

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Steele R10105

fn15NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/9/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Missouri County of Saline to wit

Be it remembered that on this 6th day of July in the year 1836, William Steel a resident citizen of said County, applied to me David Todd Judge of the First Judicial Circuit in said State, within which circuit in the said County of Saline (which Court of which he is Judge is a Court of record, of the highest original jurisdiction in the County, and is unlimited in extent) to make a declaration under oath in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress granting a pension to the soldiers who served in the revolutionary war on the Continental establishment; and the said William Steel doth declare and state

That from old age and infirmity he is unable to attend the sitting of any court of record in his County, without great a hazard and danger –

And that he was born on the 23rd day of July 17?? [last 2 digits written over and illegible] and is now 89 years of age, in the County of Lancaster in the State of Pennsylvania. That he resided in said State until the year 1771 and that in said year he removed to the State of North Carolina in the County of Orange, that he resided in said County of Orange, with the exception of about one year (which he resided in the County of Chatham) until about the year 1809 –

And the said Steele further states that in the year 1775 (according to the best of his recollection) he served a tour of three months, and was commanded by Captain John Murray, who he thinks was at first ordered to the South – but that after proceeding to the Yadkin River, or where it is called the Pedee – the said Murray received orders not to proceed further – and that his Company returned to the County of Orange in the State aforesaid and was there and then discharged –

And the said Steele further states that he served a second tour of service under Captain William Gwynn, who was engaged against the Tories, that he continued under the command of said Gwynn about 1 or 2 months during which time he was engaged in reconnoitering the Counties of Orange, Chatham, Guilford and Randolph & during this Service he was engaged in a battle or fight against the Tories, when several persons were killed on each side – Colonel William O'Neil commanded on this Occasion – This happened near Deep River.

The said Steele further states that the third tour of service (as well as he can now remember) was under the Command of Joseph McAdams, who was called Captain McAdams, at

which time, and during this term of service, Major John Moore (the Tory) was killed near Hillsboro – as further appears by the affidavit of the said Joseph McAdams, herewith attached.

And the said Steel further states, that the fourth tour of service, which he rendered was under the command of Captain Thomas Thompson – that he does not now recollect the exact time that he served under him – but that he obtained from General Matthew Ramsey who commanded the troops when they assembled – an Honorable discharge for this tour of service.

And the said Steele further states that he with many others, assembled at the battle of Lindley's Mills¹ in Orange County, that he was not himself in said Battle having been previously detached to act as a spy with others.

And the said Steele further states that on many Occasions, he with many others of that section of Country, frequently assembled themselves together, to check and resist the Tories, who were very numerous in those days in that section of Country – and that when the us assembled they would select someone from among them who they would call Captain, and thus continued together, for a longer or shorter time as circumstances seemed to require –

And he further states – that he removed to the State of Kentucky about the year 1809 – and on or about the year 1829 he moved to the State of Illinois – and from thence to the State of Missouri, where he has been living in different parts of it, for about six years –

And the said Steel further states that he did receive from General Matthew Ramsey an honorably [sic] discharge from the service in which he was engaged – but that owing to old age and infirmity together with the fact that his papers has long since been handled by others, it has been lost, He thinks that he received several other discharges – which has also been lost – and he is now unable to find them.

And he the said Steele further states, that he has been acquainted with the following gentlemen for about 18 or 20 months (ever since he lived in this County) to wit, Barnes Brown, Benjamin H Brown, and Ezekiel F Scott and that he has been acquainted with Henry Nave for about 12 or 14 years, to whom I refer, for evidence of my veracity, and character in my neighborhood. And further that there is no Clergyman or Minister of the Gospel immediately in this neighborhood – that can be had to certify to my veracity.

And he further states that he has never applied for any pension of the United States, or of any State or territory, or any arrears of pension – And that he is name is not on any Pension Roll, either of the United States or of any State or territory, and he does hereby renounces all right, title and interest which he has or may have to any such pension, except the present Application.

And further he saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me by the said William steel on the date aforesaid

S/ David Todd, Judge

S/ William Steele, X his mark

[Barnes Brown, Benjamin H Brown, Ezekiel F Scott and Henry Nave gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 7]

Greenville Illinois May 10th 1836

State of Illinois Bond County: This day personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Joseph McAdams² who after being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he has been acquainted with William Steel who is

¹ September 13, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/lindleysmill.htm>

² [Joseph McAdams S33081](#)

about to apply for a pension for sixty years and also saith that he (Steel) was a soldier in the revolutionary war, and that the said Steel was with him in the engagement with the Tories when Major John Moore (the Tory) was killed near Hillsboro North Carolina, the said Steel was under my command at the above stated engagement.

Joseph Madamo

The Affidavit of William Steele of Saline County in the State of Missouri, intended to be read in support of his application for a pension, now pending before the War Department.

This affiant being first duly sworn upon the holy evangelist of Almighty God, deposeseth and saith, that from old age and infirmity his memory is greatly impaired he being now nearly 90 years of age – but that to the best of his recollection the enclosed discharge bearing the date "the 20 July 1780 and signed by Stephen Moore Lieut. Col." was for a six months tour. This affiant distinctly recollects that the term of service for which this discharge was given commenced in the month of May in the year 1780, That he himself served in the Hillsboro Regiment until the 20th of July 1780 at which time, he employed the substitute mentioned in said discharge, he paid said substitute \$60 to serve the balance of the tour and also some clothing. These facts being now on his mind, he is constrained to believe, and does believe that the said tour of service was for six months – This affiant further testifies and saith that he knows well that he would did receive, and had in his possession two other discharges for services rendered during the revolutionary war, but which had been lost, so that he cannot now avail himself of any advantage from them – more than to state here that from the best of his recollection one of them was for an eighteen months tour – and the other he cannot now remember the time for which it was given.

And further this affiant saith not.

S/ Wm Steel

[attested by Bernis Brown, JP, May 13, 1837]

Camp at The X Roads 20 July 1780

William Steel having provided a man to serve his tour of duty in the present Expedition in the Militia service, the said William Steel is – therefore hereby discharged from the Hillsboro Regiment under the command of Colonel Ambrose Ramsey

By order of the Colonel

S/ Stephen Moore Lt. Col.

Camp at The X Roads 20th July 1700

William Steel having provided a
man to serve his tour of duty on the
present Expedition in the Militia
service, the said William Steel is
therefore hereby discharged from the
Hilborough Regiment under the
command of Coll. Ambrose Ramsey

By order of the Colonel

Stephen Moore, Lt. Col