

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition of James Williams VAS1797

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Transcribed by Will Graves

3/22/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

To the Hon. Mr. Speaker and Gentleman of the House of Delegates

The Petition of James a Williams Humbly Sheweth, –

That from the Good Disposition and Regard Your Petitioner had for the Liberty, defense and security of his Country, against the Assaults and depredations committed by the British Army upon the good People of his Country; Your Petitioner enlisted in the year 1778 into the State Garrison Regiment at Williamsburg for the term of three years, & in the course of his Servitude, your Petitioner had the misfortune to lose the sight of both of his Eyes; which undoubtedly rendered your Petitioner incapable to serve his Country any longer. Whereupon your Petitioner obtained a Discharge from said Regiment –. That your Petitioner has a family to support; and that the loss of his Eyesight renders him entirely incapable of supporting the same; –

Prior to this your Petitioner has ventured his life in the desert parts of this Country against the invasions of Cruel and Savage Indians through heats and Colds, and great Fatigues, under the command of Col. Byrd and Col. Stevens, – That your Petitioner is allowed the Sum of twenty pounds per annum by the Board of War, but your Petitioner begs leave to observe, That from the great Depreciation of our Paper Currency that Sum is become greatly inadequate to the expenses of a family. – Therefore, your petitioner with submission to your Superior judgments Prays that your Hon. House will grant him such additional Allowance to the twenty pound above mentioned, as may seem just and equitable to your Supreme judgment. – Your Petitioner further implores that your Hon. House may take his case into mature Consideration, he Your said Petitioner trusting in the justness of his petition, and the lenity of your Hon. House, hopes that he shall meet with such relief as will surpass his inevitable necessity. –

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

[reverse]

Petition of James Williams

May 10, 1786

Referred to Trade

May 12th, 1780 [sic, 1786 or 1788??]

Rejected