Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Abraham Estes S12878 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 15 Jan 2014.

On this 24th Day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Lincoln County Court sitting Abraham Estes a resident of Lincoln County, State of Kentucky, aged sixty eight, 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. He states that he entered the service of the united states as a Malitiaman under the following named officers and served as herein stated That he first entered the service of the state of Virginia as a malitiaman about the 1st of April 1781 under the Command of Capt John Martin. John Logan was the Lieutenant Colonel & Benjamin Logan was the Colonel and he served a tour of duty of one month at Brigg's Station in the County of Lincoln in the district of Kentucky. Then a part of the State of Virginia. that he entered the service as a substitute for Samuel Cochran that Brigg's Station was at that time threatened with an attack from the Indians, & the officers under whom he served held their Commission and acted under the authority of the state of Virginia, also another Tour of One month at the same station as a draft and that he acted upon both occassions as an Indian Spy & Guard, and that they were ordered on this service by the command of Col Benjamin Logan of the said County of Lincoln and district of Kentucky & that the same officers were in command and that he entered upon the second tour of Duty as soon as he had returned from the first. Also another Tour of Duty of one month in the same County & District at the station of John Carpenter [Carpenter's Station on Hanging Fork Creek 2½ mi W of Hustonville]. that he entered as a substitute for John Estes, some time in the summer 1781 he does not recollect the month precisely and that he served under the same officers as in the first two tours and acted in the Capacity of an Indian Spy & guard. He states that the country in which he served and acted as a spy in a state of continual warfare with the Indians with whom the United States were then at war, and that their inroads were almost incessant and so dangerous that the people were compelled to live in forts, or station, and that he generally marched from one part of Lincoln County to another as a spy and guard in and about the different stations he has named.

That some time in the month of March 1782 he again entered the service of the state of Virginia in the Malitia as a substitute for John Cochran under the command of Capt Gordon. John Logan was the Col. he does not recollect of any Major and marched to the falls of the ohio River [at present Louisville] to reinforce General George R Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark] at that place where they assisted him in erecting fort Jefferson and that he acted as a spy and guard upon that expedition that he served one month and was dismissed after their return to Lincoln County. The officers of the regular Army were General George Rogers Clarke & he thinks Major John Crittenden, who was his Aidecamp [Aide de Camp] he does not recollect any of the other officers

That immediately after his dismissal from that Tour he again entered the service of the state of Virginia as a Draft and again marched about the middle of April or first of May 1782 to the falls of ohio to fort Jefferson. Capt William McBridge [sic: William McBride] was the Capt & Col Ben Logan commanded untill they marched to the fort and then relinquished the command to Col Stephen Trigg of the virginia Malitia, who stationed at the fort for one month under the Command of Genl George R Clarke that he served upon this expedition the usual tour of one month and that he was dismissed without any regular discharge by Col Trigg

That in the month of August 1782 he again entered the service as a draft under the command of Capt John Martin [sic: John Martin], Lieutenant Colonel John Logan & Col Benjamin Logan, who was the commander of the expedition, and that they marched against the Indians who had recently defeated Cols. Trigg & Tod at the Battle of the Blue Licks [sic: Stephen Trigg and John Todd, killed 19 Aug 1782]. that

they marched as far as the battle ground intered the dead, and found that the indians had abandoned the Country, after which they were marched back to Bryant's Station [Bryan's Station in Lexington on North Fork of Elkhorn Creek] where he remained some time as a guard in the neighbourhood and then returned to Lincoln County. that there was no discharge given for so soon as the service was rendered they returned to Lincoln County, that he served a Tour of one month.

That some time in the month of September 1782 he again entered the service as a substitute for Abraham Miller and were marched to Bullits Licks [sic: Bullitt Lick] which was at that time threatened with an attack from the Indians, and there remained as a guard for one month for the purpose of protecting the stores of salt that were there laid up and manufactured for the use of the District of Kentucky. Capt. John Kirkum [John Kirkham] was the Commander of the guard That he received an express from Col Benjamin Logan ordering him immediately to join the force under his Command which was about commending its march to join Gen'l Clarke at the mouth of Licking River where it empties into the Ohio River, that John Martin was the Capt. John Logan was the Lieutenant Col & Benjamin Logan was the Col. that they marched to the ohio River & joined Gen'l Clarke at the mouth of Licking when crossed over the Ohio River & marched up the Miami River to an Indian Town called the standing stone, now new Pickaway [Piqua], where they had a battle with the Indians [10 Nov] and took about fifty prisoners, that marched back to the mouth of Licking River and where they seperated from Gen'l Clarke and returned home. This expedition was called Clarke's eighty Two Campaign, and that he served about Two months before his return. Gen'l Clarke was the commanding regular officer, that no regular discharge was given to any of Malitia but that they were dismissed by their officers, he entered upon the expedition under Gen'l Clarke about the 1st of October 1782

He states that he generally marched & Did Duty in the different forts or stations in the County of Lincoln in the Then District of Kentucky in the year 1781 – that in 1782 he marched from Lincoln County to the Falls of the Ohio River on two occasions then to the Blue Licks then to Bullit's Lick & from thence to Lincoln County and then to the Ohio River into what is now called the State of Ohio. That Gen'l Clarke was the commanding regular officer.

He states that he was born in Amelia County in the state of Virginia, his father moved from Amelia County to Halifax County in the state of Virginia where he continued till the fall of the year 1779 when he moved on Holston River where he continued till the year 1780 when he removed to the District of Kentucky in the fall of the same year, where he has lived in the County of Lincoln ever since with the exception of Two years.

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. Sworn and subscribed to the day and year aforesaid, he states that he has no documentary evidence of his services

Abraham Estes
[Benjamin Briggs (pension application S30889), James P. Barnett (S12963), and Joseph McCormick (R6648.5) certified various tours as noted by Estes.]

State of Indiana }

Monroe County } Be it Remembered that on this 21st day of August in the year 1832, personally appeared before me, David Hillough a Justice of the Peace in and for said county, William Moore Seignor of said County, and after having been by me duly sworn upon his oath saith that Abraham Estess by which name he was best known of Lincon county Kentucky, during the Revolutionary War, served a tour of probably two months in Capt. John Martin's company of Militia, in the Regiment commanded by Col. Benjamin Logan and in Gen. Clark's Brigade. That he said deponent was under the command of Capt. Rob't. Barnet [Robert Barnet] of said Regiment at the same time of the service of said Eastess as above stated, and was then and there, and has ever since been well acquainted with said Eastess.

And further deponent saith that during the fall and winter of 1782 & 1783 said Eastess served as a volunteer under the command of Major Tatam of North Carolina as a guard for the survey and he said deponent served as a hunter at the same time

Abraham Estes amends his Declaration In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 in order to obtain an Increase of his pension Allowed him by the war Department of the united states January 22nd 1833 Reserveing[?] to himself the statements which he has made on oath in a Declaration now on file in the pension office of the United States, for eight months service as a souldier of the Revolution being I grant of a fare Construction of the act concluding all those who could prove over six months service should be allowed full pay for life therefore only put in for Eight months service, when it will be seen in the amended Declaration below that I have faithfully served thirty three months Given under my hand

Abraham Estes

State of Kentucky } SS

Lincoln County }

Personally appeared before me, the under signed a Justice of the peace for the County and state aforesaid Abraham Estes 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 grades, For two years and one month I served as a Spy, For Eight months I served as a Militia man, and for such service I claim a pension Sworn to and subscribed this 14th day of April 1835

Abraham Estes

[Benjamin Briggs and Joseph McCormick again certified specific tours by Estes. There is also a supporting statement signed by 13 acquaintances of Estes.]

State of Kentucky } SS

County of Lincoln } [17 Jul 1835]

personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for Lincoln County Abraham Estes who, being duly swon deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively 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 the year 1781 I served then months as a Spie on the frontier of the southern parte of Virginia – now Kentucky, as stated in my amended Declaration now upon file in the pension office of the United States and for the year 1782 I served twelve months, four at McCormicks Garrison [on Knoblick Creek south of Junction City] as an Indian Spie and as a Militia man two at the Jefferson Barrack or falls of Ohio, and at Blue licks one at Bulletts lick two months on the 82 Camppain so called against the norther Indians, one month at McAfees Station and one month under Capt Moses Shelbey [sic: Moses Shelby], and for the year (1783) I served nine months, as a militiaman two months under Capt Shelby & one month after they northern Indians near the ohio & six months I served as an Indian Spie at McCormick Station & the southern frontiers of the settlement amounting to two years & seven months and for such service I claim a pension

Abraham Estes

State of Kentucky } Sct County of Lincoln }

On this twentythird Day of October 1835 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid Abraham Estes, 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 Lenght of his Services but according to the best of his Recollection he served not Less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, as Indian Spye on the Western Frountiers of Virginia now the state of Kentucky, as stated in my Declaration now on file in the pension office of the United States

For the year (1781) I served two tours of Duty of one month each, In the following manner (Towit) Two tours at Briggs Garrison one under John Mcclure & the other under James Craigg [James Craig] each of whom had the command of the Garrison at the time of my Service, One Tour of month at Carpenters Garrison under Michael Stoner who had the command of the Garrison, and two Tours of one month each,

rangeing on the Frountiers of the Settlements under the Command of Capt John Martain, and five tours of one month each at Mccormicks Garrison under the Commandant Capt John Martain, and for the year (1782) I served twelve tours of Duty of one month each, Four tours of month each at Mccormicks Garrison under the Commandant, Capt Martain, and as a militiaman Two tours of Duty of one month each at the falls of Ohio Building the Jefferson, under Capts Gordain & Barnett the first month, & Capt Mcbride the second month all under the Command of Gen'l Clark of the United States troops, One Tour of month at Mcafee's Garrison under Capt Mcafee, [illegible word] as garde the 4th of July I heard the Federal Salute of the Cannon at the falls ordered by General Clark and one tour of one month under Capt Martain to the Bluelicks where we Entered the dead which fell in the Battle Called the Blue lick Defeat, One tour of one month under Capt Kinnin, as garde to the Salt workes at Bulletts lick, two tours of one month each under Capt Martain in the (82) Camppain socalled against the Northern Indians now the State of Ohio General Clark Commander in Chief and one tour of month under Capt Moses Shelbey as garde to the Commissioners towit Isaac Shelbey Anthoney Bledsoe [sic: Anthony Bledsoe] & Absalom Tatum to Lay off the Bounty Lands for the officers & souldiers of North Carolina, Being one month of a three months tour Engaged for that purpose, and for the year (1783) I served nine tours of Duty of one month Each, Two tours of one month each, being the Balance of three months as gard to the Commissioners as stated above under Capt Moses Shelby, and one tour of month after the Northern Indians who had stolen horses from the neighbourhood of Mccormicks Garrison under the Command of Capt John Martain and six tours of Duty of one month each I served as a Spye at Mccormicks Garrison and on the Southern Frounteers of the settlements at Spyeing & Rangeing for Indian Sign under Capt John Martain, amounting to two years & seven months service and for which service I claim a pension

Abraham Estes