

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition of William Shannon VAS1961

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Transcribed by Will Graves

5/5/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Kentucky Counties Legislative Petitions

To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the General Assembly of Virginia
The Petition of William Shannon

Sheweth

That in the month of March 1779 your petitioner was appointed Commissary and Quarter Master to the Illinois Western department under the command of General Clark [George Rogers Clark] and continued to transact the duties of his Office for upwards of three years, had employed several deputies to assist him, and during that period purchased and issued sundry supplies to the Troops in that department which purchases and issues were accurately entered in his books of Accounts, ^{books and Accounts} for which he has receipt by order of the board of Commissioners appointed to settle the business relating to that department ready to be produced.

That your Petitioner in order to obtain a settlement of his Accounts laid them before the said Commissioners at their meeting at the Dutch Station near Louisville, but the Commissioners Conceiving them necessary for the purpose of settling either claims in the same department, kept them in their possession without coming to any decision thereon and appointed a meeting at Col. Bowman's in Lincoln County where your Petitioner attended hoping the said Accounts would then be finally settled, but said Commissioners hearing of your Petitioner's intention to travel through the Wilderness they declined to take up the said Accounts and appointed another meeting at Botetourt Court House or Richmond, at which places your Petitioner also intended to be present, but unfortunately for him he had his leg broke on his way to Botetourt, which prevented his carrying his intention into execution (as will appear by sundry papers in his possession) whereby he has not been able to have his Accounts settled or to receive any Compensation for his services or the services of his deputies.

Your petitioner further shows, that in procuring the necessary supplies for the said Troops, he became indebted to sundry persons, and in order to discharge the same, drew bills of Exchange on the Treasurer of this State several of which are protested, and others not paid, so that your petitioner remains in a very disagreeable situation, not only on account of these bills, but by being charged with monies paid him during the time he was in office, and no credit allowed him, either by the supplies furnished or his pay for his services or those of his deputies.

Your petitioner therefore request you will be pleased to pass a law appointing some person or persons to adjust and settle his Accounts, and to authorize the Auditor to issue Warrants for the amount of what shall appear due to your petitioner for his pay and depreciation as

Commissary and Quarter Master in the said department, and also for what may appear to be due to his deputies, and he will Pray.

[Reverse]

Shannon's Petition
November 2nd 1790
Referred to Claims

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reasonable

1st referred to Executive

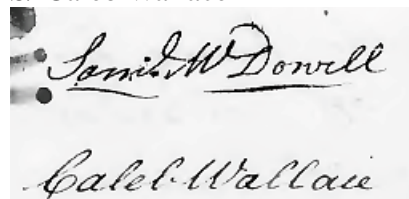
2nd Resolved that the Auditor of Public Accounts deliver him his papers

Reported 8th of November 90

We certify that when the Commissioners for Western accounts sat in the neighborhood of Louisville in the year 1783 Capt. William Shannon who by appointment from General Clark had for some time acted as Commissary General to the Illinois Regiment presented his Accounts to have them settled; But the Board finding that his Books which appeared to be regularly kept would be helpful in adjusting the amounts of the other officers of that department detained Capt. Shannon from about the middle of January to the last of February when it was found that more Accounts had been presented and would be presented than could possibly be adjusted before the time it would be necessary for the Commissioners to return through the wilderness; and in the investigation of which Capt. Shannon's books would also be needed. And finding that Capt. Shannon intended to travel to the Eastward about the same time, his books were detained and he directed to attend the Board when it should meet and Botetourt County or at Richmond to have his accounts finally closed. But Capt. Shannon by having his leg bone broken before he set off was rendered incapable of the journey; so that his accounts were never settled by the Commissioners and he informs us that the Auditors have hitherto declined a settlement by which he is suffering great loss. Therefore we take the liberty of making this representation of facts and beg leave further to observe that so far as we can recollect, his Books appeared to be accurate & just, only in some instances paper money, contracts were not distinguished from spacey, which he assured the Board he did not know to be necessary when the entries were made, but that he should be able to make the distinction when it would be requisite. We further beg leave to represent that we understood that complaints had been made against Capt. Shannon in the execution of his office. In order to examine into that matter the Board of Commissioners notified their intention to the public of hearing all charges that could be brought against him relative to his conduct as Commissary and appointed a time for exhibiting them but that no charges were brought forward and supported nor anything made to appear to his prejudice in the execution of his office. Given under our hands this 26th day of June 1790

S/ Samuel McDowell

S/ Caleb Wallace



The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature is "Samuel McDowell" and the bottom signature is "Caleb Wallace". Both signatures are written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

Jefferson County Sct.

This day Dr. Samuel Cuthbertson personally came before me James F Moore one of the Justices of the Commonwealth for the County aforesaid, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that in the month of April 1783 Capt. William Shannon of Louisville passed by Field's Station (where this Deponent then lived) on his way to the settlement as he said to meet the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Illinois Department and that he the said Shannon unfortunately broke his leg at Crow's Station that this Deponent was sent for to set the which he did and attended him during his Illness, but the bone was so fractured that he was not able to proceed on his journey that Season and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to before me this 26 September 1790

S/ James F Moore