

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Berry Cawood S37817

f21NC[sic, VA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/11/10 supp'd 5/4/15

[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.]

[Kentucky, Harlan County]

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832

On this 17th day of April 1834 personally appeared in open court before Joseph Eve sole Judge of the Harlan Circuit Court Berry Cawood a resident of the Clover fork of Cumberland River in the County of Harlan and State of Kentucky aged 76 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

He states that he entered the service of the United States as a militia soldier in the County of Washington and State of Virginia where he then resided in the year 1775 as well as he remembers under the following named officers William Bowin [sic, William Bowen?] Captain – Bowin lived at the Maiden Springs the forks of Clinch [River] where there was a Fort – Colonel William Campbell sent orders to our Captain William Neill to order a draft of six men from his Company to go to the forks of Clinch to aid in protecting the frontiers for three months – he was one of the six upon the duty fell – that he stayed there frequently making scouts into the surrounding Country to protect it from the savages until his six months was out – he states that he received a discharge for this service signed by his Captain William Bowin which was carelessly kept and finally lost among his Father's papers.

He states that in the year 1776 he enlisted for six months under John Montgomery Captain Michael Daugherty Lieutenant – Ensign not remembered – the object of this enlistment was to guard the frontiers of Clinch as I understood it – shortly afterwards contrary to my expectations the company to which he belonged was ordered to join General Christie [sic, William Christian] in his campaign against the Cherokees – he marched from Washington County passing the long Island Flats where lay the bodies of about 30 Indians readily killed by the whites in a battle at that place to the Tennessee River – thence across the same to the Indian Towns which they burnt – the Indian corn was ripe, and pumpkins and sweet potatoes in abundance – we burnt three or four towns and eat and destroyed all their corn, Pumpkins and Potatoes – he states that as the Army which amounted to about 1800 men returned from the Indian nation a portion of the troops and he among the number was stationed at the long Island Flats to guard the frontiers through the winter – he states that in this employment he spent the winter and a part of the spring – he returned in April 1777 as well as he remembers after having performed a tour to the best of his recollection not less than 7 months long – he states that he knows his six months was out, and that from necessity he consented to stay longer – Long Island

Lapse were about 80 [? very faint text] miles from my place of residence – I received a discharge for this service, signed by Captain John Montgomery I believe, at least it was handed to me by him – it has been long since lost.

He states that in the year 1778 he entered the service for a Tour of seven months – he states that he had went to the Illinois Town upon a trading expedition – and there enlisted for the above tour under John Williams Captain, George Clark [George Rogers Clark] Colonel thence he marched to the opost Fort [Vincennes, Indiana Feb. 25, 1779] on the Wabash [River] – that the Americans there took the British troops commanded by Hamilton [Henry Hamilton] – thence down the Wabash by water to the Ohio [River] – thence up the Ohio to the falls and there landed – thence with the Prisoners to Harrodsburg – there I received my discharge signed by John Williams by Captain – it was on the 15th of April 1779 after having more than served my 7 months.

He states that in a short time after the last mentioned tour he volunteered at Harrodsburg now Kentucky to go against the Shawnee Indians a tour of one month under Harlan or Harrod Captain – Bowen Colonel – we rendezvoused at Harrodsburg – thence to the Ohio and crossed the same near the mouth of Licking thence to the Indian Town – we took the Indians by surprise – and might have with them – he believes the expedition failed on account of the cowardice of Bowman – he states that during the engagement he got into an Indian Cabin and resting with his belly on a pile of corn he shot one Indian at the distance of 30 paces through the heart or close by it – a retreat was unexpectedly ordered and every man had to shift for himself – the Shawnees pursued us and we had another engagement on the retreat and lost many of our horses – so of my intimate acquaintances were killed at the Indian Town – I think I received no discharge for this service – but feel confident I did not serve less than one month.

He states that after the last Tour mentioned he returned to Washington County Virginia his place of residence – and in 1780 as well as he remembers he was drafted, in three weeks after his marriage for a tour of three months under James Crabton Captain – Arthur Campbell Colonel the object of this draft was to go against the Cherokees we rendezvoused at Honeycutt's place on Main Holston – thence we marched to the Cherokee Nation and visited the same Country described in a previous Tour – we burnt their Towns again and killed many of the savages – we went to Hiwassee Town and burnt the houses there – thence we marched for home and after performing our three months Tour was discharged I received a written discharge for this service from my Captain Crabton which has long since been lost. He states that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his service, nor is there any living witness near me by whom I can prove the fact of my services – encloses a partial statement of some of my service – the Indian scalp spoken of by Hudson was one which I had taken from the head of an Indian killed by me at the opost Town.

He states that before the passage of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 making provision for his service – he had caused to be drawn up, a statement of his services and petition¹ to Congress to allow him a pension – he procured near 100 signers of said petition but no relief was given.

He states that in the fall after the passage of the above recited act he employed a member of the Bar to prepare his papers to enable him to get his pension – that he does not know what has become of the papers so prepared but supposes that they have never been received at the War Department from the information he has got.

To Question 1st. I was born in Bartley County [sic, probably Berkeley County] Virginia. I

¹ This document does not appear in this file.

cannot state the year.

2nd. I have no record of my age but from my recollection of what my parents told me I am 76
3rd. I was living in Washington County Virginia when called into the service and although at
some Tours I entered it elsewhere I always regarded Washington County as my home – since the
revolutionary war I moved to Kentucky on the waters of the Cumberland River and have
continued to reside there ever since.

4th. I was drafted the first tour of three months – I enlisted the 2nd tour for six months but served
seven months. I enlisted the 3rd Tour for seven months and served something over – the 4th tour
I volunteered one month the 5th tour he was drafted for three months

Fifth. I served as an enlisted soldier as previously stated under Colonel Clark. I do not know
whether he was a regular Officer I can say the same of Christy. I do not know the number of any
Regiment with whom I served

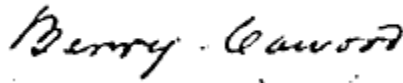
sixth. I received several discharges – one from Captain William Bowin – one from Captain John
Montgomery – one from Captain John Williams and one under Captain James Crabton all which
have been lost

seventh. I am known in my present neighborhood to General George Brittain – Captain James
Sparks Captain Benjamin Harris, Hiram Jones and many others who I doubt not if present would
testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my services of the revolution.

The Petition which I got up as previously stated praying Congress to allow me something
before the act of 1832 gave very general notoriety to my pretensions to Revolutionary services
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and
he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Berry Cawood



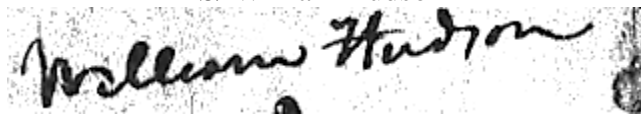
[George Brittain, James Sparks and John Jones, Senior gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Harlan County State of Kentucky January 9th 1830

This Day personally came before me Luke Noe one of the Commonwealths of the peace
for the County aforesaid William Hudson of the County of Clay and State aforesaid and made
oath that in the year of 1779 he saw a certain Berry Cawood on an expedition under the
command of Col. George Clark & perhaps in the company of Captain John Williams & the said
Cawood was at the taking of Lieutenant Governor Hamilton at the Opost & further the said
Cawood held an Indian scalp in his hand & it was said that the said Cawood killed the Indian &c.

Sworn to and Subscribed this Date above written

S/ William Hudson



S/ Luke Noe, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$46.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one
year and two months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Kentucky Counties Legislative Petitions

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond Assembled

The petition of Berry Cawood a Citizen of Harlan County State of Kentucky and former resident of Washington County & State of Virginia

He represents and Humbly Sheweth to your honorable body that in the fall of 1778 your petitioner enlisted with a Capt. John Williams who was commanded by Col. George Clark and marched on a campaign of seven months servitude and was at the taking of Lt. Governor Hamilton at the Opost also guarded him to Herods Station [Herod's Station] Kentucky part of the way as a guard & the residue of the way as a spie [spy] and at which place sometime in the month of April 1779 your petitioner obtained a Discharge from his officers and afterwards lost or mislaid the same and returned to the aforesaid Washington County Virginia and lived in and Extreme of the said County in the hills and Mountains detached from almost Every communication or opportunity of information and [word too faint to discern] – Alternatively been kept out of his wages and Land bounty.

Your petitioner begs leave further to state that his former Occupation was that of a hunter and being a man Little or no information but made repeated inquiries how to come at his rite [right] his directions that he got were from such vague sources and such a contrast of Opinions that he has hitherto been kept in the dark. We presume there has been lands laid off near the falls of Ohio in the now Indiana State for Col. Clark and his soldiers & by referring to the Acts of Congress You will discover the same but supposes your petitioner's lot of Land has been otherwise appropriated and finally lost.

Your petitioner begs leave further to state it is given up by both officers and soldiers of the revolutionary war who [one or more words indecipherably faint] with that Section of Country that Clark's campaign was amongst the hardest that was ^{been} performed enduring [during] the revolutionary war as they had to travel a number of miles through [one or more words indecipherably faint] Lands and water cold.

Your petitioner begs leave to state that he is far advanced in years which the dates of the aforesaid campaign will justify the same and from the result of that Expedition together with divers other hardships through life has rendered him infirm & is left without the necessary means of support.

Your Petitioner will further state that he would be willing that your Honorable body would contribute land in some section of country not far distant from this place [one or more indecipherably faint words] its value thereof. We the undersigned subscribers do trust that the Magnanimity of your Honorable body will hear your petitioner's prayer and Extend your benevolence and in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray &c
[Note: There follows a large number of copies of signatures of persons presumably the neighbors of the veteran petitioner.]

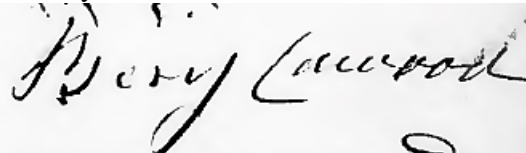
[Reverse]

The Petition of Barry Cawood
praying for compensation for revolutionary Services rendered
December 21st 1831
Referred to Revolutionary Claims
James Allen

State of Kentucky County of Harlan

I Berry Caywood [sic] aged sixty-eight years do upon oath testify and declare that in the year 1778 I enlisted for the term of seven months in Capt. John Williams company in the Regiment commanded by Col. George Clarke [sic] of the Virginia and that I continued in the service aforesaid during the term of seven months aforesaid was at the taking of Lieut. Gov. Hamilton and guarded the said Hamilton to Herod Station in Kentucky at which place I was discharged regularly and said discharge is lost or mislaid and that I have not received any compensation for said service nor has any person been authorized by me to receive the same.

S/ Berry Cawood

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Berry Cawood". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

[Attested in Harlan County Kentucky November 7, 1831]

[Note: This file contains another copy of the affidavit of William Hudson transcribed above.]