

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Moses Lindsey S4551

Transcribed by Will Graves

[Punctuation, grammar & spelled corrected as required for clarity]

State of Tennessee, Williamson County

On this 28th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Thomas Stewart then presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of law and equity for the 4th judicial circuit, state of Tennessee, Moses Lindsey, a resident of said county and state aged 70 years being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of Congress passed seventh June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He first entered the service under Captain Garrett Smith about the __ of __ 1776 [blanks the original] who was then stationed at the Blockhouse on the frontier of South Carolina on a Creek called Raburn's Creek, James Lindsay being lieutenant in said company in which he served six months guarding the frontier from the deprivations and ravages of the Indians who then very much infested that part of the country. His next tour was also six months and under the following officers: General Williamson, John Lyles, Colonel; John Hampton, brother to Wade Hampton, Major; and John Lindsay, his uncle, Captain. He then with these officers commanding about the __ of __ [blanks in the original] 1777 marched from the Indian line after they had been driven away from the forts down to Briar Creek in Georgia are where we lay as near as I recollect about four weeks when an express arrived that the British Commandant Campbell was upon us. We retreated to Augusta where we arrived in eight hours being 32 miles from Briar Creek. Campbell attempted to cross the Savannah [River] at Augusta. We used our endeavor to prevent him and we did prevent him. In about two weeks afterwards, we having received reinforcements, he was marched to the mouth of Stono River 14 miles south of Charleston South Carolina where the British General Provost with his fleet joined him and we pursuing him and camped at Stono field about 10 miles from the British Army. Here we remained until we were reinforced to 10,000 man when we attacked them and drove them from their fortifications to their boats where they were joined by a large party of reserve and we in our turn were repulsed and compelled to retreat leaving as was said 1600 men in killed and missing. This is the last of my service until Charleston and indeed the whole state of South Carolina were in possession of the British. I next entered the service of my country about the month of June or July 1780 under Sumter, General; John Lyle, Colonel; John Hampton, Major; and John Lindsay, Captain, this was in about June or July 1780. We marched from the Yadkin River to the Fish Dam Ford on Broad River, where the British under I do not know who attacked us very suddenly. We however repulsed them with considerable loss on their side. We then marched to McCracken's Old field in Newberry County South Carolina. Here we lay until news arrived that Tarleton, the British colonel, was marching to attack us. We retreated to a place called Blackstock's Ford on Tyger River. Here the British under Tarleton came up with us and offered battle which we returned. This battle commenced about an hour last sun and was continued until three quarters of an hour in the night when General Sumter being dangerously wounded in the back, the fighting mutually ceased and we retreated 22 miles that night, carrying our

wounded general on a litter. We then went up to the ahead of Broad River and lay a short time. General Clarke then having the command of us in place of General Sumter who went to Salisbury for the purpose of healing his wounds and hearing [that a] considerable body of British and Tories had collected at Musgrove's Mill, marched us upon them and attacking them about the break of day we completely routed and defeated them. We then returned back to the edge of North Carolina to Gilbert Town where we lay until General Sumter having recovered of his wound resumed the command of us militia (which generally consisted of from three to 500 men) and General Clarke returned to Georgia. Then on Morgan's coming from Virginia with 300 rifle regulars and Colonel Lee's Legion and Washington's light horse, we to the amount of about 300 militia under major Robert Dugan, first major, and James Dugan, second major, joined Morgan and remained on Grindal Shoals on Pacolet River until Tarleton pursued and we retreated to the Cowpens on the edge of North Carolina where we encamped and were attacked next morning the 17th of January 1781 at daybreak and fought the battle of the Cowpens and completely defeated them. We then went on with Morgan guarding the prisoners to Guilford Court house where we met General Greene with his division. Morgan there with his regulars secured the prisoners and the militia including me under major Hampton were sent to the head of Broad River where we refreshed ourselves and horses for a short time. We then joined General Greene who was preparing to attack 96 which we soon after did besiege for two or three weeks. This was in May 1781 as well as I remember. We took one Fort. The next day 300 militia of whom I was one were sent to reinforce General Clarke in his attack on Augusta then in possession of the British. We took Grierson's Fort. General Greene being hard run in consequence of Lord Rawdon having from Europe reinforcements, we were sent back to a General Greene where we remained but a few days before Rawdon compelled General Greene to raise the siege. We retreated across the Saluda River and went to Musgrove's Mill. We then marched to Fish Dam Ford. Our general then maneuvered for some time. The British returning to Charleston we kept down Broad River on the opposite side and about 4 miles from Eutaw Springs, we fought the celebrated battle which was in September 1781. I was attached to General Pickens' brigade and fought under him in this battle. The loss on both sides was great. After this battle [I] was not in any more battles general battles. I was been sent with some other militia to guard I'll country to Newberry County where I was retained constantly on the actual duty in scouting parties against the Tories. Colonel Casey, Levi Casey, afterwards general and then member of Congress, commanded us. I think I remained in this capacity for upwards of 12 months and I think until after peace was signed. My whole service was four years and six months. My first two tours of six months each class served as a substitute for John Boyd: the last two were. The first I do not recollect for whom. I know of no person who came testify to my services except Jesse Jackson who saw me when in the scouting parties. I took the certificate of James Shirer on the 17th January 1820. It is not legally authenticated, such as it is I send it. From the time Charleston was taken by the British, I was continually in the service excepting two or three months immediately after that event and continued until the close of the war. I had several discharges from Colonel Lyles and some other officers and on the conclusion of the war I took my indent gave up my discharges. My intent I afterwards sold for an old gray horse. I was born in [?] County Virginia. I was living in Newberry South Carolina when I entered the service which was in 1776 in my 15th year. I have no other a record of my

age than that in my father's family Bible which is now in Newberry South Carolina. I have lived since the war in Newberry South Carolina up to 1810 when I moved to Williamson County Tennessee where I have lived ever since and now live. I am acquainted with Captain John Frost, William F. Miller, Jesse Jackson and James D. Williams, who can testify as to my reputation as a soldier of the revolution &c. and I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Moses Lindsay