

Pension Application for Samuel Cooper

S.40841

I Samuel Cooper of Little Britain Township in the County of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania do make the following declaration, viz. That on the 17th day of October 1778 I enlisted as a private in a troop of Horse with Ambrose Gordon, who at that time acted as a recruiting sergeant, my enlistment took place at Sterling Forge, in the State of New York on a Sunday when a certain James McElroy and myself both engaged in the War of the Revolution to serve for three years in the regular army on the Continental Establishment I was marched to Philadelphia with the regiment, commanded by Coll Washington, at this place I was equiped [equipped] and mounted and attached to the Second troop of Horse under the Command of Captain Parsons, from there we were marched thro' Baltimore, Fredericksburg & Petersburg to Bacons, Bridge near Charleston, South Carolina, our troop[s] were in the Battle of Camden where I received a wound from a musket ball which passed thro' my left thigh. I was then in the hospital about two months when I so far recovered from my wound that I again took my place in my company, and was in the Battle at Eutaw Springs & was one of the troop who made the charge on the British Artillery [Artillery] and defeated them, we then marched to the neighborhood of Charleston, where on and about the lines we frequently had skirmishes with the enemy, the term of my enlistment having expired while engaged in this service, and I was regularly discharged my discharge and certificate were signed by General Green in October 1781 I then left the army and returned to New York State, where I remained about o e year. I then came to Pennsylvania where I have lived at the different Forges ever since, I am now about sixty years of age and was about nineteen years of age, when I entered in the service as a soldier, I have never received any pension from the United States nor from any individual state, neither have I ever received one single cent for my three years services, Genl Green gave am a certificate at the same time he gave me my discharge, which certificate I gave into the care of Daniel Tysher near Philadelphia and never either directly or indirectly received one farthing on the whole of my claim.—In testimony that the foregoing statement is just and true I have hereunto set my hand this third day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

And I do state that I am in indigent circumstances & stand in need of the assistance of my country for support. (Signed) Samuel Cooper.

Lancaster County

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania SS.

Before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Lancaster, Personally appeared Samuel Cooper who on his solemn oath deposeth and saith, that the foregoing and within statement is true and from the personal acquaintance I have with him for upwards of twenty years & I believe he served in the revolutionary war more than nine months & I have no doubt of the truth of his deposition, and know that he is in indigent circumstances such as call loudly for the Justice and liberatity [liberty] of his country in his country in his favour for his support.

Sworn and subscribed this 3rd day of June 1818.(Signed) Thos Clark.

Letter in folder dated August 30, 1935, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Samuel Cooper, of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

You are furnished below the record of the only soldier named Samuel Cooper found in the Revolutionary War records of this office who was pensioned while a resident of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The data herein were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.40841, based upon his service in the Revolution.

The date and place of this soldier's birth and names of his parents are not given.

Samuel Cooper enlisted at Sterling Forge, New York, about thirty miles from New York and twelve miles from Goshen, served as private in Captain Parsons' company, Colonel Washington's continental Regiment of Dragoons, was in the battle of Camden in which he was wounded by a musket ball passing through his left thigh, was confined in the hospital about two months, returned to his company, was in the battle of Eutaw Springs, in frequent skirmishes in the neighborhood of Charleston, and was discharged in October, 1781, having served three years.

Samuel Cooper stated that at the time Colonel Washington was married, he (Cooper) was one of the three men under the command of the corporal as a guard at the house of Colonel Washington's father-in-law during the time of the marriage ceremony.

In 1819, the soldier stated that after he returned to New York, where he remained about a year, he then moved to Pennsylvania where he had lived at different forges ever since. He had then lost the use of his left hand because of an accident while handling a forge hammer.

Samuel Cooper was allowed pension on his application executed June 3, 1818, at which time he was aged about sixty years and a resident of Little Britain Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and was still residing there in 122.

It is not stated that the soldier ever married.