

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Walter Evans R3395

f45MD

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/30/15

[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.]

The State of Ohio Shelby County: SS: Court of Common Pleas Term April A.D. 1836

On the fourth day of April A.D. 1836 personally appeared before the court of Common Pleas within and for said County Walter Evans a resident of said County aged seventy-three years on the 25th day of July last who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by Congress passed June 7th A.D. 1832. That in the month of August A.D. 1781 he was drafted as a militia man, and in the same month enlisted during the war in the Army of the United States with ___ and served in the 4th Regiment of the Maryland line under the following officers, to wit: Maj. Oxford or Roxford [probably Major Alexander Roxburgh], Capt. Gater [Henry Gaither] and Lieut. Harkerson [Robert Halkerstone]. The name of the Ensign not recollected. This declarant enlisted as above at Annapolis in the State of Maryland aforesaid. He first marched from Annapolis to where the city of Washington now stands and from there to York Town in Virginia. Declarant recollects that the Regiment to which he belonged was detained in George Town [Georgetown] one day on account of some troops coming from the North who were required to cross over the River in the first place. Some of these troops were French troops. Declarant was at the siege of York Town from its commencement until Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781] his forces to General Washington. During the siege the declarant recollects knowing of the grass tents or hovels thatched with grass of the Virginia militia which produced the discharge of many guns left by the militia who fled from the flames. One or two of the linen tents of the Regiment to which declarant belonged were injured by the fire. Declarant was sick in the house of Gov. Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, the last Royal Gov. of the colony of Virginia] when it was burnt, it then being used as a hospital which was about Christmas A.D. 1781. During the siege of York Town declarant standing upon the bank of the River saw about five hundred horses, as was supposed, which had been tied together, driven into the river by the British and drowned; some were floating in the river and some had floated upon the beach. It was understood that these horses were drowned by the British on account of forage failing, and the British despairing of supplies, by reason of the fleet of Count De Grasse [Francois Joseph Paul, Comte De Grasse] being at the mouth of the river. Declarant served until it was understood that Peace had taken place, and being unwell was permitted to leave the Army near Norfolk in Virginia in the fall of the year 1782 and returned home on furlough. It was not expected that his services would be longer wanted, but it was understood that if they should be he would be obliged to return to the service when called upon. Peace however having in fact been restored, declarant was of course not called upon. This was the reason why declarant never had a written

discharge, having left the Army as above stated before it was disbanded.

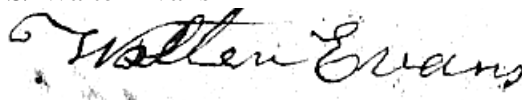
About eight or nine years since declarant made a declaration for his services with the intention of obtaining a pension and then took the deposition of one Phillip Locker who was personally knowing the services performed by this declarant. The declaration and deposition of said Locker were forwarded to William McLean¹ then a member of Congress for this district, and are said to be mislaid. If they can be found in any office at Washington City declarant would refer to them and especially to the testimony of said Locker to prove his claim. Declarant has herein stated the burning of the grass tents, the Burning of Gov. Dunmore's house, and the circumstance of the great number of horses drowned which he believes were not stated in his former declaration, and are now stated because it is feared that the deposition of said Locker will not be found and declarant was advised to state any circumstance which transpired within his knowledge while in the service which might harmonize with historic facts. Said Locker is now dead.

Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court.

The day and year aforesaid

S/ Walter Evans



[p 4]

The State of Ohio Shelby County: SS

James Wells Post Master of Sidney being sworn saith that he was present when Phillip Locker gave his deposition to prove the service of Walter Evans. It was as near as this affiant can now recollect about the time mentioned by him in the foregoing declaration and this affiant says that he well recollects that said Phillip Locker swore to services of said Evans in the Army of the United States at the siege of York Town as stated and claimed by said Evans in the foregoing declaration – said Locker being at the same siege. This affiant was present and forwarded the papers to William McLean then a member of Congress [from] this district. Deponent was then the clerk of the court of Common Pleas of said County, and as such attested the finding and action of the court in the premises – Philip Locker is now dead. This affiant has been acquainted with said Walter Evans ten or twelve years and says that he is a man of truth and integrity and his word deserving full credit. Sworn and subscribed in open Court the 5th day of April A.D. 1836

S/ James Wells

¹ McLEAN, William, (brother of John McLean), a Representative from Ohio; born in Mason County, Ky., August 10, 1794; moved with his parents to a farm in Warren County, Ohio, in 1799; attended the common schools; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1814 and commenced practice in Cincinnati, Ohio; moved to Piqua, Miami County, Ohio, in 1820; receiver of public moneys in Piqua, Ohio; through his efforts a subsidy of 500,000 acres of land was procured for building the Ohio Canal from Cincinnati to Cleveland; elected as an Adams-Clay Republican to the Eighteenth Congress and reelected as an Adams candidate to the Nineteenth, and Twentieth Congresses (March 4, 1823-March 3, 1829); chairman, Committee on Indian Affairs (Twentieth Congress); returned to Cincinnati, Ohio; engaged in mercantile pursuits and the practice of his profession in Cincinnati; also interested in agricultural pursuits; died in Cincinnati October 12, 1839; interment in the Catharine Street Burying Ground; reinterment in Spring Grove Cemetery April 2, 1863. <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=M000552>

Joel Frankeberger on oath says that the deposition of Phillip Locker referred to in the foregoing declaration and affidavit was taken before this affiant he then being a Justice of the Peace, and according to the recollection of this affiant said Locker swore to the services of the said Walter Evans at the siege of York Town in the Army of the United States, in manner as by him stated in the foregoing declaration. Affiant concurs with James Wells as to the character of the said Walter Evans.

S/ Joel Frankeberger

[p 5: Richard Hathaway, Sheriff of Shelby County Ohio gave a supporting affidavit as to the character and reputation of Walter Evans]

[p 20]

Land Office, Annapolis, May 21st, 1836

I hereby Certify that it appears by a List of Recruits for the year 1781, "remaining in this office," that the name of Walter Evans, appears upon said List, to have enlisted in the 4th Maryland Regiment, as a private, on the 15th day of August 1781, for the term of three years, – and I further certify, that I do not find his name upon any of the payrolls.

S/ George G Brewer

Register Land Office, W. S. Md.

[p 6: On October 25, 1854 in Miami County Ohio, Phillip Evans gave testimony that he is the son of Walter Evans; that his father died August 22, 1838; that his father's widow Nancy Evans died January 1846; and that there are 3 children of Walter Evans living, namely Nancy Wilson, Jeremiah Evans and Phillip Evans. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]