

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Richard Whittington W535

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Mississippi, Amite County: Probate Court of Amite County

On this blank [blank in original] day of blank [blank in original] Personally appeared before the Hon. V. J. Crawford Probate Judge of said County Richard Whittington, a resident of Zion Hill Precinct in the County and State aforesaid, Aged about 80 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 Provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States (as well as he recollects) in the year 1778 or 1779 under the following named Officers and served as herein stated:

(1) That he first entered the Service as a volunteer under Captain Robert Lloyd commanded by Colonel William Hicks and served as a private two months (as he supposes); that the troops were destined to a station at Ninety Six, but being advised of the Surrender of that post, the March was directed to a Camp near Camden South Carolina known by the name of Snow Camp where he remained till discharged. *[Note: The Whigs first "surrendered" the fort at 96 in the late fall of 1775 when it was surrendered by Major William Williamson to the Tory forces. Once Whig control was re-established in the backcountry following the first Battle of 96, the fort there was occupied by the Whigs until after the fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780. Consequently, this applicant most have entered service originally in late 1775, if his recollection of the destination of his first march is correct.]*

(2) The next Service was entered by the applicant under the same officers; marched to Charleston and remained in Garrison in expection [sic, expectation] of the British a term of two months as well as can be recollected. In this Service he was again a volunteer.

(3) The next engagement was Served with the same officers called by Draft at the See Wee Bay [sic, Sewee Bay] & Bull's Island and Served he thinks again about two months as a private.

(4) He was again called into the service by Draft under the same officers and stationed at Fort Johnson, on James Island near Charleston where he continued about one month and a half.

(5) The next service called by Draft was rendered in a Campaign conducted by Colonel Morris Simmons [sic, Maurice Simons] in the Company Commanded by Captain Thomas, stationed for three weeks at Purysburg when the British Army came across the Savannah River in pursued our militia to Coosahatchie Creek—here Colonel Simons made a stand and and gave battle; the action was here Conducted by a Colonel Laurance [sic, John Laurens] who joined our Regiment. Laurens & his horse were both wounded – were compelled to fly before the enemy into Charleston; the day after our arrival at Charleston, the British demanded a surrender of the place which was refused by Governor Rutledge [John Rutledge]. The British having retreated across Ashley River were there met by General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] who gave them battle at Stono – this declarant was not in this action but could distinguish the firing from Charleston. During the stay at Charleston (not exceeding a week he believes) he was promoted to Lieutenant in said Company, commissioned by Governor Rutledge & General F. Marion [Francis Marion]-- till this period he continued a private – the time of this Campaign he considers about 6 months.

(6) The first tour rendered as an Officer was with a Captain Pearson [probably Moses Pearson, but could be John Pearson] commanded by Colonel Lemuel Benton & under General Marion – stationed at a Camp near Moncks Corner, a term of about two months.

(7) After the expiration of this period, the Declarant was again called under the same officers in to the service near Charleston at a station on the Wambaw River; he considers the time to be about One month & two weeks – this closes the term of service rendered by the declarant during the war. This declarant resided at the time of his first entry into service in Cheraw District South Carolina, and

continued there when at home till the close of the same.

He hereby further declares that he has no Documentary evidence of his claim nor can he procure any testimony of any living witness to the truth of his statement except the annexed Certificate made by Grief Whittington.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

S/ Rich^d Whittington

Sworn to and subscribed the 17th day of June 1833.

And the said Court doth hereby declare its opinion that the above applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states.

We Jesse Young Clergyman and John Jenkins citizens of the said State of Mississippi Amite County do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Richard Whittington who has Subscribed and Sworn to the foregoing Declaration, that we believe him to be 80 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.

S/ Jesse Young

S/ Jno Jenkins

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

And the said Court do hereby declare its opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed in the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and served as he states. And the Court furthered certifies that it appears to him that...[the certificate ends here]

S/ V. J. Crawford

Judge Prob.

The court also further certifies its Opinion that Griff Whittington whose certificate is annexed to the above Declaration as a witness is a person of veracity and whose Testimony is entitled to Credit.

S/ V. J. Crawford

Judge Prob

I Richard M. Neilsen Clerk of the Probate Court of Amite County do hereby certify that foregoing Contains the Original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Richard Whittington for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 17th day of June 1833.

S/ R. M. Neilson, Clk of Prob.

The following interrogatories were propounded by the Court to said applicant and answered as follows and as answered to each respectively:

1. Where and in what year were you born? Answer: I was born in Essex County in the State of Virginia in the year 1753.
2. Have you any record of you are age and if so where is it? Answer: I have no original 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 called into Service I lived in Cheraw District South Carolina, I have lived since in the state of Georgia, Hancock County, and I now live in the State & County first named in my Declaration.
4. How were you called into Service, were you Drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? Answer: I volunteered twice, was three times Drafted before my promotion – and afterwards served voluntarily as an Officer.

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 & the General Circumstances of your services. Answer: Besides those named in my Declaration I was acquainted with Colonels Pinckney [Charles C. Pinckney] of 1st Regt.; Moultry [sic, William Moultrie] of the 2nd Regt.; & Colonel Huger [Isaac Huger] of the 5th Regt. and with General Lincoln. The general circumstances recollected of the service are stated 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 received a discharge from Governor Rutledge from the service ending at Charleston and also from General Marion after having served at Moncks Corner, but those papers were lost by means not recollected.
Did you ever receive a commission, if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it? Answer: I a received a Commission signed by Governor Rutledge & General Marion, but it is lost and I cannot tell how at this time.
7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your Character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution. Answer: I name _____ [blank in original] and forbear to name others whom I might as they all probably not known in the War Department.