

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Copus S1801

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } September Term 1832

Sullivan County }

On this 27th day of September 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Hon Edward Scott one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts of the said State now holding said Court for said County William Copus aged eighty five years a resident citizen of said county who being first duly sworn According to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 That he entered the service of the United States as a drafted Militia man in the month of September in the year 1777 under Capt Benjamin Beeler Lieutenant Andrew McCormack Ensign James Matheny Colo William Pendleton for the term fo three months to go against the British who were then reported to be in Philadelphia he lived when drafted in Berkley [sic: Berkeley] County Virginia near the mouth of Shanandoah [sic: Shenandoah River] On that campaign he marched to Bentley tavern on the road to Philadelphia he rendezvoused at Harpers ferry and at Bentlys Tavern he was discharged because he was lame in one of his feet by written discharge given by William Pendleton his Colonel which discharge he has lost and cannot now state how long he was out at that time but he was drafted for three months and after he was discharged he returned home.

In the month of April 1778 he was a gain drafted for three months in Berkley County Virginia and on the first day of May following started to go a tour against the Indians on the Ohio and served that campaign under Capt William Little Lieutnant William Westal Ensign David Sewel Major William Morgan and marched to Fort Pit [sic: Fort Pitt at Pittsburgh] and from thence to Holladys cove [sic: Hollidays Cove] where he remained until the 22nd day of August 1778 and was there discharge by Major Morgan which discharge he herewith forwards to the department and was out on that campaign four months before he returned home and on that campaign he was on various scouting parties against the Indians

He states that he was again drafted in the month of July 1781 in Berkley County Virginia to serve against Ld Cornwallace [sic: Lord Cornwallis] then in Virginia under Capt John McCormack Lieutenant John Engle Ensign Michael Engle Colo William Morgan and marched from Berkley through Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] and Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] and thence to York Town [Yorktown] where he remained in Genl Washingtons army until the seige was over [19 Oct] and was in part of the fighting being frequently where bullets whistled about him but was not wounded and on the 6 day of November 1781 at Nolens [sic: Noland's] Ferry on Potomac river was discharged by Capt McCormack and which discharge is also herewith forwarded to the department of War and was out on that campaign from the time he was drafted until discharged about four months or near that time and must have been under arms in all from nine to ten months his drafts being for nine months. He has not any other documentary evidence to prove his and has not any witnesses to prove his service except the affidavits of John Hunt & Frances Vincent annexed He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension what ever and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state or its agency and there is not any clergyman in his vicinity who can certify for him

William hisXmark Copus

Holladys Cove August 22 1778

Wm Copes being sent on Command to Whelen [sic: Wheeling] is Discharg'd ye 26th of this Instant having Serving his towers of Duty as Malitia under my Commad [signed] William Morgan Major

The Bearer William Copas of Bearkley County Militia having sarved the Tower of Duty is Discharged by me at Nolens fery this 6 Day of November 1781 [signed] John McCormack Capt