

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Christopher Taylor R10420 ½

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, Washington County: September Term 1832

On this 10th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Samuel Powell, Judge of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity for the County of Washington within the first Judicial Circuit of said State, Christopher Taylor, a resident of the County of Washington, aged 86 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed the seventh of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, to wit: that on & previous to the month of October of the year 1776, he resided in the County of Washington (then North Carolina) now Tennessee which County was a frontier & bordered on the Nation of Cherokee Indians who were in league with the British in the war of the Revolution and were at that time & before & after committing murders & depredations in the said frontier in which he resided when and in the said month of October of 1776 he enrolled under Capt. Christy to perform a tour of duty as a volunteer against said Indians & rendezvoused at the Long Island on of Holston [River] under said Christy and there remained on account of sickness whence Col Christy's men marched from that place to the heart of the Nation & himself & eighty others (who were sick) lay at said place until the return of the Army and sometime after the return were discharged (verbally) by Col Christy & he then returned home being at this time a Lieutenant in Captain Evan's company which service was called a three months tour but did not quite amount to that length of time. That after he returned home he was elected a Captain in the County of Washington, State aforesaid, then upon the expedition of Colonel Sevier against the Indians in the spring of 1778 volunteered with his company to go against said Indians to the Chota towns & commanded his said company under Col Sevier during the said expedition and burned the Indian towns & destroy the property & effects of the Indians & caused them to abandon that part of their Country adjacent to the white settlements and returned home again after performing what was called as a three months tour & amounted to about that length of time and discharged, verbally, his men and returned home. That being a resident on the immediate frontier and no other citizens residing west of him to New Orleans, he was kept continually engaged with short intervals with a company under his command in successive attacks upon the Indians who would, in detached parties, break in upon the vicinity of his residence and kill and depredate upon the whites until the fall of the year 1780 when he and his company (hearing of the march of Ferguson up to the mountains & contemplating crossing over into what is now East Tennessee & Western Virginia) volunteered under Col Sevier to go to the South and intercept the march of said Ferguson & Army; that they rendezvoused on Gap Creek (what is now called Carter County) then Washington & there met the Virginians under Col Campbell & the upper Tennesseans under Col Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and this? marched to the Yellow Mountain where their officers held a conference & appointed Col Campbell to the chief or head command and marched on through Burke & Rutherford & Lincoln Counties & fell in with Col Cleveland having the command of the North Carolina militia in Rutherford & all

marched to King's Mountain where they he came in contact with Ferguson's of Army at the time on the top of the mountain & there the combined forces under Campbell, Shelby, Sevier & Cleveland surrounded said Army under Ferguson & killed and captured the whole Army (Ferguson being killed in said engagement) after which this declarant returned home with his men from said battle & he discharged his men after returning home, verbally, being a 3 months tour. That after their return, immediately the Indians in the Middle Settlements had killed on the frontier & Col Sevier called upon this declarant to draw out his company to go against the Indians which he did and marched under Col Sevier through the Greasy Cove up Indian Creek to the State of North Carolina (now) & the Indians retreated & left the country upon the hearing of the march of Sevier's men and after ranging that country they returned home, being an engagement of three months. That he kept in constant service with short intervals after the return aforesaid when the Indians made their incursions sometimes but short tours until the definitive treaty of peace in 1783 & indeed long service, though the latter service was not part and parcel of the Revolutionary War. That of the period that intervened from his first enrollment under Col Christy in October 1776 until 1783, he had served the principal part of the whole time being at home only for short intervals, being at home any one period in order to put in or aid in raising a crop, during all which time he served as a Captain, except the first three months when he was a Lieutenant as before stated & must have served five constant years service in the seven years war. That he has lost his commission in the great lapse of time that has intervened and has no documentary evidence to produce and annexed hereto is the testimony of Nas Gann [Nathan Gann] & Jacob Brown, who served with him part of the time which are the only persons known to him by whom he can prove his services or part thereof. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any state; that there is no resident minister of the Gospel in this vicinity by whom he can establish the facts set forth in the instructions of the War Department.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court this 10th day of September 1832

S/ Christopher Taylor

S/James V. Anderson, Clerk