Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Charles Borer S8082 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]
State of Virginia } SS.
Pendleton County }

On this 8th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open court, before the justices of the county Court of the said County, now sitting, Charles Borer, aged 72 years, a resident of the said County, in the State of Virginia, 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, and served as is herein stated.

On or about the 1st of October 1777 (as near as I can recollect) I (the above named Charles Borer) entered the service, as a volunteer to serve three months as a private in the company of Volunteers commanded by Captain James Parsons, Lieut Robert Cuningham [Robert Cunningham], & Ensign Adam Fisher of the County of Hampshire I being at that time a resident of the said county of Hampshire. The company of Captain Parsons was raised to go against the Indians on the North Western frontier, and was rendezvoused at Moorefield on or about the 1st day of October 1777, and from thence marched immediately to Pittsburg, at which place we were stationed, about one month, under the command of Colonel Gibson [John Gibson, pension application S41578], who I believe was an officer in the Regular service. General [Edward] Hand commanded the post at Pittsburg [Fort Pitt] at that time. About this time a company of Virginia militia commanded by Captain [William] Foreman, fell into an Ambuscade of the Indians, not far below Wheeling Va., and as I understood, all except one man was cut off [massacre at Grave Creek, 26 Sep 1778]. After the account of this defeat reached Pittsburg, the Company of Captain Parsons was sent down the Ohio River, to Wheeling, where we were stationed under the command of Colonel [David] Shepherd. I remained at Wheeling until the expiration of my three months term of service, when I was (together with the balance of the Company) marched back to Hampshire by Captain Parsons, and there discharged.

Afterwards, sometime in the year 1780, or 1781, as near as I can recollect, I was drafted in the County of Hampshire, to perform another Tour of three months in the Militia. A certain captain Richardson of said county, however persuaded us that we were illegally drafted, that it was not our turn to go, and gave us writings, from under his hand, to that purport, - In consequence of these representations, I together with several other men then drafted, refused to march, when called on. But I paid dearly for having followed the advice of Capt. Richardson - I was taken forcibly, by Jacob Fisher, and Thomas Parsons, and by them carried to Winchester, Va. where I was given up to Lieutenant Feely, and in place of three months, I was condemned to serve six months, (for my ignorance and contumacy), which I faithfully performed as will appear by reference to my discharge herewith annexed, - During this six months term of service I was marched from Winchester to Fredericksburg Virginia, from thence to Cumberland Old Court House in North Carolina, where I was stationed a short time, during the time we lay at this place, all the other drafted men from Hampshire, who had been condemned to serve for six months, deserted, except myself and Jacob Pickell. Pickell asked me one day what I intended to do? – My reply was, that "I would serve out my time, and that when I had done so, and got home again, I should be a free man". - From Cumberland Old Court House I was marched to Richmond Virginia, where I was stationed two or three months, under the command of Capt. Hamilton, and Col. Benjamin Harrison of Rockingham County Virginia. In the spring or summer of 1782, the Indians had broken into the settlement on the North Fork of the South Branch of Potomack [sic: Potomac River], and murdered some of the inhabitants, and there being a call for men, I was sent back, together with others, by Colonel Harrison, from Richmond, with a

letter to the County Lieutenant of Hampshire, Joseph Nevill, who sent me on an express across the Alleghany Mountains, to Tygarts Valley [sic: Tygart Valley], to learn whether the Indians had committed any depredations on the settlements there. The Indians having disappeared, and my term of service being completed, I was honourably discharged some time in the summer of the year 1782, by Lieutenant Joseph Nevill, (afterwards Gen'l. Neville). I did not receive a written discharge at the time, but on application to Lieut. Nevill some time afterward, he furnished me with the discharge herewith annexed. This explananation is considered necessary to account for the date of my discharge – Under the two engagements, I served at least nine months, during the War of the Revolution.

The evidence of my service is the written discharge of Lieut. Nevill, and the testimony of David Reel [David Real, pension application S15611] now of Hardy County, who served with me, during the three months tour against the Indians —

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity except the present, and declares, that, his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Charles hisXmark Borer

Charles Borer a Six month Soldier having Served The time for which he was Condemn'd to the Westward agreeable to Instructions from the Governor is hereby discharged Given under my hand This 20th day of Dec'r. 1782

Jos. Nevill Lieut/ Hampshire

State of Virginia } Sct. Hardy County }

On this 27th day of Apriel 1833, before me Jacob Sites a justice of the peace in and for the said County personally appeared David Reel, a resident of the County aforesaid, and made oath that he is well acquainted with Charles Borer, now a resident of the County of Pendleton, that he believes him to be 72 years of age, and that in the War of the Revolution during the year 1777 he the said Reel served a three months tour, as a private in a Company of Militia of Hampshire County, Commanded by Captain James Parsons, on the Waters of the Ohio River, against the Indians; and that the above named Charles Borer also served in the said company as a private and in the same mess, with him the said Reel. That the said Company was stationed a short time at Pittsburg Pennsylvania, and afterwards sent down to Wheeling Virginia, where them, the said Borer and Reel continued to serve until the expiration of their term of three months service.

David hisXmark Reel