Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Luke Valentine S6299 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 June 2015.

State of Virginia and

County of Campbell, to wit

On this 13th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Campbell County now sitting Luke Valentine a free man of Colour, a resident of the Parish of Russell, the County of Campbell and State of Virginia, aged seventy eight 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 I entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That about the middle of May 1780, I was drafted into a Malitia Company in the service of the United States, commanded by Captain Thomas Leftwitch [sic: Thomas Leftwich] and met together at New London in Bedford [now Campbell] County in Virginia, Augustine Leftwich [pension application S11364] was the Lieutenant. I marched to Hillsborough in North Carolina, where all the Virginia Malitia rendavouzed in that campaign; and where they were organized into regiments forming a brigade, commanded by General [Edward] Stevens; The regiment to which Captain Leftwitch's company was attached was commanded by Colo. [George] Stubblefield & [Joseph] Spencer; - at which place (Hillsborough) the Brigade was stationed five or six weeks, and from thence marched to South Carolina, and joined the regular army at Rugeley's mills about two days before General Gates' [Horatio Gates's] defeat near Camden and I was in said battle [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]. The company to which I belonged was so scattered that they were not got together again so far as I know, and I joined a new company under Captain Daniel Mitchell of Bedford County and marched to Hillsborough in North Carolina early in the month of September 1781 [sic: 1780] – I think the battle at Camden (Gates; defeat) was in August before. - Captain Daniel Mitchell's Company was attached to a Company of Malitia in the United States service at Hillsborough N.C. & commanded by Captain Phillip Webber of Goochland County Virginia, Lieutenant John Towns, and Ensign John Grissom which company was attached to a regiment commanded by Colo. [James] Lucas and Major Glen; from Hillsborough we were marched to the Cheraw Hills in South Carolina, and from thence marched to Pittsylvania old Court in the State of Virginia and I, with the rest of the regiment, was discharged about the first of Febuary 1781, making eight months and a half that I served. I do not recollect who signed my discharge – It has been burnt with my mothers house long since.

About the first of May 1781 I was again drafted from the said County of Bedford and entered the service of the United States in a Company of malitia commanded by Captain Adam Clement, Lieutenant Robert Cobbs, and Ensign Edmund Tate [R10398] and marched from the County of Bedford to Salisbury in North Carolina, and was attached to a regiment commanded by Colo. Alexander Rose with Major John Ward; From thence we marched to Fort 96 in South Carolina where the regiment joined the Southern Army under General Nathaniel Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] during the seige of that fort [Siege of Ninety Six, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781], which continued 15 or 20 days after the arrival of Colo. Rose's regiment. From thence we marched to Broad River, and from thence to Wanesborough [sic: Winnsboro], from thence to Camden, from thence back to Salisbury where the Virginia Malitia took charge of a number of British prisoners and marched them into Virginia in the County of Pittsylvania where I was discharged by Major John Ward about the first of August 1781. This discharge was also burned when my mothers house was destroyed by fire. This last tour was for three months which I served out and got my discharge as stated above – making in all Eleven and a half months which I served in the United States Army during the Revolutionary War.

I was born and raised in Bedford County in the State of Virginia, and have always lived in the same, and in the County of Campbell which was cut off from Bedford.

I do further declare that I have no documentary evidence in my possession, nor do I know of any person living whose testimony I can procure to prove my service, excepting General Joel Leftwitch [pension application S8830] and Mr. Robert Stevens [R10139], the present Post Master at New London, Va. whose certificates are hereto subjoined and respectfully submitted. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State whatever.

Luke hisXmark Valentine

Question by the Court 1st. Where and in what year were you born?

answer. I was Born on Falling River in Bedford County now Campbell from the best information I have on christmas day about 1754 or 1753

Question by the Court 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so, where is it?

Answer. I have none in my possession

Question by the Court 3rd. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer. When called into service I lived near the place of my birth & have ever since lived in Campbell County

Question by the Court 4th. How were you called into service; were you Drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute?

Answer. By drafted

Question by the Court 5 State the names of some of the Revolutionary Officers who were with the troops where you served; such continental and Malitia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. In the 1st Tower General Stephens Colo Spencer & Mj'r. Conway were in command in the 2nd General Green & Stephens. I belonged to the 2nd Regiment Virginia Militia

Question by the Court 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I received discharges from both Towers I do not recollect who signed the first; Major John Ward signed the second they were both destroyed by fire in my mothers house which was burned

Question by the Court 7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. Sackwell King & Barnet Tench have known me longer than any other person now living near me

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Luke hisXmark Valentine