

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel McClung R6626

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Pennsylvania

Washington County SS

On this 19th day of June, 1834, personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting, Alexander McClung [sic] a resident of Hanover Township in the County aforesaid and state aforesaid, aged seventy one years on the 5th day of March last past, 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 the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1777 on the last week in June or first week in July under the following circumstances & under the following named officers and served as herein after stated

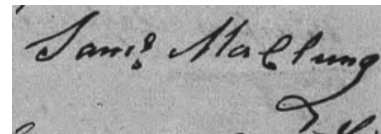
I lived at the time I entered the service in Baltimore County Maryland and was generally occupied in driving my father's team of 4 horses & waggon from that place to Baltimore & other places. About the first of July 1777 I hauled a load of sugar & salt for Edward Murray to Baltimore which load I delivered to the consignee at Fells Point in Baltimore. Soon after I discharged my load myself and team were pressed into the service of the United States by Thomas Foard a forage master in the service, by whom I was attached to the division commanded by Col Darby Lux[?] which consisted of five Companies under the following Captains. Edward Oldham [BLWt1110-300], Joshua Rutledge [pension application W708], Joshua Miles [W9196], John C. Owens and William Harvey, which several companies so officered marched in about 4 weeks from Baltimore to join the Regular Army under Washington, on the Brandywine We marched directly towards Philadelphia myself and three other teamsters who were also pressed into the service in Baltimore hauling all the military stores & camp equipage. We did not form a junction with the main Army until the 5th day of October following, at Germantown in Penna, which was the day after the memorable battle [4 Oct 1777]. I with my team was immediately engaged in hauling the wounded to the neighbouring houses & barns which were converted into Hospitals for the time being. I think I was detained with my team at and about Germantown for about two months from which place about the first of December we were marched by Gen'l. Washington across the Delaware River into the State of Jersey to a place which I think was called Prospect Hill where the Militia were discharged and the Regulars went into winter quarters [at Valley Forge]. Myself and John Deals were detained in the Service of the Regulars, and were dispatched with our teams about the middle of December, under the command of forage master William Guinn of the Regulars, with a platoon of soldiers as a guard to each waggon, to the North River for two heavy Cannon, each of which made a good load for a team. I think we brought these cannon from Saratoga in New York [probably after the surrender of the British to Gen. Horatio Gates at Saratoga, 17 Oct 1777]. On account of the great distance to be travelled, the extreme severity of the weather and the interruptions of the enemy we did not get back with these Cannon until the Spring. I think we were engaged abot four months in this excursion. When we arived with the Cannon where the main army were encamped, they were mounted on a floating batery in the Delaware river. We remained with the Army at this place engaged in various services until some time in the Summer of 1778 when it was ordered to march to the South [see endnote] and myself and Deals compelled to accompany it. From New Jersey were were marched to Philadelphia – from thence to the Susquehana river [sic: Susquehanna River] – thence direct to Baltimore thence to the Patapsco where Ellicots mills now stands [now Ellicott City MD] thence (I think) to Georgetown on the Potomac thence across Virginia towards the "Carolinas" I was taken with my waggon into North Carolina. We scarcely ever knew where we were going, it was our buisness to just follow the army, Sometimes we would travel one day in one direction, and the next in a different direction so that we rarely knew our destination, and gave ourselves but little uneasiness on that point. The army had been seperated into various divisions before we reached the Carolinas. Soon after the detachment to which I was joined reached Carolina it being encamped was attacked in the night and driven

off by the enemy with the loss of nearly all its baggage [see endnote]. As soon as the camp was attacked myself and Deals hitched up our teams and started off in the night to save our teams from being destroyed or carried off. We remained in the neighbourhood until we learned the fate of our detachment and then started for home in Baltimore Co Maryland which place we reached about the first of November being about one month after the rout of the Americans in Carolina

When we arived in Baltimore on our return we unloaded the little that remained in our waggons at the magazine at Fells Point, and then went directly home having been out in this service full sixteen months. During all this time we were engaged continually either in hauling in provisions from the country under the forage masters or hauling the baggage for the army when on march — I was born in in Baltimore County State of Maryland in St James Parish, on the 5th day of march 1763. I have a record of my age in my family bible, which record of my age and birth & baptism was copied from the Parish records of St James Parish Md. When I was called in to the Service I lived where I was born, and there remained until the year 1811 when I removed to Washington County Pennsylvania where I now reside. The manner in which I entered the Service I have before stated viz I was pressed or forced into the waggon masters department with my team and waggon. The 5th Interrogatory is fully answered in my general Statement. I never received a discharge from the Army. I beg leave to mention the following named persons as being acquainted with me who can testify to my Character for varacity and their belif of my Services as a Soldier of the Revolution James McFerran Robert Brierly, Cap[?] John Fulton Wm McGreery late of the House of Representatives Wm Jones James Proudfoot Esq James Dorning & others. The reason why I have not produced a Clergyman to certify for me is simply this; the Rev Elisha McCurdy who I expected to attend for me, has not come to Court he lives 24 miles from the county town & perhaps found it inconvenient to attend. I know no person living who has a personal knowledge of my services. I have no documentary evidence to prove my services. I never received any compensation for all the services I rendered the United States except one shirt and one pair of shoes which were given me by forage Master Gwin. I drew my rations regularly as the other soldiers, and God knows some times they were poor enough

He hereby relinquishes evry claim, whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

A small, rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature appears to read "Samuel Maclung" and is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Personally appeared before me, one of the Commonwealth Justices of the Peace, in and for the county of Washington, Robert Bryerly who being sworn according to law, doth depose and say that, he is aged 64 years, and is well acquainted with Samuel Maclung, having been born and raised in Baltimore County, Maryland, within six miles of the residence of Samuel Maclung's father, from whence he removed to Beaver county Pennsylvania, in the fall of the year 1796; that, Samuel Maclung was reported and believed among his neighbours of Baltimore county, to have been out about the year 1778 as a teamster in the service of the United States; that, he has heard his brothers Eliezer [possibly Eleazer Bryarly] and Richard Bryerly [Richard Bryarly] who were out in the Carolina seiges say repeatedly that Samuel Maclung served as a teamster in said campaign, and was remarkable as a teamster considering his age; that, he has heard Capt John C Owens declare that Samuel Maclung was employed in the service of the United States as a teamster under forage master William Guinn, and has also heard other officers, whose names he does not recollect, declare to the same effect; and further this deponant saith not.

[signed 19 June 1834] Robert Bryarly

NOTES:

The Maryland troops were not ordered to the South until the spring of 1780.

The nighttime attack in the Carolinas was probably the Battle of Camden SC, which began in the

early hours of 16 Aug 1780 and ended with the Americans under Gen Horatio Gates being scattered.

No explanation was given for rejecting McClung's claim to a pension, but it was probably because he was considered to have served as a civilian rather than a soldier. He would have been 14 at the time he was pressed into service, and men were supposed to be at least 16 before being drafted into military service. In addition, drafted tours in the militia were seldom for more than a few months at a time.