Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Whitt S7870

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 2 Feb 2011.

State of Virginia Halifax County To Wit

On this 22nd day of Decbr 1832 Personally appeared made Oath before me John Bennett a Justice of the peace in the county aforsaid, William Whitt a resident of the county and state aforsaid Aged seventy six years who being not able by old age and bodily infirmity to attend the courts being duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by an act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. The applicant states that in the commencement of his services in the revolution he was a drafted militia man in the County & state aforsaid under the command of Capt. Peter Rogers, was sent on to Salsbury [sic: Salisbury] N.C. crossing the Yadkin river and from thence to Camden [SC], and from thence to Stono where he was in an engagement [Battle of Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779] and served three months. and then was detained in the service for the Period of nine months more but recollects but little of the field Officers there except Gen'l. de Calb [sic: Baron De Kalb; see note below] — and after he returned from Stono he was again drafted and served six month and entered the service under the command of Capt Moses Fountain [sic: Moses Fontaine, pension application W5076] was sent on to Camden to join Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates and was in an engagement there at the defeat of Gen'l. Gates [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780] and from there was drove by the enemy to Halifax County Virginia, reinforced and went on under Gen'l. Green [Nathanael Greene] to Guilford and there had another engagement [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] returned home and vollenteered under Con'l. Peter Rogers & Capt John Faulkner went on to York, and remained there during the Siege [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and after the surrender of Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] was sent to Richmond to guard the refugees, after remaining there some time returned home. That he crossed James river from Nunns[?] old field. That he served two years as a soldier in the revolutionary war, besides some other little calles that he has not mentioned. That he cannot recollect precisely the time he served in those small tours but to the best of his knoledge he thinks he served about two months over the two years. That Joseph Faulkner has knoledge of his going to the South as a soldier in of the revolution and also to York – and also John Hills at Stono. That his discharges is lost, & he has no documentary evidence of his services, that he was born in Halifax county in the year 1756 and have lived in the same county all his life. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pention or anuity except the present & that his name is not on the pention roll of any state. William hisXmark Whitt

State of Virginia Halifax County to Wit

On this 8th day of May 1833 William Whitt a resident of the county aforsaid personally appeared before me James L Blackwell a Justice of the peace for the county aforsaid who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following additional declaration to his former declaration dated December the 22nd 1832. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he was a substitute for his uncle Sam'l. Whitt, the period of Nine months being detained by pursuation to take his uncles place. That he served in that tour from Stono to Charleston and from thence back to near Stono and to Sunsberry [sic: Sunbury GA] and from thence to Agusta [sic: Augusta GA] and was discharged at that place. That he had discharges but took no care of them thinking they could be of no use to him and expects they were destroy'd.

That Reuben Vaughan, Benony Grisham, Jesse Atkinson and Solomon Sizemore can testify as to his carracter for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier in the revolution. That the above named persons are residents of the neighbourhood where he now lives. That he can find no record of his age — That there was no clergyman in the neighbourhood convenient— William hisXmark Whitt

NOTES:

De Kalb was not in the South during Whitt's first tour. He was in the Battle of Camden, where he was mortally wounded.

Joseph Faulkner deposed that he had heard Capt. John Faulkner state that Whitt "was as good a soldier as he had under his Command." A Mary Whitt deposed that she had personal knowledge that William Whitt had served two years.

Whitt deposed as follows in support of the pension application of Varney Andrews (S11992). State of Virginia } S.S.

Mecklenburg County }

This day personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in the County aforesaid William Whitt [pension application S7878] aged 78 or 79 years a Revolutionary Soldier and of Veracity and Credibility who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith; that in the year of 1776 or 77 that he was then well acquainted withy Varney Andrews this applicant, and both were mustered together under Capt. Peter Rogers of Halifax County Virginia in the Malitia Company which he commaned, and he on a muster day turned out to raise a volenteer company in one of the years aforesaid to go with him and to serve twelve months in the revolutionary war - and Capt. Rogers did raise a volunteer company and Varney Andrews enlisted under him (and that he the said Whitt would of enlisted had not his father of been violently opposed to it) and were called Minute Men to march when ever ordered They took up the line of march some time in the early part of the summer in one of the aforesaid years – and in the summer following about the time the company were discharged which were at the long Islands of Holston river news arrived in the neighbourhood by way of letter to a Mr. Christopher Watson who had a son by the name of Benjamin Watson who enlisted at the same time that Andrews did, that he was very sick and likely to die, this affiant saith that the said Christopher Watson applied to his father to let him go with him to aid him in geting his sick son home. his father consented they went on to the station of the Army at the long Islands, and when arriving there sees or finds the said Varney Andrews in the Hospital of that place waiting on the sick. Meeting Capt. Rogers going on he said the troops were discharged, and this affiant believes that Capt. Rogers's Company were attached to Colo. Morgans Redg't. of the Virginia line. and that he never heard any thing more than the said Andrews served his tour of duty faithfully as a soldier and verily believes he served twelve months or longer. Given under my hand & seal this 6th day of Feby. 1834 Ste. P. Pool J.P.M.C.Va