

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander McClelland R6620

f12PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/8/16

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky ) County of Montgomery ) SS.

On this 7th day of July 1831 personally appeared in open court before the Montgomery County Court, now sitting, Alexander McClelland, a resident of said county in the State aforesaid aged seventy-two years who being 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 U. States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: He was a volunteer from Fayette County, Pennsylvania, then the county of his residence. He entered the service as a private under Capt. Edward Stewart of the Pennsylvania Militia on the 1st of July 1781 as nearly as now recollects, and proceeded to the place of rendezvous on the Monongahela river, called in that day the New Store. Our company was a small one consisting of about thirty five men. We had no lieutenant. Our Ensign was a Mr. McDunold. We were also without a major belonging to the Militia, but we had a major of the Regiment by the name of Wales [?]. Morgan [probably Zackquil Morgan] was our Colonel and Clarke [George Rogers Clark] of Virginia our General. At this time I do not recollect Morgan's Christian name, but distinctly that he was known in camp by the name of old Cuff Morgan. From the New Store (where the troops remained something like two weeks preparing) we proceeded down the river in boats to M'Key's Island [McKey's Island also spelled McKee's Island, belonging to Alexander McKey/McKee, Superintendent of Indian Affairs] — opposite the mouth of Shisler Creek about three miles below Pittsburg. We remained here near two weeks and while there three regulars, whilst on the river a short distance from where the Army lay, were killed by the Indians. We then proceeded to Wheeling and were detained there for several days. At that place we were joined by some troops who came by land from the Red Stone Country, but a considerable number of our men deserted about the same time. From there we went down the Ohio to Louisville where we arrived on the 1st of August. While in Louisville Captain Tipton [probably Abraham Tipton]<sup>1</sup> and Captain Chaplain of the Regulars were killed by the Indians. These officers, when attacked, were riding to a station in the neighborhood. They were tomahawked and scalped. I assisted in burying them. By the time we reached Louisville our numbers which when at M'kee's Island must have exceeded six hundred men, was diminished by sickness and desertion to such a degree that Gen. Clarke found it impracticable to proceed on his intended expedition which was — as understood by the troops — to penetrate the Indian Country north of the Ohio as far, if possible, as Sandusky, and then to march by land to Pittsburg. The General, having exerted himself unsuccessfully to raise in Kentucky the forces necessary for his expedition, finally abandoned it, and resolved to disband his troops — with the exception of the Regulars. The Officers of the Militia were accordingly discharged about the 1st

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<sup>1</sup> [Abraham Tipton R18512](#)

of October and the privates permitted to return with an understanding that they should draw pay and rations up to the time of their actual arrival at home. The second day after I left Louisville I was taken ill of a fever from which I was compelled to stop. I lay nine weeks about a mile from Bardstown — at a Mr. Thomas Cunningham's from whence I was removed by Thomas Morton to Bardstown where I was confined about the same length of time. This disease ultimately located itself in my left leg —from which I experience pain and inconvenience even at this day. My affliction was such that I found myself wholly disabled from undertaking my journey homewards until about the 1st of October 1782, when I left Kentucky, and reached home on the 29th of the same month. A short time after my arrival at home, I received from Capt. Kannon, the successor of Capt. Stewart who had been killed in Crawford's defeat [Battle of Sandusky, June 6, 1782], my written discharge. This paper, to the best of my recollection, was forwarded to some Virginia Land Office, and has never been heard of by me since. I have no documentary evidence in my possession which will show, nor do I know of any person whose testimony I can procure, who can testify to my service, as above set forth.

1. I was born in Sussex County, New Jersey, about a hundred miles above Philadelphia, on the 16th of January 1762.
2. I have a record of my age now at my house taken from the family record of my father.
3. I was living in Fayette County in the State of Pennsylvania when called into service. A few years after the close of the Revolutionary War I removed to Fayette County in the State of Kentucky. Whence I removed to Montgomery County in the latter State in 1795 — where I now reside, and have resided ever since.
4. As stated in the foregoing part of this statement, I entered the service as a volunteer.
5. I recollect the names of Captain Ben. Whaley, Lieutenant James Paul, Major Wales [could be Wolis], Captains Tipton and Capt. Chaplain and Colonel Crockett as among the officers on the expedition.
6. I did, as above set forth, receive a discharge, and it was disposed of as previous stated.
7. I am known in my neighborhood by John McCormack and Samuel McCormack, who can testify as to my veracity, and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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 this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Alexander McClelland, C his mark

[Samuel McCormick, a clergyman, and John McCormick gave the standard supporting affidavit.

[Note: Claim rejected on the basis that the veteran failed to establish 6 months continuous service as required under the 1832 act.]