Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Carver S1186

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky }
Madison County Sct }

On this 3rd day of September, 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Hon. Richard French, Circuit Judge for the 10th Judicial District, now sitting, James Carver, a resident of Madison County and State of Kentucky aged 79 years the 4th Nov. next, 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 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He volunteered his services he thinks some time in the year 1780 for three months under Capt. Robert Adams - he was under Col. [Charles] Lynch. From the great lapse of time he is unable to recollect any more of his officers names. He resided in Bedford county Virginia when he entered the service - he rendezvoused at Molley's creek Church [Mollys Creek Church], and marched to Petersburgh [sic: Petersburg], Virginia, with the expectation of meeting the British, who had been at that place but had left before the volunteers reached there. From Petersburgh he returned to Bedford. At another time he was engaged in collecting and driving Cattle for the army - he thinks he was to be excused from serving a tour of duty in consequence of this service – he is unable to say what length of time he was engaged at it – but thinks several weeks, perhaps months. He was at another time mustered into service, when it was expected the British would march through that part of Virginia where he resided [June 1781], and was properly speaking a minute man, but was not called into actual service. He was drafted into the militia service in the year 1781 and was at the taking of Lord Cornwallis at Little York [19 Oct 1781]. He was under Capt. James Bullock – he is unable to give the names of any other of his officers.

He received discharges for his service, but has lost them, and has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services except John S. Alverson [pension applicagtion S30819] (whose affidavit is herewith enclosed) and James Alverson. He was born in Louisa county virginia in November 1753 – he has a record of his age at his residence in this county. He resided in Bedford county Virginia when called into service, where he continued to reside till he moved to Kentucky, Madison county, where he now resides, and where he has resided for upwards of forty years. He thinks that part of Bedford county was cut off into a new county called Campbell [in 1781] before he removed. He cannot recollect who signed his discharges. He is known in his present neighborhood to James Alverson and John Broaddus, Esq.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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

State of Kentucky }
Madison County }

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for the county aforesaid, James Carver, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grade. For nine months I served as a private, and for such services I claim a pension. He believes it was the latter part of 1780 or beginning of 1781 that he was mustered into service in Bedford county, Virginia and there detained as a guard to protect the country against the British who were expected to march through that part of the country. In the spring 1781 he was engaged in collecting and driving Cattle for the use of the

army. The services rendered in Bedford county as guard and in driving cattle for the army, when put together is equal to three months service – being two months in collecting and driving cattle and one month as guard in Bedford. He refers to the testimony of John S. Alverson and James Alverson, herewith annexed for evidence of his services. The testimony of John S. Alverson clearly shows two tours of three months each, and the testimony of James Alverson is as conclusive as could be desired, he thinks, in connection with the other testimony. The facts set forth in his original declaration in relation to his service he believes true. Given under my hand this 13th day of August 1833.

[signed] James Carver

NOTE: On 22 Aug 1832 John S. Alverson, 77, stated that he knew that Carver served two tours, one at Petersburg and the other at the capture of Cornwallis.