Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Isaiah Midkiff S1700 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 Tennessee, Grainger County: County Court November Sessions 1832

On this 21st day of November in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions of the County of Grainger now sitting Isaiah Midkiff a resident of the County of Grainger, State of Tennessee aged Seventy two years the 18th day of December 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 7th 1832. He states that he was born in the County of Halifax in the State of Virginia, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He entered the service in the year 1777 under the command of Colonel William Christian in Captain James Shelton's Company and marched from Henry County State of Virginia where he volunteered for a three months tour to the Long Island of Holston River against the Cherokee Indians and was stationed at the Long Island Fort to guard the frontiers and remained at said Fort until the expiration of his said term of service. He states that he was disbanded at the Long Island and was discharged by Captain James Shelton who gave him his discharge. He states that in the year 1779, he removed to the State of North Carolina Surry County and in 1780 in the fall of the year he was drafted for a three months tour of duty and marched under Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] against the British and Tories. He states that he belonged to Captain Joseph Cloud's Company; we joined the regiments under Colonels Campbell [William] Campbell], Sevier [John Sevier], and Shelby [Isaac Shelby] on Broad River, we then marched against the British and Tories under Colonel Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] and overtook him at Kings Mountain in South Carolina where he was defeated [Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780] and killed and his Army taken. He states that he was not in the battle because Captain Cloud's company was ordered on a tour of reconnoitering and on the second day after the battle we joined the Army. From Kings Mountain the company to which I belonged took charge of the prisoners and marched them to the Moravian Towns in North Carolina, where we remained and guarded them until our term of service expired. He states that he was then discharged by Captain Cloud and returned home. He states that in the fall of 1781, he was drafted for three months to march against Lord Cornwallis: that owing to the situation of his family Captain John Phillips (I think his name was John) gave me a furlough for 20 days, that at the expiration of that time he set out to join his company and marched as far as Cabbin Point [sic, Cabin Point] Virginia where he met the Soldiers returning from the siege of Little York, who informed him that Cornwallis was taken [Yorktown, October 19, 1781]; among the soldiers was the orderly Sergeant who directed him to return home for which service he got no discharge: that on that tour he was gone six weeks. He further states that in addition to the above enumerated services he was frequently for short periods in service as a volunteer against the Tories in North Carolina under different officers and one for six weeks tour under Lieutenant Daniel Chandler.

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except John May whose affidavit is herewith enclose. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He states that his discharges are lost or one out or mislaid that he cannot procure them.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Isaiah Midkiff

S/ John Cocke, Clerk

S/ By James R. Cocke, D. C.

[John Kidwell, a clergyman, and Charles McAnally, a clergyman, give the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Grainger County

Personally appeared Isaiah Midkiff before me Joseph Rich an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County of Grainger aforesaid and made oath in answer to the interrogatories required to be propounded by the Court (which said interrogatories were propounded by the court and answered by this affiant, but were omitted to be embodied in the original declaration) that I was born in the County of Halifax in the State of Virginia. That I have a record of my age in the Bible at home. That I was living in Henry County State of Virginia when I was called into service. That I removed in the Spring of 1779 from Henry County to Surry County in the State of North Carolina and that I removed from Surry County in the State of North Carolina in the fall of 1789 to Hawkins County, now Grainger County, in the State of Tennessee where I have resided since. That I volunteered under Captain Shelton in the year 1777 being the first campaign in which I served. That I was drafted in the year 1780 and served under Captain Cloud during my second campaign. That I was drafted in the year 1781 and served under Captain Phillips during my third campaign. That I volunteered under Lieutenant Chandler in my fourth expedition against the Tories in North Carolina. The names of my Regular Officers as well as I recollect were Captain Shelton, Captain Cloud, Captain Philips, Lieutenant Chandler, Colonel Christian and Colonel Campbell. That I received a discharge from Captain Shelton and Captain Cloud for my two first terms of service that I received no discharge for my other terms of service for reasons which appear in my original declaration and that I have lost or mislaid said discharges so that I am unable now to procure them. I will here state that I [am] well known to General John Cocke, Col. Saml. Bunch, and also to John Kidwell and Charles McAnally who have heretofore certified as to the general belief of my neighborhood respecting my revolutionary Services and many others whose testimony I could procure if necessary.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th of July 1833.

S/ Isaiah Midkiff Saich Midlight

S/ Joseph Rich, JP

State of Tennessee, Grainger County

Be it Remembered that on the 11th day of August 1832 personally appeared John May before me Joseph Rich one of the acting Justices of the peace in and [for] said County and made oath that in the year 1777 that he served a tour of duty in the revolution with Isaiah Midkiff that they was both Citizens of Henry County State of Virginia and belonged to a Militia company commanded by Captain James Shelton of the County and State of Virginia aforesaid and was attached to a Regiment Commanded by Colonel William Cristy [sic, William Christian] which has been known by the name of Cristy's Campaign [sic, Christian's Campaign] against the Cherokee Indians and the same time that the treaty was made with said Indians at the Long Islands of Holston [River].

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year first above written. S/John May¹

If the clay Attest:

S/ Joseph Rich

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$29.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months and 28 days in the North Carolina and Virginia militia.]

¹ John May R7051