

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Henry Cook S3181

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, Williamson County

On this 5th day of September 1832 before the Hon. Thomas Stuart Judge of the fourth judicial circuit for the State of Tennessee now sitting for the county of Williamson, Henry Cook a resident of the county aforesaid aged 73 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act passed June 7th, 1830. That he served four campaigns during the Revolution the particulars of which are the following. The first of which he was drafted to serve a six months tour to the South from Lunenburg County Virginia about the beginning of January or February 1779 and served in the company commanded by Captain Joseph Wynn, Lieutenant John Wynn (Ensign forgotten) in the regiment commanded by Col. David Mason and Lieut. Col. Lewis Burwell [could be Burwen or Burrell] into whose regiment he fell after having march from Lunenburg Court House to Halifax in North Carolina under the company officers above set forth—from there he marched under the command of Col. Mason to Hillsborough and stationed there two or three weeks, then to Salisbury, then to Camden South Carolina and there stationed 2 or 3 weeks, then to Nelson's Ferry on Santee River—then to Baton's [sic, Bacon's] Bridge on Ashley River about twenty eight miles from Charleston S.C., then near to St. James and St. Johns Islands and there fell in with General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] brigade and remained there two or three weeks the main army then commanded by General Lincoln moved on to Stono Ferry at which place the British were in their fort commanded by Lord Howe, and attacked them, forced them to abandon their fort and take shipping in the night. We then marched to Edistow [sic, Edisto] River South Carolina and discharged in July or August of same year making a service of six months for which he received a discharge but has lost or destroyed it believing it of no value. He was acquainted with General Lincoln and Col. Henderson [William Henderson] of the Regular army, does not recollect the number of regiments or companies with which he served this campaign.

He Entered the service of the United States (as a substitute for John Cook his father who had been drafted to serve a six months tour in the south) on or about the first day of June 1780 in the company commanded by Captain Sylvanus Walker, Lieut. John Pamplin and Ensign William Thweatt in which company he was Orderly Sergeant. He marched under the command of his company officers from Lunenburg County Va. to Roanoke River & crossed at Taylor's Ferry and then to Hillsborough North Carolina at which four militia regiments from Virginia came on and were commanded by General Stephens, at which time Captain Walker's company fell in the Regiment commanded by Col. Holt Richardson, Lieut. Col. John Glenn and Major William Boyce who were officers of the Continental Army. In a few days after they arrived at Hillsborough General Gates [Horatio Gates] came on to that place and took command of the whole army who were marched by him to Masses [could be Moss's] Ferry on Pedee River, then marched for Camden South Carolina where Cornwallis lay but met him and the main British Army under his command on the night of the 15th or 16th of August. The action was commence by a detached force sent under General DeKalb to strengthen the advance party and to bring on the engagement which resulted in the defeat of the American army under General Gates. After the defeat great confusion existed among the American troops but so soon as the troops could be collected General Stephens marched his Brigade on to Guilford Court House North Carolina and was there stationed until some time in November or December same year at which time the Virginia Militia were discharged and he returned home having served six months for which he received a discharge which is lost or destroyed. He served with the regular & Continental officers above mentioned during this campaign. The number of Regiments and Companies he does not recollect.

He entered the service of the United States a third time as a volunteer about the first of January 1781 in the company commanded by Captains Sylvanus Walker- (Lieutenant not recollected) and Ensign Frederick Browder in which he was again Orderly Sergeant, and marched from Lunenburg

County Virginia and formed a junction with a part of General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] army commanded by General Stephens at Dan River in Halifax County Virginia and crossed the river into North Carolina and joined the main army under General Greene who had been retreating having been pursued by Cornwallis but on receiving reinforcements had turned upon the enemy who in their turn commenced a retreat towards Guilford Court House. Upon joining the army Captain Walker's Company fell in the regiment commanded by Col. Nathaniel Cocke, Lieut. Col. Haynes Morgan and Major Henry Conway in the Brigade commanded by General Stephens. They then commenced a march in pursuit of the enemy under Cornwallis and intercepted his march to Guilford Court House North C. and attacked his advance guard at Samuel Lowe's on Stinking Quarter Creek and the engagement ended at Whitsel's [sic, Weitzell's or Wetzell's] Mill on Caney Fork [sic, Reedy Fork Creek] of Haw River—were then engaged in reconnoitering the country till on the 16th day of March at which time General Greene attacked Cornwallis at Guilford Court House—after the battle they were marched to the Iron Works he believes, Mares Iron Works [sic, Troublesome Iron Works] on Snow Creek 18 miles from Guilford—upon hearing that Cornwallis had marched toward Fayetteville N.C. they again commenced pursuit after him but were prevented from pursuing him far in consequence of high waters occasioned by heavy rains, the British having destroyed the bridges over which they passed, and was discharged afterwards sometime he believes in the last of April or first of May, having served this campaign four months for which he received his discharge. He served with the aforesaid officers and fought in the aforesaid battles. He recollects many other Continental officers together with those above mentioned which Col. Othlow Williams [sic, Otho Holland Williams], Col Henry Green, Col. Hawes & Col Pierce, aide to General Greene.

He again entered the service of the United States sometime in August 1781 as a substitute for his father John Cook aforesaid whose times had again arrived to serve another campaign. He marched from Lunenburg County Virginia to Petersburg then to Newsom's Springs and was there elected Ensign in the company commanded by Captain Joseph Night [sic, Joseph Knight?] and Lieutenant Frederick Nance and continued as Ensign through this campaign in the Regiment commanded by Col. Lewis Burwell & Lieut. Col. Glenn[?] & attached to the Brigade commanded by General Muhlenburg [sic, John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg]. He then marched to Hog Island and crossed James River, then to Old Williamsburg and there fell in with the main army commanded by General Washington. Then marched to Yorktown and after remaining on the York side for some time crossed the Little York River and was stationed on the Gloucester side under the command of General Weeden [Brigadier General George Weeden] and remained there until the surrender of Cornwallis. After he had surrendered two companies were detached to take all the property belonging to the Americans which the British had taken from them, in one of which companies he served and took upward of six hundred Negroes from the British and put them under guard in the fort on the Gloucester side. Then the company which fell under his command by the sickness of Captain Night and Lieutenant Nance were ordered to convey the prisoners to the barracks at Albemarle Court House, but before they reached that place his brother John Cook was taken sick and by the permission of Col. Baytop (he thinks), they were both permitted to return home some time in November same year 1781 with orders to hold himself in readiness to go into service again if needed but was never called upon anymore. He served four months this campaign for which he received no discharge. He also has lost his commission that he received this campaign which was signed by Col. Lewis Burwell. He served during this campaign with Generals Lafayette & Lincoln and the officers above named and also with the troops commanded by them.

He has no documentary evidence in his possession by which he can prove his services, having lost the two he received and never received any discharge for the other two campaigns. But he can prove by John Cook his brother who served with him the second and fourth campaigns that he performed the service as specified in his declaration and also that he left home for the purpose of joining the army the other times and returned home about the time specified in this declaration. And he also can prove by Robert Parrish who served with him the fourth campaign that he rendered the service

which is in his declaration mentioned.

He was born in Lunenburg County Virginia on the 15th day of May 1760, according to the register of his age made by his Father. He resided in the same county and state when he entered the service of the United States at the several times mentioned in this declaration. After the Revolution he resided some years in Lunenburg aforesaid then moved to Halifax County Virginia and resided there till 1807 then moved to Tennessee and has since resided in Williamson County aforesaid.

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 whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed
the day and year aforesaid
S/ P. Hay, Clk. &c.

S/ Henry Cook

I John Cook of the County of Williamson and State of Tennessee do hereby certify that I am a brother to Henry Cook who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration; that he is 72 years old according to the register of his age kept by my father; that I entered the service of the United States with him about the first day of June 1780 in which he entered as a substitute for John Cook his father and were commanded by Captain Sylvanus Walker, Lieutenant John Pamplin, and Ensign William Thweatt in which company he was Orderly Sergeant during the term which lasted six months. We marched under command of our company officers from Lunenburg Va to Roanoke River to Hillsboro South Carolina and there fell in the regiment commanded by Col. Holt Richardson, Lieut. Col John Glenn and Major William Boyce attached to General Stephens brigade. We were here joined by Gen. Gates and marched to Masses [could be Moss's] Ferry and Pedee River and there I was too sick to continue with the army and was left behind and never joined again till after Gates defeat. And were discharged at Guilford Court House N.C. in November or December and returned home.

I also served with him a four month campaign commencing sometime August 1781. He served as a substitute at this time again for John Cook his father and marched from Lunenburg County to Petersburg and to Newsome Springs at which place he was to some office in a company and there I was separated from him but served in same Regiment with him. From there we went to Yorktown and remained till after the capture of Cornwallis and returned home as he has mentioned in his declaration some time in November or December same year. I also know that he left home at two other times about the times mentioned in his declaration and was about the time he specified and I believe he was in the service of the United States and that his residence before, at the time, and after the Revolution are correctly set forth in his declaration.

Sworn and subscribed before me

S/ John Cook

This 7th September 1832

S/ Wm. Johnson, J.P.

I Robert Parrish of the County of Williamson & State of Tennessee hereby certify that I served the 4th campaign commencing in August 1781 with Henry Cook who has Subscribed & sworn to his above Declaration that we were marched from Lunenburg County Virginia to Petersburg to Hog Island and to Yorktown. I was commanded by Captain Joseph Night, Lieutenant Frederick Nance & Ensign Henry Cook the same whose declaration is above given – that these officers were elected at Newsom's Springs. I knew the said Henry Cook at the time at Yorktown was besieged by the United forces of French & American Forces and remained there until after Cornwallis was captured and returned home some time in November or December making a term of four months which I served with him in the service of the United States and he is reputed and believed to have served several other campaigns during the Revolutionary War and that I concur in that opinion.

S/ Robert Parrish

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ P. Hay, Clk &c.