

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Palmer W309

Susanna

fn45Ga

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

[fn p. 42]

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution approved on the 15th day of May 1828 I John Palmer of the County of Henry and State of Tennessee do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the revolution for and during the Term of 18 months, and after the expiration of my Term of service -- I entered again into the actual service of my country for a period of years 7 years and continued in the Army during the war -- at which period I was a private in Captain Gibson Clark's company in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Elijah Clarke of the Continental line of the State of Georgia -- who was afterwards promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and I declare that I afterwards received an honorable discharge from the service of my country -- which certificate or discharge has been for a great number of years either lost or mislaid so that I cannot procure it -- which I was entitled to under a resolve of Congress passed 15 of May 1778, and I would do further declare that I was not on the 15th day of March 1828 on the pension list of the United States -- he mentions with sincerity that he would not make this call on the bounty of his government was it not for his extreme old age and bodily incapacity to labor of age sustenance and from a conviction that the services he rendered his country while in the hour of need justly entitled him to a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before this 13th May 1830

S/ Stephen Nance, JP

S/ John Palmer

[fn p. 44]

state of Tennessee Henry County: Personally appeared Benjamin Palmer a citizen of the County and State aforesaid before me Stephen Nance an acting Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid and made oath in due form of law that they Tories came to his father's house in the night during the Revolutionary war when he was a small boy in the State of Georgia and asked his father where his son John Palmer was (the same who makes this application for a pension) he replied -- that he was in the Army -- the Tories then mentioned that they intended to kill him, affiant states that his father died soon after the Revolutionary war.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th May 1830

S/ Stephen Nance, JP

S/ Benjamin Palmer, P his mark

State of Tennessee Henry County: On this 3rd day of June 1833 personally appeared in open court before the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County of Henry and State of Tennessee now sitting John Palmer a resident of said County of Henry and State of Tennessee

aged 77 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 June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the County of Wilkes and State of Georgia about the commencement of the Revolutionary war (the precise period not recollected from my present age and infirmity of body and mind) that I enlisted for the term of 18 months under Captain Henry Duke and Colonel Stephen Heard's Regiment -- that he served the whole of said term of 18 months -- and was during said Term of service at the siege of Augusta and Savannah -- a part of said Term I was in Colonel Elijah Clarke's Regiment who was afterwards made a General during said Term he was kept actively engaged in traversing the State of Georgia sometimes in pursuit of the British and at other times after the Tories -- at the end of said Tour he took a discharge which has been either lost or destroyed. That he again after serving his 18 months entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Lewis Clark in the County of Wilkes and State of Georgia and in the militia for the Term of 2 years -- in Colonel Cunningham's Regiment and Colonel Patrick Carr -- in General Clarke's Brigade during said Term of 2 years we had a fight at the Blackstock's on Enoree River in South Carolina. I was then transferred to Captain Burnet [could be Bennett] company and again volunteered and continued in the Army and was at the battle of the Cowpens under General Morgan. I continued in the Army from thence on as a volunteer until the close of the war. I was frequently transferred from one company to another and was in so many that it is impossible for me to recollect the different names of the officers. I continued principally in General Clarke's Brigade. The time for which I first entered the Army I cannot state with more precision than I have done at or near the commencement of the Revolutionary war -- after serving the 18 months for which I was enlisted -- I cannot state the precise time of entering as a volunteer nor many of the officers under whom I served -- but one I can state with great certainty that I was kept in the Army as a volunteer until peace was made. I am now upon the brink of the grave -- very old feeble of body and mind and have for some years been subject to fits -- which has greatly impaired my intellect -- I have sent the affidavit of 2 of my Brothers proving my services which is now on file in your office. I will again procure the affidavits and enclose them. I was born in New Jersey. I have no record. I was living in Wilkes County Georgia. I removed to South Carolina soon after the close of the war and lived there 8 years in Pendleton County -- from thence I moved to Kentucky in Henderson County and lived there 12 years -- from thence to Tennessee the middle part 10 years from thence to Henry County where I have resided for the last 10 years. I was first enlisted and served 18 months after which time I remained as a volunteer until peace was made the names of all the officers I cannot now recollect Captain Duke & Colonel Elijah Clarke are the names of some of the officers of the Regular troops -- I received a discharge but the same has been lost or destroyed from Colonel Elijah Clarke. I have known the Reverend Samuel Hawkins, Stephen Nance and many other [indecipherable word or words] individuals in my County.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the agency of any pension roll of any State in the Union.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court June 3rd 1833

S/ B. C. Brown, D Clk

S/ John Palmer

[Richard Moore & John J. Daniel, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Richard McGee & Richard Brown gave an additional standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Henry County: Personally appeared before me Stephen Nance a Justice of the peace for said County John Palmer who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old

age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively or with more precision than he has already done as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned in the foregoing declaration and in the grades as there stated --

That he enlisted for the term of 18 months whether as a militia man or regular soldier he does not recollect at the commencement of the revolutionary war under Captain Henry Duke and in Colonel Stephen Heard's Regiment. That he served the whole of said term that he was transferred to Colonel Elijah Clarke's Regiment, that after serving his 18 months he again entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Lewis Clark for the Term of 2 years and Colonel Cunningham's Regiment -- afterwards transferred to Colonel Patrick Carr's Regiment and General Clarke's Brigade I continued in service during said Term. I again after serving said 2 years -- volunteered and continued in the Army until the close of the war -- this latter term of service was rendered under so many different officers that I cannot recollect the names of any except that I was principally in General Clarke's Brigade -- I have procured the testimony of my 2 brothers Johnathan & Benjamin Palmer -- one of whom well knows that I was in the revolutionary war but they cannot state the officers under whom I served northerly of my service -- I now present you with the only and best testimony in my power -- which I hope may prove satisfactory to your department.

Sworn to before me

S/ Stephen Nance, JP

S/ John Palmer

State of Tennessee Henry County: Personally appeared before me Stephen Nance an acting Justice of the peace for said County Jonathan Palmer & Benjamin Palmer -- who being duly sworn depose and saith that they are well acquainted with John Palmer makes the foregoing application for a pension -- Jonathan Palmer states that he was well acquainted with him in the revolutionary war and knew him to enlist at the commencement of the war for a term of 18 months -- he was under Colonel Stephen [Heard] and General Elijah Clarke -- but does not recollect the name of any other officer and after serving the 18 months, he served in the Army until the close of the war but under what officers he does not know -- Benjamin Palmer states that when he was a small boy the Tories came to his father's house in Wilkes County Georgia and inquired for his brother John Palmer -- and his father informed them that he was in the Army -- he states that he has always been understood by everyone who knew John Palmer that he was in the Army of the revolution and he entertains no doubt of the fact himself.

S/ Jonathan Palmer, X his mark

S/ Benjamin Palmer, X his mark

[fn p. 15: On April 3, 1840 in Henry County Tennessee, Susannah Palmer, 77 (as of December 23rd last), filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Palmer; that he was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$80 per annum; that she married him May 29, 1786; that he died August 7th, 1834; and that she remains his widow.]