Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Caulk S37824 DE Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 Dec 2014.

District of West Tennessee

Jacob Caulk a citizen of the county of Rutherford in the state of Tennessee came before me and made Oath that he was a soldier in the revolutionary war for upwards of six years, that he entered the service of the United States on the first day of April 1777 under the command of Captain Robert Kirkwood in the Delaware Regiment under the command of Colo. David Hall and remained in that Regiment and was commanded by the said Colo. David Hall untill the death of the said Hall [see endnote], that after his death the said regiment was commanded by Lieut't. Col'l. [Joseph] Vaughan, and this deponant remained in service untill the said Vaughan was taken Prisoner at Gates defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] The Regement was from that time Commanded by the before mentioned Robert Kirkwood as Captain Commandant, and this deponant remainded in said Regement in the service untill June 1782 after the peace when said Regiment as well as all the army was dismissed and disbanded [sic: 23 Nov 1783] This deponant further states that never had a discharge and being now as far distant from any person who knew of his being in the service of the United States as aforesaid, and being very old and very poor it is out of his power to travel to such places where he could adduce abundant proof. He further states that he never had a pension from any state or from the United States. That if more proof is required This deponant is apprehensive he shall have to live in abject poverty the ballance of his days as he has none the proceeding part of his life, without the relief now generously offered by his country. Further states that at the Battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC] on the 15th of March 1781 he was wounded and again wounded at the battle of the Eutaw springs [SC, 8] Sep 1781] and that he is now a cripple, and very poor and really needs the aid offered by government. Prays to be put on the pension list of the U. States Jacob hisXmark Caulk

District of West Tennessee

Jacob Caulk a Citizen of the county of Rutherford in the state of Tennessee came before me and made oath that he was a soldier in the revolutionary war for upward of six years, that he volunteered his services in the company of Capt Smith in the Regment of Colo Hazlett [sic: John Hazlet] in the year 1776 - that afterwards in the year 1777 or 1778 he enlisted for three years or during the War in the company of Capt or Leut. Paul Queenall [Paul Quenowault?] at Middletown in the state of Delaware, and was afterwards placed under the Command of Leut. or Capt. Brown [possibly Lt. Caleb Brown] he was then entered in the company of Captain William McKennon [sic: William McKennan] in whose company he continued as one of the three companies that after Gates's defeat was left under the command of Capt. Robert Kirkwood as Capt Commandant in consequence of the Senior Officers of the Regment being all either killed or wounded - that after Gates's defeat the army retreated to Hillsborough North Carolina then marched to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County [NC] where his Company was placed under the command of Gen'l. [Daniel] Morgan and was in the Battle of the Cowpens on the 17th January 1781 – then joined Gen'l. Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army and retreated to Virginia & being reinforced marched back & was engaged in the Battle of Guilford - where he was wounded he afterwards joined the army near the High Hills of Santee on the 28th July 1781 and was in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs where he was again wounded – he was in some small skirmishes afterwards but in no general engagement - they were afterwards marched to Christian Bridge near New Castle in Delaware where he remained untill he was disbanded, that he never received any discharge, they were disbanded on the 10th day of June 1783 without anything in his pockets – there being then due to him 2 years & nine months pay which he has never yet received – he received no land nor any thing else – at the time of his being disbanded he was still in McKenno[n's] or Kirkwoods company but which he is now unable to say there having been so many changes from the time he entered the service. This deponent further states that he

never had a Discharge and being now so far distant from any person who knew of his being in the service of the United States as aforsaid and being very old and very poor it is out of his power to travel to such places where he could adduce abundant proof. He further states that he never had a Pension from any State or from the United States That if more proof is required this deponent is apprehensive he shall have to live in abject poverty the balance of his days as he has done the preceding part of his life, without the relief which is now generously offered by his County he further states that he is now a cripple from the wounds received in his Countrys service that he is very poor & stands in need of the assistance of his Country & prays to be placed on the Pension List of the United States

Sworn to & subscribed before me 18th October 1819

Jacob hisXmark Caulk

District of West Tennessee.

On this 28th day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court, being a court of record, in Rutherford County and State aforesaid; Jacob Caulk aged sixty five years who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 & the first of May 1820 that he the said Jacob Caulk enlisted on the first day of April 1788 [sic] in the County of Newcastle in the State of Delaware, in the Regiment commanded by Colo. David Hall which enlistment was for three years or during the war; and that his time of service was till the tenth day of June 1783 and that he enlisted under Lieutenant Paul Qunnall and served under Captain William McKannan and continued under his command until the 16th of August 1780 at the defeat of General Gates, after that continued under the command of Captain Robert Kirkwood till after the battle in Guilford, and after that continued under the command of Captain William McKannon till discharged; his Lieutenant Colonel Vaughan and Major [John] Patton were taken prisoners at Gates' defeat; and that he was in five battles first at Monmouth 28th June 1778; Second on the 16th August 1780 at Gates' defeat; then at the Cowpens 17th January 1781; fourth on the fifteenth March 1781 at Guilford; in this battle the said Jacob Caulk was wounded. fifth battle at Utaw Springs on 28th [sic] September 1781 in this engagement the said Jacob Caulk was wounded again – and that he has no other evidence now in his power of said Service except his own oath, and in pursuance of the act of Congress of the first of May 1820– I the said Jacob Caulk do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the eighteenth day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time by gift, sale, or in any any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled and act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war, passed on the eighteenth day of March 1818 and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the following Schedule hereunto annexed and by me subscribed to wit, one horse, one cow, one two year old heifer and one yearling, eight plains, seven chissels, one common handsaw, one old tenant [tenon] saw, one hand axe, one Iron wedge, one pair drawing chains, one felling axe, 1 hamer, three gimblets, two rasps, three files, one key saw, two open rings, two kettles, one a small size, the other a common size, one small pot, one small skillet, one plow, one Iron square, one old pair of compasses, two weeding hoes, one Iron clevice, one pewter dish, 4 pewter plates, three bottles, one looking glass, seven forks & five knives, one half dozen large, one half dozen small spoons, one coffee mill, one large pewter spoon, one Iron candlestick, two spinning wheels, one common bridle, one square table, two water pails, one wash tub, one hand cooler, one wood tub, one drawing knife, one small hammer, four sitting Chairs, one pot rack, one smoothing Iron, and one young calf Jacob hisXmark

His occupation the carpenter trade so far as he is able, he has in family a wife and five children, two sons, one near eighteen years old, name Jacob Caulk, the other about twelve years old named William Caulk, three daughters, one twenty five years old named Margaret Caulk, one about twenty three named Martha Caulk, the other fifteen years old named Elizabeth Caulk, and a grand son about three years old named John Guess.

I procured a certificate from the acting secretary of war dated the 27th day of November 1819 certifying that I was inscribed on the pension list, roll of the west Tennessee agency at the rate of eight dollars per month to commence on the 6th day of May 1818 which is numbered 15.937 which pension I have drawn up to the 4th of March last.

Jacob his Xmark Caulk

[The file contains the following successful application for bounty land for the service of a Jacob Caulk said to be deceased in 1831. There is also an empty file jacket for a Jacob Caulk or Jacob Cork numbered BLWt1781-100. A memorandum submitted by the applicant stated that the surname "Cork" appearing on some records "has been the result of provincial custom of pronouncing the said name 'Cork' instead of Caulk," or of misspelling or carelessness.]

STATE OF Maryland } ss. City and County of Baltimore }

I, Jacob Caulk alias Cork, now of the City of Baltimore, and only heir at law of Jacob Cork alias Caulk late of the County of Newcastle and State of Delaware but now deceased, do, upon oath, testify and declare, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the said Jacob Cork alias Caulk was a soldier in Colo. [Charles] Pope's Battalion or Regiment of Infantry belonging to the Delaware line, on Continental establishment, during the Revolutionary War. I do further testify and declare, that I have never received a warrant from the United States for the quantity of land due the said deceased, from the United States; nor do I believe that he ever received it, or transferred his right to it in any manner during his life time. [Power of attorney not transcribed.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this twenty second day of October A.D. 1831 [signed] Jacob Caulk

[A less-detailed version of the following was filed on 2 July 1839.] County of Madison state of Alabama

On this fifteenth day of October 1839 before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the said County of Madison personally appeared Jacob Caulk who on his oath declares that he is the same person who formerly belonged to the Company Commanded by Captain William McCanan in the Delawar Regiment Commanded by Colonel David Hall in the Service of the united States; That his name was placed on the pension roll of West Tennessee from whence he has lately removed; that he now resides in the state of Alabama where he intends to remain and wishes his pension to be there payable in future the following are his reasons for removing from the state of Tennessee to Alabama to wit his family and some of his wifes relations moved to North Alabama and from a wish to be with them he moved also Jacob hisXmark Caulk

NOTE: Col. David Hall was wounded at the Battle of Germantown, 4 Oct 1777, and did not rejoin his regiment. He survived, however, and was later Governor of Delaware.