Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Cooper S3192 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 Hawkins County May 1, 1833

On this 1st day of May in the year 1833 at the house of James Cooper, personally appeared before me, John Critz an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County & State aforesaid, the undersigned James Cooper a resident of Hawkins County & State of Tennessee, aged 75 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.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That he was born in February in the year 1758 in Chester County in the State of Pennsylvania, that from Chester County his Father moved with him when a child into Roaun [sic, Rowan] County in the State of North Carolina where he was raised & where he resided at the time he entered the service of the United States. That he volunteered in the service for a three months tour about the year 1776 as well as he now recollects, under Captain David Colwell [David Caldwell], that the company of volunteers to which this Declarant belonged rendezvoused with other companies of militia at Salisbury where we joined a company of regulars under the command of Colonel Martin, that the object of this expedition was to march against the Scotch & Tories assembled at a place called Cross Creek. That the companies of Militia during this campaign were commanded by General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] who marched them from Salisbury to accomplish the object above mentioned & before they reached Cross Creek, but when they were not far from it, they received intelligence that the Scotch and Tories, at that place, had been defeated & routed by the Whigs under the command of General Caswell [Richard Caswell]. That on reaching the destined place they found out the report [was] true, but at this place they remained for some time & were then dismissed & this Declarant returned home after having served the three months for which he volunteered.

This Declarant further states, that in the year 1779 he moved with his Father to what is now called Hawkins County in the State of Tennessee, in the neighborhood where he now lives & where he has lived ever since that in the following year, that is, in the year 1780 he again volunteered in the service of the United States under Captain Solomon White & Colonel Isaac Shelby for the purpose of marching against the British & Tories collected in the State of South Carolina. That in their march they passed the head of the Yellow Mountain & the head of the Catawba River, thence down said River some distance, then to Broad River to what was called the Cherokee Ford, here they found General Clarke [Elijah Clark] from Georgia & General

¹ Battle of Moore's Creek bridge, February 27, 1776 https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html

McDowell [Charles McDowell], that General Clarke crossed the Ford with them; but McDowell refused to cross, that after crossing the Ford they marched about till they met with the British forces at Warfords works [sic, Wofford's Iron Works, August 8, 1780]² where they had a fight & the British were overcome & fled. That they pursued them about two miles & then gave over the chase & returned. That the British followed them in their retreat as far as Warford's works, but no further. That from Warford's works they came back & this declarant returned home after having served the three months tour for which he volunteered.

This Declarant further states that in the fall of the same year of the last mentioned expedition, he again volunteered in the service under Captain Joseph Martin & Colonel Arthur Campbell to go against the Cherokee Indians. That the different companies assembled at a place called Dotson's Ford, in what is now called Hawkins County. That from the said Ford they took the old Indian tract across the Tennessee River & into the midst of the nation, that on their march through the nation they burnt the following Indian towns, Chota, Tellico, Hiwassee old town & many others which he could not now recollect. That they found & killed but few Indians & took a few prisoners, that after remaining in the Indian nation for some time, they returned home & this Declarant was dismissed that he volunteered for three months but thinks the service did not last much longer than two months. This Declarant states that to the best of his knowledge & believe, putting his said three terms of service together he served in the war of the Revolution eight months. That he never received a written discharge. This declarant further states that he has no record of his age. This Declarant further states that there is no Clergyman in his neighborhood.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State, or (if any) only a on that of the agency of the State of Tennessee.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ James Cooper

S/ John Critz, JP

[George Smith & Samuel Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: May the first 1833

This day personally appeared before me John Critz an acting Justice of the [peace] for the said County of Hawkins Robert Mann³ and makes oath that he knows of James Cooper's serving in the Revolutionary War in the year Eighty enlisted under Captain Solomon White & that he was commanded by Colonel Isaac Shelvey [sic, Isaac Shelby]. I saw James Cooper Senior at Warford's Works. There we got in an engagement with the British.

frobert Hange

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for eight months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

² https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution woffords iron works.html ³ Robert Mann S38922