

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Starke¹ R10069 Mary f27VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/17/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 8]

State of Virginia Stafford County to wit:

On this 18th day of August in the year 1852 personally appeared before the Subscribers & Justices of the County Court of Stafford County in the State of Virginia, which Court is a Court of Record Mary Starke a resident of the County & State aforesaid she being unable through the infirmity of her age to appear in open Court, who being first duly sworn according to law doth, on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1832 entitled "an act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows," That she is 92 years of age. That she is the widow of William Starke who was an orderly Sergeant in the company commanded by Captain William Harding of the Virginia Militia in the revolutionary war. That she has been informed that Captain Philips commanded the Regiment to which the company of the said Captain Harding belonged – that her husband the said William Starke entered service in said war in Captain Harding's Company early in the year 1781. That he was drafted for six months. That he marched in the aforesaid company from Stafford County Virginia to the siege of Yorktown. That upon arriving at Yorktown the aforesaid Captain Harding resigned his commission & her said husband was transferred to the company of Captain William Ballard of Colonel Dark's [Lt. Col. William Darke's] Regiment. That the name of the Major was Southall. She further states that her said husband served out his full term of six months but does not know whether he received a written discharge or not. She further states that she does not know whether her said husband was orderly Sergeant in the aforesaid Captain Ballard's Company or a private. She further states that her said husband testified in the case of Kenaz Ralls² who served with him at the siege of Yorktown & who for his services in said war received a pension from the US government, & she refers to the documents on file in the Pension Office in the case of said Ralls as calculated to assist in the investigation of her claim. She also refers to the muster rolls of the aforesaid companies, if there are any such on file in the Pension Office, to substantiate the foregoing statements with regard to his service.

She further states that she was married to the said William Starke on the 16th day of February in the year 1786. That her husband the aforesaid William Starke died on the 20th day of December in the year 1838. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the 1st day of January 1794, viz.: At the time above stated. She further swears that she has continued to be & is now the widow of said Starke.

S/ Mary Starke, X her mark

¹ BLWt45720-160-55

² FPA S18561

[f p. 7: part of a document which appears to have been a certification dated November 18, 1852, by the clerk of Stafford County, Virginia that records in his office show the that in "February 1786 William Starke was married to Mary Kendall daughter of John Kendall both of Overwharton."]

[f p. 13]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 7th day of April 1783 in the name of William Starke as Sol.. And evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £103.11.8 ,delivered to a General Morgan but as the original settlements or copies thereof or not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the ~~First~~ Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
8th day of October 1855.

S/ G. W. Clutter, Aud. Pub. Accts.

[f p. 4: Bounty land claim dated December 3, 1855 filed in Stafford County Virginia by Mary Starke, 95, a resident of said County and State, as the widow of William Starke, private in Captain William Ballard's Company in the infantry of Virginia Continental line, Regiment commanded by Colonel Dark; that she married her husband in Stafford County Virginia February 16, 1786; that her maiden name was Mary Kendall; that her husband died in 1838; "That her said husband was drafted for six months served out his term of service & was honorably discharged & she refers to the accompanying document from the Auditor's Office in Richmond to prove his service. The period of which may be inferred from the amount paid him." She also refers to her earlier application for a pension dated November 20, 1852. She signed her application with her mark.]