Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Fielding Ashby S30249

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky

Oldham County Sct.

On this 19th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open Court before Andrew Steele, William Gibson, William Force, Washington Cailn[?] & [illegible] Justices composing the Oldham County Court now sitting Fielding Ashby a resident of the County of Oldham & State of Kentucky aged seventy 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 7th June 1833. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Viz. That in the fall of the year 1779 the day or month he does not now remember - he volunteered and went out under Capt John Smith, Lieutenant William Calames [sic: William Calmes] and Ensign William Jones, all of whom resided at that time in the County of Frederick Virginia in which county he himself also lived - that he marched under the officers above named from the County of Frederick to Richmond Virginia thence down James river to the Country around Jamestown (in company with the Virginia Regiment in which Major Charles Magil [sic: Charles Magill] of Winchester was an officer) they then returned after being a short time in the neighborhood of Jamestown and crossed James River at Cabin point [in Surry County] and lay some time at Smithfield thence they marched to Petersburg where he lay with the Army some time. It was then designed to take him and the company to which he belonged to the South – but his time of service having nearly expired he was discharged by General Steuben [see endnote] – in this tour he served two months.

In the Spring of 1780 the day he cannot recollect he again went into the Service as volunteer for six months under Captain Erasmus Gill [see endnote] in the County of Frederick Va. a continental officer of the light horse – that the horses were pressed for the use of the army and the uniform was furnished by the United States that they immediatly marched against some tories who were embodied near the Warm springs in Virginia – that after arriving there the tories dispersed and they returned to camp at Francis Striplings [Francis Stribling's] in Frederick County – that they remained some time in camps until an officer in Col. Blands regiment of light horse [see endnote] which was then encamped beyond James river, came up to receive the horses of the company in which he volunteered. That he was order by Capt. Gill to take a body of men and go down to Col Bland & deliver the horses – which he did – after having delivered the horses he was discharged – in this tower he served four months being discharged before his term of service ended – in the town above named William Hickman was Lieutenant – Taliaferro Stripling [sic: Taliaferro Stribling] Cornet In September 1781 he again went out - being hired by Colonel David Canaday [illegible word] was authorised to hire men to fight in the place of the Quakers - that in this tower George Bell was Capt. Henry Catlett Lieutenant and Richard Brily ensign - all from Frederick County Va. that they marched from near Winchester through Fredericksburg, Bowling green, Williamsburg to York where he remained until Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781] that he then with his whole company were dispatched as a guard with some prisoners taken at York whom they took to about four miles above Winchester Virginia that after arriving there he was discharged by Capt Bell in this tower he served two months & fifteen days. He states that he never received any written discharge - that he was in the service of the U States eight months & fifteen days, that he was born in the County of Frederick & State of Virginia in the year 1762 that he has no record of his age but that the above statement of his age is arrived from the information of his father & mother which he believes to be correct, that he resided at the time he entered the service in the County of Frederick, Virginia that he left Virgina in Sept 1784 and moved to Jefferson County then Virginia now Kentucky in 1798, he moved about 22 miles from Louisville to a place then in Jefferson. afterwards Shelby & now Oldham County where he has resided

ever since & where he now resides. he states that in the two first towers above referred to he Volenteered and in the third & last he was hired by Col. Canady a U States officer to go [illegible word] – in the place of the quakers who would not fight – he states that Major Nat. Welch [Nathaniel Welch] was one of the regular officers where he seved and that he & the company to which he belonged was placed in Col. Edmuds [probably Elias Edmunds] regiment at York of the Militia – these are all the regular officers he now recollects – he never received a written discharged from the service in any of the towers above specified but was discharged verbally by his commanding officer as before stated – he states that he is well known in his present neighborhood to Ellis Oglesby and Joseph Carter who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution – he states that he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure except the accompanying affidavit of Robert Tylers – to his sevice

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.

Fielding hisXmark Ashby

NOTE: Ashby may have confused the years and sequence of his tours. Gen. Baron von Steuben did not arrive in Virginia until Nov 1780. Capt. Erasmus Gill of the 4th Continental Light Dragoons was captured at the Siege of Savannah on 3 Oct 1779 and not exchanged until 22 Oct 1780. Theodorick Bland was Colonel of the 1st Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons until the end of 1779.