

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Cooley S30961

fn24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/2/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Madison County: Sct.

On this 13th day of August, personally appeared in open Court, before the Worshipful the County Court of Madison now sitting, James Cooley, a resident of Madison County, State of Kentucky, aged seventy-two years on the 19th day of October next, 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.

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

He volunteered in Craven County, South Carolina, he thinks in May 1776, and served three months, except one week, under Captain Grogg, Major Dozier, __ Colonel, and General Lee. He was in the battle at Sullivan's Island, on the 28th of June 1776 – Generals Lee [Charles Lee] and Moultrie [William Moultrie] commanded Captain Alexander Prourord [Alexander Brevard?], Major Donoho [Thomas Donoho], Colonel Dixon [Henry Dixon] and General Lee of the Continental line were present at the battle. At this battle the British shot down our flag staff. The American troops afterwards shot down the most of the British fifty gun ship. He was discharged in the City of Charleston South Carolina the latter part of July or first of August. He then went to Surry County North Carolina, and there volunteered under Benjamin Cleveland for three months, in the month of August as he believes, to fight against the Cherokee Indians. I was in one small skirmish at the Overhill Towns in the Hiwassee country. I was attached to Colonel Armstrong's Regiment, Major Walton was one of the officers. The whole under the command of General Rutherford. We were marched from one Indian town to another. There was no Continental troops with us at this time. We took from the Indians on one occasion about 100 head of horses, about 80 or 90 Beeves, 25 loads of dressed deer skins, four white men prisoners – Scott & Hicks – the names of the other two I do not recollect – killed two Negroes, took four Negroes prisoners, and wounded Hicks' wife. This comprises all the circumstances attending my second tour. I again volunteered under Captain Franklin in Surry County North Carolina and entered the service again in January 1781, marched from thence to Roan County [Rowan County] to assist General Green [Nathanael Greene] in guarding some prisoners. On our return to Surry County North Carolina four of us were taken prisoners by Tarltons [Banastre Tarleton's] Light horse, and retained a prisoner till Cornwallis was taken – when the siege commenced the prisoners were put on board of a prison ship until Cornwallis surrendered, then we were liberated. I was taken prisoner near Moravian Town in Surry County North Carolina and marched from thence to Guilford County from thence to Cross Creek, from thence to Wilmington, from thence to Portsmouth, from thence to Little York. At Wilmington North Carolina, there were about 100 prisoners put on board of a British ship, at about 18 remained,

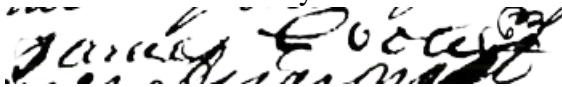
that the ship would not hold. I was a prisoner at the time of the battle between General Green and Cornwallis, on the 15th of March, at Guilford Courthouse, & about three miles distant. I never had but one discharge which was signed by Captain Grogg, in the Col's name [?] and that was for the first tour of duty, which I have lost or mislaid.

I was born in the State of Virginia, but my father moved to North Carolina when I was very small, but I have always understood from my parents that I was born the 19th of October 1760. I have no record of my age. It was in my father's testament, but I do not know where it is now. I lived in Craven County South Carolina when I volunteered the first time. In Surry County, North Carolina when I volunteered the second and third times. After I was liberated as a prisoner I returned to Surry County, I moved from thence to Montgomery County, Virginia, where I resided about seven years, when I moved to Madison County State of Kentucky and where I now reside. I am known in my present neighborhood to George Alcorn and James Dejarnatt & I know of no person whose testimony I can procure, who can testify to my services except Michael Grindstaff¹ of Jessamine County, Kentucky, whose deposition I herewith annexed.

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/ James Cooley



[George Alcorn and James Dejarnatt gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The deposition of Michael Grindstaff, a resident of Jasmine County, State of Kentucky, taken at the Office of Joseph Turner in the Town of Richmond State of Kentucky, on the 25th day of July 1832, to be read as evidence at the War Office in behalf of James Cooley's application for a pension under the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832, who being first duly sworn according to law, saith That he knew James Cooley well in June 1776; that Cooley then served in Captain Grogg's company of volunteers, and said Cooley was in the battle at Sullivan's Island on the 28th of June 1776 – That he again saw said Cooley in service under Captain Cleveland on an expedition against the Cherokee Indians in 1776. I knew nothing more of Mister Cooley after the expedition against the Cherokees until about 12 years since; since which time I have seen him occasionally and understood him to say that he lived in Madison County. And further deponent saith not.

S/ Michael Grindstaff, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$48.20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 14 months & 23 days service as a private in the South Carolina and North Carolina militia.]

¹ [Michael Grindstaff \(Grinstaff\) S35995](#)