Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Peter BF Adams S30814

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky, City of Lexington Sct.

On this 7th of December 1833 personally appeared in open Court before C Hunt Esq'r. Mayor of the city of Lexington Peter ^B_F Adams, a resident of Washington County Kentucky going on 75 years of age, 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 of June 7, 1832.

He was born in Rowan County, North Carolina on the 11th March 1759 according to a register of the family which was last in the possession of his brother John Adams, a resident of North Carolina. He remained at the place of his birth until the year 1779 when he came to Kentucky with his uncle Jacob Hunter, and remained at Boone station [now Boonesboro] until he settled in what is now Washington county, where he has resided ever since. He resided at Boone station where he first entered the service as a volunteer under Capt [William] Hays, who was a son-inlaw of Col. Dan'l Boone [Daniel Boone] in Col. Logans [Benjamin Logan's] regiment, and with that regiment he marched to the mouth of Licking [Creek] where it was joined by other troops under the command of General Geo. Rogers Clark [George Rogers Clark], who ascended the Ohio in boats from Louisville to the place of rendezvous. Col. Megarry [sic: Hugh McGary] was with the troops, but whether he commanded the other regiment which was in the expedition, he does not remember. The army under the command of General Clark crossed the Ohio at that point and marched to the old Chillicothe town. The enemy met the troops at the Pickaway [Piqua] towns on Mad river, where a severe battle was fought [8 Aug 1780], in which the affiant shared. He was not wounded then nor since. The expedition did not leave the Indian country untill the towns were all destroyed and their corn cut down when the troops returned to the mouth of Licking. At that point the two regiments separated, Gen'l Clark ascending the river to Louisville, and Col Logan's regiment returning to Boonestation and other stations from whence it had been collected. On that expedition he served, to the best of his recollection and belief at least four months. The troops marched about the 1st of June 1780 on the above expedition.

As your affiant was first enrolled in Capt Hays Company he was always liable to be called on to do military duty. Accordingly, during the remainder of the year 1780 he was frequently called on to go on detachments, for various purposes, and served in the frontier stations as a guard, amounting to at least one and a half months in that year, making five months and a half of service in the year 1780. In the year 1781 your affiant was not engaged in any battle, but was frequently called out on similar service to that detailed above, amounting in time to at least three months. He was ordered in the beginning of the year 1782 to Bryants Station [Bryan's Station near Lexington] where he remained as a guard until the siege of that station by the Indians in August [14 – 17] of that year. He remembers all the circumstances of the Siege, which continued until the third day, when the enemy retreated; but he refrains from their detail as being unnecessary here. During the Siege a reinforcement of about forty men came to the station from Lexington, who remained in it until it was raised. Capt McCraig commanded in the station by the request of the garrison although he had no commission as an officer, in consequence of the absence of all the superior officers who were attached to the station. Immediately after the siege was raised, a body of troops of about 180 men, under Cols Logan, Todd, Trigg, Boone, Mcgary & other officers, came up and immediately pursued the enemy to the Blue Licks, when the unfortunate battle which took its name from that spot was fought [19 Aug]. Your affiant was not in that expedition in consequence of not being able to procure a horse. In a few days 24 Aug] a body of about 400 men were collected to bury the dead on the battle ground, in which number he was one, and they marched to the ground and performed that painful duty, and returned to Bryant's station. As soon as possible after that General Clark issued his orders to

Col Logan to collect all the men who could be spared in the interior stations and meet him again at the mouth of Licking, which accordingly was done about the latter part of August. On that occasion your affiant marched in Capt. Charles Hazelrigg's [sic: Charles Hazlerig's] company in Col Logans Regiment. Col. Boone was along and General Clark commanded in chief. The army crossed the Ohio again at that point and marched thence to the new Chillicothe towns, between the Miami and White water rivers, where we did not find any enemy, except about 3 or 5 squaws & children who were taken prisoners by us. We destroyed the towns and crops of the Indians [near present Piqua OH, 10 Nov 1782], and returned again to the mouth of Licking where the Troops again separated and returned to their respective residences. During that year your affiant served at least nine months including a part of 1783 up to the peace between this Country & Great Britain [15 Apr 1783]. In all his services, your affiant states that he served at least seventeen & a half months, to the best of his recollection & belief, which is more probably under than over the true amount. He never served higher than a private, all the time in the militia, and never received a discharge. He has no documentary proof to sustain his claim, and all his officers are dead long since, as far as he knows. He has one living witness, John Hunter [pension application W432], who is his cousin and whose deposition is given herewith, and who lives in Jessamine County adjoining Fayette County, and who came with him to Lexington to obtain such aid in preparing his claim as he was informed he could procure there. In his own neighbourhood he would refer to Peter Higdon, James Thompson, Robert Mitchell, Judge Booker to state their belief of his veracity & of his general reputation as a revolutionary soldier. He is not known to any clergyman in Lexington, and therefore cannot procure their statement.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that he is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or territory.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

[signed] Peter ^B_F Adams