. Cont'l line in Feb'y 1778 in service as a Sergeant in the Company of Captain John Gillison – that he enlisted for three years, & served out his time of enlistment.

James Cowherds name is on the [two or three illegible words]. He received £72.7.9 the bal. of his full pay as Sergeant

Resp'ly submitted/ John H Smith Comm &c/ May 21st 1834

To his Excellency/ Jas Tazewell

[Joshua Barbee made another supporting statement on 6 Feb 1834.]