Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Murphy W25737 Sarah Murphy VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 Dec 2014.

I Joseph Murphy sen'r of the County of St. Francois, State of Missouri do State that I served a tour of three months as a private Soldier, in the war of the revolution in a Company of volunteers Commanded by a Captain William Maneety [sic: William Menifee], Elijah Jones lieutenant, John Adkins Ensign, that I was mustered into service at Henry Courthouse in the state of Virginia on the 15th day of January 1781. from thence we started to go and join General [Nathanael] Greene in North Carolina and met a Lieutenant of the regular army by the name of Slaughter, we joined Lieutenant Slaughter and went back to Henry Courthouse in Virginia to guard some provisions, and ammunition waggons to head quarters from thence we marched from Pittsylvania Court house in Virginia, near which place we had a combat with some tories and took three prisoners. we crossed Dan river at the Shoals where we expected to join General Greene but previous to our arrival there he had marched [on 22 Feb 1781] for Guilford Court house, in North Carolina. we overtook him the second day from the Shoals of Dan river and joined him and was attached to Colonel Dozier's [Peter Dozier AKA Peter Dauge] Regiment of North Carolina militia and went on with him to Guilford Courthouse and was in the battle fought there [15 Mar 1781], from whence General Greene retreated to Livezeys [sic: Troublesome] Iron works. I continued with him till the fifteenth of April when I was discharged and returned home in Virginia near Callaways Iron works [Washington Iron Works in present Rocky Mount VA, acquired by Col. James Callaway in 1779] — sometime in the autumn of the same year I had my house burnt together with my discharge. Sometime in October same year I went to that part of western Virginia (now state of Kentucky) to Captain Hoys Station on the head of Taits Creek [Tate Creek 6 mi NW of Richmond], there I entered the service as a Volunteer the first day of January 1782 in a volunteer company commanded by Captain William Hoy, Solomon Turpin Lieutenant James Borey Ensign and served as a private Soldier under Captain Hoy for the space of four months and guarded the fort and ranged the Country for Indians, during which time the Indians attacked Captain Astells fort about fifteen miles from us [sic: Capt. James Estill's Station 3 mi SE of Richmond]. Captain Astell with part of his own, and part of Captain Hoys companies went in pursuit of the Indians and had a battle and was defeated, and Captain Astell killed [March 1782] – after the remnant of the Company returned Captain Hoy and Captain Holder went in pursuit of the Indians and to bury the dead, we pursued after the Indians and recovered some horses that they had stolen but found no Indians, then we returned to the fort and was discharged on the last day of April the same year. I received a written discharge which is lost or mislaid. – during the above named tours of duty I was either in the field or in garrison, and was not employed in any civil pursuit any part of the time in consequence of geting my house burnt as above stated, I cannot produce any paper to prove my services, neither can I produce any living witness Joseph Mur hhy

Interrogatories

1st where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the yare 1761 in Pitsylvania County Virginia [sic: Pittsylvania County, formed from Halifax County in 1767]

2nd have you any Reord of your age, and if so where is it?

Ans. I have seen a record of my age in my fathers Bible, I have no other

3rd where ware you living when called into servis; where have you lived sence the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live? Ans in Henry county State of Virginia, part of the time in the State of Tennessee and part in South Carolina and thirty one years where I now live in the State of Missouri.

4th How were you called into servis; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And

if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I volunteer'd

5 State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your servis? Ans. General Green, Col. Dozier, Lieut. Slaughter Col Doziers Regiment North Carolina line [sic]. I volunteered 15th of Jan'y 1781 under Capt. Manety and served 3 months, on the 1st day of Jan'y 1782 I volunteered under Capt Hoy and served 4 months which was all my servis

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the servise, and if so, by whome was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. for the first tour I received a discharge from Capt Manety which was burnt as above stated. I rec'd a discharge for the 4 months toure I rec'd a discharge from Capt Hoy who signed it, but it is lost 7th State the names of persons to whome you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your servises as a soldier of the Revolution. Ans'r. Lakin Walker. George Stam. the Reverend James Halbert & others I could mention. [Certified 7 May 1833]

State of Missouri }
County of St. Francois } Sct. County Court May term 1833

On this seventh day of May in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-three, Personally appeared in open Court before William Murphy Jr. presiding Justice and Thomas Hale & George w. Robinson Justices, Composing and holding said Court Joseph Murphy, Se'r a resident of the county and state aforesaid aged Seventy two the fifteenth day of last March – who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the provision made by act of Congress passed June seventh Eighteen hundred & thirty two, He states that he was a volunteer in the Militia of the revolution as served as a private Soldier. [page ends here]

NOTES:

On 19 Dec 1853 Sarah Murphy, 77, applied for a pension stating that she married Joseph Murphy on 12 Jan 1797, and he died 10 Feb 1834. On 22 March 1855 at age 79 she applied for bounty land, stating that the marriage took place in Greenville County SC, and that Joseph Murphy died 10 Feb 1835. Her statement was certified by Henderson Murphy and Jesse Bounds. A letter in the file states that Henderson Murphy was a nephew of Sarah Murphy.

On 29 Aug 1857 Sarah Murphy, about 82, submitted the "remains of an old Bible which is so much worn that the date of the Printing thereof cannot be ascertained in which book I [Charles Hart, Presiding Judge] find written as follows to wit; a Record of the names and the date of the births of the children of Joseph Murphy and Sarah Murphy as follows – Kasiah Murphy born Oct 21st 1796 John Murphy born Feb 22nd 1798 Sarah Murphy born Jan 28th 1801 Joseph Murphy born Nov 19th 1803 Millie Murphy born Jan 3rd 1805 Lewis Murphy born Jan 5th 1807 Tampy Murphy born Dec 26th 1808 Cynthia Murphy born Apl. 3rd 1811 infant not named was born Feb 12th 1813 which died aged one month Patsey Murphy born Apl 25th 1814 Rachel Murphy born May 14th 1816 Mariney Murphy born Oct 3rd 1818 Matilda Murphy born Sept 6th 1821 and James Murphy was born Apl. 2nd 1823 which said Record was proven to me by the testimony of two creditable witnesses to wit, Anderson Murphy and Jessie Bounds."