

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Walter ¹ R11012 Nancy Walter f48VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/7/14

[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.]

State of Illinois Jefferson County: SS

On this 14th day of March 1855 personally appeared before the undersigned Justice of the peace duly authorized by law to administer oaths for general purposes within and for said County Sarah Webb, a resident citizen of said County aged fifty-eight years the 16th day of March 1855, and being one of the children and heirs at law of William Walter and Nancy Walter who was the wife of said William Walter, and only wife he ever had. She said Nancy Walter whose maiden name was Black she being for a long time a widow, the widow of said William Walter, and never having married after the death of her said husband and dying his widow, and the said William Walter having been a soldier of the United States in the War of the Revolution, and in behalf of the United States, against the common enemies of her Liberties: and Struggled for liberty in said War with the British Crown, opposing their usurpations, She makes this declaration in order [to] obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress passed for the widows of the soldiers of the war of the Revolution who were married to said soldiers after the last period of their said service and whose marriages took place before the first of January 1794, she as one of the children of said deceased widow, makes this Declaration for herself and for her co-heirs of said widow to wit, the said Nancy Walter, in order to obtain all the money due said widow, and the act of __ 1838 and other acts extending the Pension still further and all I ask which the facts of the case will be found to be applicable to the facts she claims this Declaration as coming under it to be made part of this Declaration as much so as if the acts or acts were within spatially set forth or secited [sic], and she for herself and the coheirs of said Nancy Walter deceased on oath she makes this declaration in order to obtain all of the pension due her at the time of her death and being such as she is might have received in her life if her claims had been clearly shown prosecuted and established.

As respects the service of her said father William Walter, she relies on the rolls of the Department of war, and such incidental Records of pay and the like as may be found in support of the facts of service, identity and the like, and prays for a full search and praise the records made a part of this Declaration.

Declarant sets forth that it was her father's accounts that her father was regular Soldier enlisted in the war of the Revolution of the Continental line, his name being Robert Walter under an engagement four years or may be for during the war, that he was a man of years, and a family in time of said war, having a family, wife and children, and a son, William Walter, grown up to youthful manhood at the same period before the war ended and some years before it ended, and

¹ For some reason, this file is index among the "Non US" veterans in the Fold3.com collection.

that while said Robert was in said Service that the Tories came to the house of the said Robert, and bore off William, his son, that he said William, Declarant's father was carried off with other prisoners of the kind to Nova Scotia, and there was liberated by another man being taken in his place, said William then salt his father who was in service, went to him served with him becoming a soldier with his father, served some years in the same Regiment and was honorably discharged with him for time and place reference to the Rolls is hereby sought, that she believes that their service was till the close of the war or nearly so, that declarant's father and his father Robert both had certificates of discharge as she has always heard, understood and believes having no doubt thereof.

As she recollects that it was understood from her father and other consistent accounts, that Colonel Preston of Washington County Virginia for some purpose had said William Walter's discharge, and was talking of getting him said William Walter a Pension or some pay from the United States for his Revolutionary service, and Colonel Preston's house being burned down by some mishap, the discharge was burned, Declarant's father lived in the vicinity of Colonel Preston in Washington County Virginia, and years afterwards Declarant's father while living in Maury County Tennessee he procured an affidavit or certificate of the way his original was destroyed and this he done preparatory to an application to get a Pension, James K Polk, having promised to aid in getting a Pension, and was in the way of ascertaining by promise as to getting the accounts of the facts preparatory to making a Declaration and on his arrival home to Tennessee from service in Congress said William the said soldier died having contemplated going to Columbia to court to have his papers prepared by Polk, but died before the time set to go to the court; She Declarant supposes and in fact understands that no application ever was made for the Pension accruing to her mother for the Pension due her mother for the service of her husband the said William Walter, That said Walter, the said soldier died in Maury County Tennessee on Duck River died on the 13th day of February 1829 with a complaint of his head, his wife Nancy Walter remained his widow until she died in Atalla [Attala] County of Mississippi on the 11th day of May 1854, of Dierhed [sic ?] living to a great age, she makes the letter from Thomas B Walter her son, Declarant's Brother a part of this Declaration, mark __ (T. B. W.) a part of this Declaration, his name being in full Thomas Black Walter his middle name being mother's maiden name Black, There was only 5 children of mother's ever raised so as to be grown, to wit, Declarant, Robert M Walter, Thomas B Walter and Hiram Alexander Walter and Mary Walter who married William Stevens and died leaving one only child a daughter, who married a man named Stevens she is probably living, so that

1. Sarah Webb, who now declares
2. Robert M Walter
3. Thomas B Walter,
4. Hiram A Walter
5. Melind Stephens

are the children and only children and heirs of Nancy Walter deceased the widow of the said Soldier,

Declarant's said father the soldier was born August 12th 1761 and was married to Nancy Black in Rowan County North Carolina on the 25th day of March 1788 by Colen Campbell a Justice of the Peace, the Record of said soldier's age his marriage appears to be set down years past and is certainly true and as to me declarant's opinion is in his her father's own hand write [handwriting], only it heard now opinion that the Record of the marriage was said to be the

handwriting of the Justice of the peace who married them, the papers here with file, W. W. & N. B. cut out of the old Presbyterian confession of faith Printed in Edinburg in Scotland was declarant's father's book – he was of the Presbyterian Church, and so was his said wife, and widow, and appears to have been printed in Edinburg in 1793, the Book has been in declarant's possession ever since or shortly after the death of her father, and the Record is certainly true and without erasure or any alteration.

She has no other documentary evidence service or the matter knows not who his officers were she has some impression that he may have been of the Virginia line or served with the Virginia Troops as her father was accustomed to talk of the Virginia Blues he may have been of that line, She prays a search &c Joshua Barritt [sic] of this County Jefferson in Illinois had been talking some years before he died of preparing a Declaration from Declarant's history of the case and sending it to Mississippi for her said widow to be sworn to to obtain her Pension, but he having died without effecting it, she being now did Declarant would prosecute the claim for herself and other children and place herself under obligation as special administratrix to draw the Pension or her part, or as Law and propriety may and does suggest &c declarant would further state that said Barrett of this vicinity wrote as he said to Declarant's brother in Mississippi where to [sic, the said widow lived and she died for his, and her concurrence, for him Barrett to act as her agent to get her Pension but as Barrett said her said son wrote to Barrett that the old woman could live without it and gave him no encouragement to apply for it.

This declarant also believes is true;

Declarant was born in Iredell County North Carolina, and lived there with her father until about the year 1796 or 1797, and her father, her mother and family moved to Washington County Virginia near Abingdon near Colonel Preston, and continued to live there till about the close of the war of 1812 and moved to Maury County Tennessee about 1814 or 1815, continued there till he died in 1829.

Declarant would suggest that her father William Walter may have served in the 71st Regiment in the Revolution as it seems now to her that he was accustomed to speak of that Regiment &c She knows of no certain chance or evidence to prove his service but relies on the Records of the events of that day for proof of the same.

S/ Sarah Webb, X her mark

[p 27: family record:

Wilm Walter Son of Robt. and Jane Walter his wife was born August 12th 1761

Wm Walter his Book hand and Pen Oct. 1826

1761
of 65

[p 29]

William Walter and Nancy Black was Marrared [sic] on the 20th [?] March in the year of our Lord 1788 [very faint]

[p 31]

Mary Walter Born November 25, 1793

Sarah Walter Born March 16th 1796

Robert M Walter Born January 19th 1799

Thomas B Walter born July 25th 1802

Hiram A Walter born March 30, 1805

Mary Walter Born November 25. 1793
Sarah Walter Born March - 16th 1796
Robert M. Walter Born Jan'y 19th 1797
Thos B. Walter Born July 25th 1802
Hiram W. Walter Born March 30. 1805

[pp 35-40: On September 25, 1855 in Jefferson County Illinois, Sarah Webb gave another affidavit in support of her application transcribed above; in this document she states that her father died in Bedford County Tennessee February 13, 1829; in addition she states: "as Respects the service of said William Walter she judges his name in service will appear enrolled with Robert Walter his father

Declarant knows nothing as to the officers he served under other than as set forth in her Declaration now in file: she thinks it may be, and likely was he was of the Virginia Blues as she recollects his talking much of them, and he was taken prisoner by the Tories and sold to the British, afterward, and being released from the British by change and swap, and then after the change and swap Enlisted with his the said father in the United States service, he was taken prisoner at home working at a tan trough fixing hides to tan for the use of the family, when the Tories came and took him...."

[Note: there is a Bounty Land Warrant Record Card showing that William Walter, a private in the Virginia line received Warrant Number 12686 for 100 acres by warrant issued January 31st, 1793 to John Stockdale, assignee