Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Handly S1911 Transcribed by Will Graves

f32NC re'vd 4/8/11 & 12/13/15

[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, Franklin County

On this 7th day of September 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting – Samuel Handly a resident of Tennessee State in the County of Franklin aged Eighty years – 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 (in Wyeth County Virginia) – early in the summer of the year 1776 – he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer under Captain John Campbell – at which time a successful battle was fought with the chirrikee [Cherokee] Indians near the Long Island on Holston River – and served as herein stated. That he continued that summer on the frontiers, the Indians were very troublesome and times really distressing – people shut up in Forts – your applicant served he thinks three months as orderly Sergeant – your applicant, in the fall of the same year, went on a campaign against the Cherokee Indians under the command of Col Christain [William Christian] (one of the Col's Life guard) the length of time he cannot precisely know, but he thinks three months; after he returned he was still on the frontiers, he went another campaign, [as] an Ensign against the Chickomaga [Chickamauga] Indians under the command of Col Evan Shelby he thinks perhaps a tour of three months – your applicant served on the frontiers, he was employed in the service as an Indian spy, perhaps three months (October in the year 1780 he went under the command of Col John Sevier – in company with Col William Campbell and Col Isaac Shelby crossing over the [indecipherable word, looks like "bauld" could be "bald"] mountain into Burke County North Carolina and there joined Col Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], Col Williams [James Williams] and Col Joseph McDowell in the whole six regiments under the immediate command of Col William Campbell, thence on through Rutherford County by the way of Gilbert town and so on into South Carolina – at which time the battle was fought on Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] – in the winter of the same year (about Christmas) he went on a campaign against the Cherokee Indians under the command of Col John Sevier where the battle was fought up on Boyd's Creek near Buckingham's Island on French Broad River which is now in the bounds of Sevier County Tennessee; encamped there eight days when Col Arthur Campbell came on with the Virginia Troops – then struck the line of march on the Indians Towns on Tennessee River – thence on to Hiwassee towns – killing some and burning their towns and destroying their provisions and returned. Your applicant thinks these two last mentioned tours perhaps might be two months each. Your applicant served of another campaign under Col J. Sevier as a Lieutenant, he thinks perhaps two months – he afterwards ranked Captain – but is not sure whether his service as such was before or after the close of the revolutionary war in as much as the Indian war still continued – your applicant further states that he rendered a great deal of service that he cannot bring into view. He living on the frontiers and well equipped with a good horse and well armed, he held himself always in readiness at a moment's warning. He thinks if he could condense all his service into one count it would amount to more than two years – but at the time he had no idea of compensation, in fact it was never

thought of – therefore kept no account and is at a material loss for dates – your applicant has no documentary evidence and has no better testimony he can offer only the certificate of George Sherrell¹ accompanying his declaration – he hereby relinquishes every claim 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 whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

[Robert Dougan, a clergyman, and Robert Crabb gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

George Sherrell a resident citizen of Franklin County, Tennessee, aged about 70 years being first duly sworn, says on oath, that he has been acquainted with Samuel Handley who has subscribed & sworn to the foregoing declaration for the last 50 years — was in the service of the United States with him, at the battle of Kings Mountain; and also in the battle on Boyd's Creek, near Buckingham's Island in French Broad River as stated & described [by] him, in the foregoing declaration. He has no doubt from his knowledge of Esquire Handley & his Character that he served as stated in his declaration.

Sworn to in open Court September the 5th 1832

S/ E. Russell, Clerk

S/ George Sherrell

The applicant Samuel Handly further states on his oath that he has no record of his age it being lost – but from the best information he has – he was born in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1752 – that he was removed from that state at a very early period of life to the State of Virginia agusta [Augusta] County afterwards Rockbridge County which was taken of Augusta where he was raised; then in Wyth [Wythe] County where he entered the service as before stated; thence afterwards removed to Washington County East Tennessee which was then North Carolina he afterwards lived in Blount County East Tennessee, he moved in 1809 to Franklin County where he now lives and has resided ever since.

George Sherrell

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court September the 7th 1832 S/ E Russell, Clerk

S/ Samuel Handly

By W. B. Wagoner, D. C.

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I have known Samuel Handly the within named applicant for a pension upwards of 35 years, and with truth can say, that he always sustained a good character, he was one of the members in convention who formed the present Constitution for the State of Tennessee.

S/ Andrew Jackson

¹ George Sherrell (Sherrill) S3902

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[Facts in file: veteran died November 24, 1840; the file contains no family data.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$85 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private, 3 months service as a Sergeant, and 5 months service as an Ensign in the Virginia and North Carolina service.]