

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Williams R11628

Transcribed by Will Graves

f12NC

rev'd 7/14/17

[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.]

[p 4]

State of Kentucky, Perry County, to wit

On this 15th day of November 1834 personally appeared before Alexander Patrick an acting Justice of the Peace for said County William Williams a resident of said County and State aged 80 years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States as a Volunteer under Captain John Conly [John Connelly] Lieutenant Edmond Fears [Edmund Fear or Edmund Fears] and either Ensign or Sergeant Veach & he thinks Colonel Bateman [Christopher Beekman] the Major he does not recollect – they rendezvoused at the Pleasant Gardens in Burke County, North Carolina the County in which he lived; General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] was there General & he thinks met with them at the Pleasant Gardens as well as many other troops; they marched on up the Catawba River and on to the Cherokee Nation – as they went on he remembers at French Broad River Lieutenant Fears started in & told the men to follow him & as he spoke it he slipped and fell into the water & I told him I could not follow him that way. He remembers a General or Colonel & he believes Col. Williamson [Andrew Williamson of SC] Joining the Army somewhere but don't remember where.¹

As we were marching on there was an attack made by the Indians on the spies and those who were clearing out the road in advance & when the Guns were heard we rushed in but could not find the Indians as they had fled in the Cane. A man by the name of Alexander was shot in the foot and had to be carried on a Horse afterwards – he thinks there were two Indians killed one a squaw had the top of her head cut entirely off with a Tomahawk. Before this a Soldier's gun fired by catching the cock in a Bush and killed another Soldier & we stopped & buried him & then went on – when we got to the Nation we Cut down & destroyed their Corn and everything we could find & took off horses &c and he remembers that Scott & Hicks were taken two noted men traders [sic, traitors ?] among the Indians one he thinks was part Indian & the other had a squaw & lived there – he thinks the South troops took them with them – He remembers that a man by the name of Peck was shot while digging potatoes while we were at the Nation but the Indian could not be found – He thinks they started about the first of August & returned about the first of October say two months, & he thinks that this tour was in 1777 of the date he cannot be certain.

Some time afterwards & he thinks tolerable soon he went as a Volunteer under Captain Davidson [William Davidson] & perhaps Lieutenant Blankenship and was stationed at Fort Davidson to guard the frontiers – Davidson Station was at the head of the Catawba [River] – he

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

returned from there he thinks in April so that this tour was he thinks six months – after this he lost one of his eyes with the smallpox that he got from one of the Soldiers.

He frequently went as a Volunteer under Captains Hardin [John Harden] & McFarland [James McFarland] scouting after the Tories & found his own horse & don't remember of receiving any pay at any time from the Government for his services he thinks he was two months in the different tours under Captains Hardin & McFarland. He may have forgot some tours for he is fully of opinion that he served more than 12 months. He is old & infirm & is not certain that he is right in the way he has detailed his service but has stated from the best of his shattered recollection. He got discharges but has lost them – never took any care of them.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William Williams, X his mark

Sally Williams, wife of William Williams, above states that she was acquainted with said William Williams and lived in about 3 miles of him when he went the first tour described by him in his declaration to the Cherokee Nation & she knows that he started and believes he served faithfully as he always said he did & he returned with the rest of those who went from the neighborhood -- & she knows also of his going the tour with Davidson & believes he served as he states as she often heard from him in the time – and she is of opinion that he is correct as to the time – She also states that she knows of his serving with Captains Hardin and McFarland as this was after they were married – she has always heard him say that he served more than a year & always understood from the other soldiers that he served his tours faithfully.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Sally Williams, X her mark

[Jesse Boling & Daniel Duff, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]