Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Boling (Bowling) S14974 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Clay County

On the 22nd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Joseph Eve, Judge of the Clay Circuit Court now sitting Jesse Bowling, a resident of the County of Clay and the State of Kentucky, aged Seventy four years and five months who being duly sworn according to the law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the U.S. in December 1780, in Wilks [sic, Wilkes] County, North Carolina as a volunteer Revolutionary soldier in the office of a Sergeant and served a tour of three months in a Company commanded by Capt. William Nall, which Company was commanded by Major Joseph Phillips and was marched to Salisbury and there stationed and employed in guarding British prisoners and Tories, and after some time marched with the prisoners & Tories from Salisbury toward the Virginia line the British in pursuit—crossed the Adkin [sic, Yadkin] River and cut loose the boats to prevent the British crossing, at which place he was discharged, having served his full tour of three months as aforesaid.

That he again entered the revolutionary service as a drafted soldier in the spring of the year 1781, and he thinks in the month of March for a Tour of three months. He resided in Wilkes County, State of North Carolina, and attached to a Company commanded by Captain John Clevland [John Cleveland] and was appointed & served as a Sergeant in the company--which company was attached to a battalion commanded by Major Benjamin Herndon and Col. Benjamin Cleveland Commanded the Regiment—that the troops marched from Wilkes County, North Carolina down the Yadkin River to a place called the Trading Ford on said River, and was there employed in guarding & reconnoitering the Country against the invasions of the British, until he was regularly discharged.

He states that in the month of July or August 1781, in Grasin [Grayson] County, Virginia, he again volunteered as a light horse revolutionary soldier under Capt. Stinson, whose given name is not now recollected which Company was attached to the command of Col. Arthur Campbell who was the Chief Commander of the troops—this expedition was intended to guard against the depredations of the Tories embodied on the south line of Wilkes County under a Certain James Roberts—that the troops marched into North Carolina and to the place where the Tories had embodied themselves and found that they had dispersed. Reconnoitered the Country in that quarter and then returned to Grayson County Virginia and was discharged. He states that he served two months on this expedition and

found his own horse—that he hereby relinquished every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jesse Boling

[Elisha Bowman, a clergyman, and John Oxford gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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I have known the Rev. Jesse Bowlin [sic] the within applicant many years. No man has a better character for truth and integrity and uprightness in his entire region of country.

22 January 1833 R P Letcher 1

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia.]

¹ LETCHER, Robert Perkins, a Representative from Kentucky; born in Goochland County, Va., February 10, 1788; pursued an academic course; studied law; was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Lancaster, Ky.; member of the State house of representatives 1813-1815, 1817, and 1836-1838 and served as speaker in the latter year; elected as an Adams-Clay Republican to the Eighteenth Congress; reelected as an Adams candidate to the Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses; elected as an Anti-Jacksonian to the Twenty-first through the Twenty-third Congresses (March 4, 1823-March 3, 1833); contested the election of Thomas P. Moore to the Twenty-third Congress, but the House did not seat either and declared a new election necessary; subsequently elected as an Anti-Jacksonian candidate to fill the foregoing vacancy and served from August 6, 1834, to March 3, 1835; was not a candidate for renomination in 1834; presidential elector on the Whig ticket in 1836; Governor of Kentucky 1840-1844; appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico and served from August 9, 1849, to August 3, 1852; unsuccessful candidate for election in 1852 to the Thirty-third Congress; resumed the practice of his profession; died in Frankfort, Ky., January 24, 1861; interment in the State Cemetery.