Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Drury Bush W8170 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Perry County to Wit,

On this 10th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Perry now sitting Doctr Drury Bush a resident of said County aged 75 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 7th June 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under Capt William Russell Lieut W. Russell & Ensign William Poague [William Poage] on Clinch River now Russell County Va. in the fall of the year 1776 as a Regular Soldier for 1 year & marched from there to Ramsey's Fort near the Long Island of Holstein [sic: Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN] at which place he staid about 6 months & then returned to Clinch to Cowan's Fort [Fort Preston at present Castlewood] & served there the ballance of the year & was regularly discharged with a written discharge but he has lost or mislaid it so that he has not seen it for many years. He afterwards entered the service as a Volunteer for 1 year under Capt. John Williams Lieut. Marney & Ensign Harrison he thinks in the year 1779 [sic] to go on the expedition to Illinois. He met with Williams company on Clinch River & went to the Island of Holston with the Companies of Capts. [Isaac] Taylor & Helms [sic: Leonard Helm] where they met with other troops; Col. [John] Montgomery was the commandant of the Reg't. to which he belonged – they proceeded by water from the Island of Holston to the Ohio River and on up the Missippi [sic: Mississippi River] to Kaskaskia (called Okaw) and took Gov'r. Rosebrough [sic: Gov. P. F. Rastel de Rocheblave, 4 Jul 1778] & Winston & then St. Peers Village about about 15 miles distant then Kohee Town then returned to Kaskaskia where they met Gen's. Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark] & his troops.

He then enlisted in Capt. Rob't. Georges [Robert George's] Company of Infantry during the war – afterwards proceeded with the troops to Wabash River now Vincennes & took Gov'r. Hamilton [Henry Hamilton, 25 Feb 1779]. Stationed there that fall & winter, went then to the Falls of Ohio [at present Louisville KY] & staid there & made a Crop – then went to Chillicothe & took the Towns kill'd. some Indians & took some prisoners – then took Pickaway [sic: Piqua, 8 Aug 1780] towns then back to the Falls of Ohio – afterwards down to the Iron Banks & erected a fort & raised Corn & had 8 days battle with the Indians. Gen'l. Clark at this time was gone to the Falls of Ohio. Then up to Kaskaskia then by water to the Falls of Ohio – when they were at Kaskaskia fort 2 negroes were taken tried & convicted for poisoning the whites & hung by Hugh Young.

When the news of peace come they were at the Falls of Ohio with General Clark & in rejoicing by the firing of Cannon by accident John Oakley was killed – at the close of the war he got his discharge but his House got burnt on Clinch & he supposes it got burnt also as all his papers were burnt.

He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever 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 subscribe the day & year aforesaid [signed] Drury Bush

NOTE: On 31 May 1853 Nancy Bush, 87, of Estill County KY, applied for a pension stating that as Nancy Couch she married Drury Bush in Harrold Valley on or near Clinch River before 1794, and he died in Breathitt County KY. A document certifies that he died on 6 April 1844. A letter dated 17 Aug 1855 states that sons of Nancy Bush lived in Breathitt and Owsley counties.