

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Cornelius Whittington S7892

Transcribed by Will Graves

The state of Mississippi, Amite County: Probate Court of Amite County

On this 17th day of June 1833 Personally appeared aforesaid Court, Cornelius Whittington, Senior of Zion Hill Precinct, in the County of Amity, and State of Mississippi aforesaid, aged 83 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] provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832-- That he entered the service of the Army of the United States in the year 1776 and served in a Company of a militia Regiment of the South Carolina militia and served a period of twelve months, or thereabouts, under the following named officers.

(1) Entered service as a private soldier in a company commanded by a Captain James Thompson of a Regiment commanded by Colonel Bull – was not engaged in any Battles during this Period – was most of the time in Garrison at Fort Lyttleton, near Port Royal Ferry, Beaufort Alan –

(2) That shortly after his return from said tour, he removed to the State of Georgia – was Drafted for a three months tour designed as an expedition against St. Augustine, to serve in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Laman [?]. For this tour the Declarant hired a Substitute, a James Bennett.

(3) After this, the British having taken Georgia – the Declarant removed to South Carolina and was embodied in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Hammond [LeRoy Hammond] opposite the Town of Augusta, under General Williamson [Andrew Williamson], a term of three months.

(4) The next term of engagement was the Declarant's being Drafted [for] a tour to the Cherokee Nation which he served under Colonel Pickens [Andrew Pickens] and General Williamson for six weeks or 42 days – penetrated as far as the Coosa River, burnt some Indian establishments known by the name of the “Big Sumake[?].”

(5) After the close of this expedition, (the time not now recollected) the Declarant returned to Georgia and was again Drafted into service, and served two months under Colonel Jackson (afterwards Governor James Jackson of Georgia) commanded by General Twiggs [John Twiggs]-- stationed on Briar Creek as a Guard for that part of the State – this was the last engagement recollected by the applicant, but he cannot state the time of or date with certainty; but believes it was near the close of the war. The whole time contained in these periods making one year, nine months & 14 days – The applicant aforesaid further declares that he has no Documentary evidence of his Services – nor can he procure the testimony of any living Witnesses (to his knowledge) who can certify the truth of the foregoing parts.

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 & year aforesaid.

S/ Cornelius Whittington

And the Court aforesaid does hereby declare its opinion that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and Served as he States.

We, Jesse Young, a clergyman & John Jenkins of Amity aforesaid and State of Mississippi residing in Zion Hill Precinct in the County & State first named do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Cornelius Whittington who has subscribed and sworn to the above Declaration; that we believe him to be 83 years of age; that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in that Opinion.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jesse Young
S/ Jno Jenkins

And the said Court do hereby declare its Opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department; that the above applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and Served as he states. And the Court further certifies that it appears to him, that Janus Cain who has Signed the preceding certificate is a Clergyman, a resident in the County of Franklin, and that John Jenkins who has also signed the same, is resident in Amite County, Mississippi and is a credible person & that their statement is entitled to Credit.

S/ V. J. Crawford, Judge Prob.

The following interrogatories were propounded by the court to said applicant and he answered on the oath as follows:

1. Where and in what year were you born? Answer: I was born in Sussex County Virginia in the year 1750.
2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? Answer: I have no written record of my age.
3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live? Answer: When first called into service I lived in South Carolina. I have since lived in different counties in Georgia, first in Richmond & afterwards in Hancock County – I now live in the place first named.
4. How were you called into Service, were you Drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute? Answer: I was Drafted to the different terms or tours before stated.
5. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops where you served, and Such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the General circumstances of your services? Answer: I saw all General Lee [Charles Lee] evacuating Fort Lyttleton – also Colonel Lee [Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee] of [the] Dragoons marching to Augusta – In the different campaigns in which I served we had no junction with any of the Continental Regiments – my recollection of militia troops I have named in my declaration.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it? Answer: I never received any written discharge.
7. State the names of Persons to whom you are Known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and good behavior and as to your services believed as a Soldier of the Revolution. Answer: I do name Rev. James Cain & ___ [blank in original] and could name others.

Amendment to declaration of C. Whittington, Senior for a Pension

State of Mississippi, Amite County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, Cornelius Whittington, Sr., who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the grades following: --

For one year I served as a private in South Carolina in most part at Fort Littleton

For three months Drafted a tour to St. Augustine (hired a Substitute)

For three months stationed in South Carolina opposite Augusta

For one month & 14 days on and expedition into the Cherokee nation

For two months stationed on Briar Creek Georgia

and for such services I claim a Pension

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 17th day of June 1833.

S/ Wm Stewart Pruit, JP

[Note: Attached to this application is what appears to be a complete set of the War Department instructions on filing applications for pensions.]