Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Matthew Coulter S30349
Transcribed by Will Graves

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State of Kentucky, Mercer County

On this 21st day of October A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me Nelson Mays a Justice of the peace and one of the Judges of the Mercer County Court in and for the State and County aforesaid Matthew Coulter a resident citizen of said County of Mercer and State aforesaid aged seventy-four years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following the declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That in the latter part of the summer 1779 he volunteered under captain Tanner Alford in Orange County, N.C. and joined the regiment, under the command of Col. John Ramsey for a tour of three months and marched to South Carolina and were continued as scouts until three months expired when we were marched to Hillsborough and honorably discharged. Again in 1780, he volunteered under Capt. Ray and joined the regiment commanded by the same Colonel. Ramsey, and marched to Camden, where we had a severe battle, we were marched back after our defeat and was discharged after having served faithfully three months. And again in the same year, at the late end of the year, he volunteered for a tour of three under Captain Jones, as a light horse man and marched to Santee hills, and Joined the main army under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and was detached as one to assist in gathering in and drying beans to General Greene's camp, for the subsistence of the army and after expiration of our tour, we were honorably discharged at Cheraw or Santee hills having served three months as a light horseman. Again in the spring of 1781 he volunteered under Capt. Douglass of the said company of Orange County and Joined Col. Dudley's Regiment of North Carolina militia and marched against the Tories who were very troublesome in the district of Hillsborough, we killed some, wounded several and took some prisoners. We were honorably discharged after having served two months—and again in the summer of the same year, he volunteered under Capt. Wharton and marched in pursuit of a celebrated Tory called Col. Fanning [David Fanning], but never could catch him, we could hear of him and frequently broke up his camps and took his plunder, but he slept [sic, slipped?] off to the British and left the country, this tour of three months, we were discharged by Col. Dudley—again in the same year, joined Captain Allen's company and was marched under Sergeant Hart as an escort to some prisoners at Hillsborough, he thinks they were Tories and about 40 in number, they were part of the said Fanning's Tory troops, we guarded them safely to Halifax and had them safely confined in jail, this was a tour of sixteen days perhaps it was more again in the same year he entered Captain John Caldwell's company in Col. McCauley's Regiment, and were classed as follows; viz.; eight men in a class and each class served 24 hours for three months

Tour, but all were held in readiness to march at a moment's warning if necessary, we constantly in pursuit of the Tories who were very troublesome in that part of the State—he further states that he received frequent and regular discharges for the different tours of duty he served, but they have long since been lost—he has no documentary evidence of his services and he knows of no person by whom he can prove the whole, but he solemnly swears upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that he served as he states in his foregoing declaration: viz.,- 17 months and 16 days faithfully and is to this day an enemy to the Tories—he further states that he lived 18 miles from Harrodsburg where the Mercer County sets and he feels himself unable to attend there to swear to his declaration, without great bodily pain—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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Matthew Coulter, {Seal}

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[James F. Smith, Clergyman, Abraham Fulkerson & Robert C. Compton give the standard supporting certificate of the applicant's reputation for veracity, age and belief in the neighborhood of Revolutionary services.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50.94 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 11 months & 16 days service as a private in the infantry and 3 months service as a private in the Cavalry in the North Carolina militia.]