Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Henry Albright S6485

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this 14th day of September 1832, personally appeared before the Superior Court of Law, of the County & State aforesaid, Henry Albright, of the said County & State, aged seventy three years on the 4th of May 1832, 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 United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated.

The declarant was drafted in the County of Orange aforesaid in the summer of 1781, in the militia of the State aforesaid, for the term of three months and was attached to a company commanded by Captain Trousdale[1] & Lieutenant John Campbell. The declarant's said Company was stationed at Hillsboro[2] in the State aforesaid, for the purpose of guarding said Town. He was appointed Sergeant in his Company at Hillsboro. After being at Hillsboro a few weeks, the Tories captured the said Town, & took Governor Burke[3] of No. Ca. And many of the soldiers stationed there prisoners – among whom was this declarant. He was conveyed by the Tories to Wilmington, North Carolina, & then placed on board a British prison-ship – where he lay some weeks -- & thence was carried in said prison-ship to Charleston, South Carolina; -- where he was detained nearly eleven months, as a prisoner & was exchanged by the British for British soldiers who had been made prisoners by the American forces. From the time of his capture as aforesaid at Hillsborough, to the time of his arrival at home in Orange aforesaid after his discharge from his ~~British~~ said imprisonment on board the British prison-ship – there was the lapse of precisely eleven months. He did not entered the service again after his return from Charleston as aforesaid. Previously to his draft for three months as aforesaid, the declarant turned out as a soldier in the Western part of Orange County, under the command of Colonel Oneal [sic, O'Neal?] on three different occasions – for the purpose of suppressing the Tories in that section of the Country, under the command of the Tory Colonel Fanning.[4] He was not in service on those occasions more than three weeks or thereabouts, -- was in no general battle in the time – but aided in taking many of the Tories prisoners. He did not enter the service on those occasions for any particular length of time – but did so in particular emergencies, as the safety of the neighborhood was supposed to require it. The declarant knew Genl Butler[5] of the North Carolina Militia in the revolutionary War – was his neighbor.

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1 Capt. James Trousdale is listed in Heitman, p. 549

2 Hillsborough or Hillsboro served as the capital of North Carolina during the Revolutionary War.

3 Thomas Burke (1744-1783) was a member of the Continental Congress, signer of the Articles of Confederation and Governor of North Carolina from 1781-1782. He was captured in October 1781 by the Tory, Colonel David Fanning, and later paroled by the British at James Island. His resumption of his official duties as Governor of the state brought criticism from some of his constituents that his doing so was a breach of honor under the terms of his parole. He left office disillusioned by his experiences and favoring a more aristocratic form of government. He died shortly thereafter. William S. Powell, Ed., *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill: 1979), Vol. 1, 280-281.

4 David Fanning (1755-1825), from Randolph County, North Carolina, was a notorious Tory militia leader and renegade earning in North Carolina a reputation for brutality on a par with that of William ("Bloody Bill") Cunningham in South Carolina. Fanning wrote a fascinating account of his exploits. Lindley S. Butler, editor, *The Narrative of Col. David Fanning* (Briarpatch Press, Davidson, North Carolina, 1981). See, also, John Hairr, Colonel David Fanning: *The Adventures of a Carolina Loyalist* (Averasboro Press, Erwin, North Carolina, 2000).

5 John Butler (?-1786) was the sheriff of Orange County North Carolina prior to the Revolution. He served in the North Carolina House of Commons in 1777, 1778 and two sessions in 1784. He was appointed brigadier general of the Hillsborough District militia in 1777. He commanded a brigade of North Carolina militia at the Battle of Camden under Horatio Gates and also at the Battle of Guilford County Court House under Nathanael Greene. Hoping to rescue Governor Thomas Burke from captivity by the Tory, Colonel David Fanning, Butler commanded the troops at the ambush of

He hath no documentary evidence of his service. He can prove a part of his service aforesaid by George Nease[6] of the County & State aforesaid whose affidavit is hereunto appended.

This declarant is known to Doctor James J. Smith of the Town of Hillsboro aforesaid – and to Willie P. Mangum[7] and to Dr. James A. Craig of the County aforesaid – and to the Reverend Alexander Albright of his neighborhood, whose affidavit is hereunto appended.

He was born in the State of Pennsylvania on the 4th of May 1759 – and was removed to the County of Orange in North Carolina when about four years of age, where he hath resided ever since. He has a record of his age at home. He did not receive a written discharge from the service. 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/ Henry Albright, X his mark
S/ A. B. Bruce, C. S. C.

State of North Carolina, Orange County: Superior Court of same September Term 1832

I Abner B. Bruce Clerk of the Superior Court of Orange County do hereby Certify that the foregoing Declaration of Henry Albright was made, subscribed & Sworn to in Open Court and that the affidavit of George Nease [sic] was duly sworn to & Subscribed in open court.

In testimony whereof I do hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the Seal of said Court at Office in Hillsborough this 21st day of September A.D. 1832.

S/ A. B. Bruce, C. S. C.

North Carolina, Orange County

Personally appeared before me William Montgomery, a Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid (it being a court of record) on this 4th day of July A.D. 1833, Henry Albright, an applicant for a pension under the act of the 7th June 1832, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following supplemental declaration amendatory of His former declaration, To wit.

That he was drafted into the Service of the United States on or about the 20th of August 1781, and was stationed at the Town of Hillsboro, as in his original declaration set forth, and for the term as there mentioned – and that he was a Sergeant of his company from its first organization at Hillsboro: That he was captured at Hillsboro on or about the 6th day of September following and was conveyed to Wilmington in North Carolina, and thence To Charleston in South Carolina as in his original declaration set forth, and that he was Exchanged at Charleston some time in July 1782, and returned directly to his home in Orange County North Carolina without any delay, and arrived at his home on or about the 6th day of August 1782, eleven months from the time of his capture, and eleven and a half months from the day of entering into the Service, which with his other service of three weeks, will make twelve months & one week [of service].

Sworn to and subscribed or me the day & date above. S/ Henry Albright, X his mark
S/ W. Montgomery, J

Personally appeared before me on the 4th day of July 1833 Ludwick May aged about seventy years, resident in the county & state above written, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say that he has been acquainted with Henry Albright during & since the war of the revolution, that He was attached to the company of Captain James Trousdale and stationed at Hillsborough at the Time of the capture of Governor Burke in September 1781 when the said declarant Henry Albright was made a prisoner by the Tories, but does not now recollect the period of the said declarant's imprisonment, and

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Fanning's troops at Lindley's Mill. He resigned his commission in June 1784 and died in the fall of 1786. William S. Powell, Ed., *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill: 1979), Vol. 1, 290-291.

6 Sic, George Neese, who filed his own application for a pension at FPA R7570.

7 William Person Mangum (1792-1861), lawyer, judge, congressman and US Senator.

that he also [digital image posted on HeritageQuest ends here].