

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hugh McConnell R6641

f47VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/11/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Indiana Fountain County: SS

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 1834 personally appeared in open Court the said Court being a probate Court in and for said County, now sitting Hugh McConnel, a resident of said County, Aged Seventy Eight 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 Acts of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated; (to wit) in the Company of Captain Samuel Mason, Lieutenant Samuel Tomilson, Ensign George Rynehart, Colonel David Shepherd, commanded the Regiment, or Battalion, and on whose orders we were raised, Said declarant volunteered in the Company aforesaid, a private for the term of one year in the aforesaid Company, who was to serve as a company of Rangers, on the first of March 1776, at Grave Creek Station in Ohio County, and State of Virginia, Colonel Shepherd was the Colonel, Commandant of Ohio County Virginia, at that period. We were employed in ranging and stationed in the Forts of Grave Creek, Wheeling and Shepherd's as guards, on the frontier, until about the last of August in said year; when we were informed by a white man, who had been an Indian prisoner and escaped from them came to the Fort, at Wheeling and informed us, that the Indians he had escaped from was coming against said Fort, and that they would attack said Fort in a few days, and accordingly, the Indians came in the night of the last day of August 1776, and made an attack, on the House of McMahan, about three miles below said Fort, and burned said house, the prisoner that had come to us informed us that British and French morning between sunrise and daylight, a small party of Indians showed themselves in sight of the Fort, and pursued three men, that belonged to the Fort, The Indians pursued one of said men and killed him, by the name of Boyd. We pursued the Indians that had shown themselves about a mile in a circuitous route and an engagement became General, between the Indians and the troops but previous to the engagement, or battle taking place myself and Lieutenant Tomilson were chosen as Spies, the Indians was lying in Ambuscade when the troops from the Fort and the Indians commenced the battle, and said Battle continued near a half hour. I suppose when all the Officers belonging to the company that I belonged to were killed except the Captain who was wounded. The Captain ordered a retreat to the Fort, this said declarant was wounded in said battle. The ball entered the right side of said declarant passing through the hollow of the body said Battle was fought on the first day of September 1776; at Fort Wheeling Virginia, said declarant remained in the said Fort four months in care of Sergeant Pusey who Colonel Shepherd sent to Pittsburgh for who was there, with the Regular troops commanded by Colonel Gipson [probably Colonel George Gibson], until said declarant was cured of his wound. Served on said tour ten months including the time of curing his wounds; at

that period the officers all being killed as aforesaid except the Captain of the company said declarant belonged to, The Captain had gone away to have his wounds cured and the Company being broken and were not ordered to rendezvous again. Said declarant never received a discharge for said service.

On Second tour as aforesaid, said declarant saith that he entered the Service of the United States and served as herein stated. In the company commanded by Captain Andrew Ramsay the Lieutenant and Ensign was elected after we had marched across the Ohio River by the Company, we being volunteers, raised by order of Colonel Shepherd; at said Shepherd's station in Ohio County Virginia. This declarant volunteered on said tour as aforesaid, at the Station aforesaid, in the month of March 1777 or 78; after we had been marched over the River Ohio as above alluded to, we proceeded to elect our company officers thereupon, Joseph Ogle was elected Captain Andrew Ramsey Lieutenant and this said declarant Ensign of said company. This declarant received no Commission from any executive authority but was in possession of Commission for a lieutenancy, Given to him by the proper authority of the State of Virginia, but had volunteered, on the above tour a private. After electing the said Company officers, we marched to Coshocton Indian Towns on the Muskingum River in the now State of Ohio, destroyed their towns and killed about ninety head of the Indians cattle, took some Indians prisoners, returned to Wheeling, discharged the troops, that we commanded in the month of April, in said year, Colonel Broadhead Commanded, about one hundred fifty Regular troops, that accompanied us on said expedition under whose command we were also, Served not less than one month on said tour, This said Declarant's Service of the United States on a third tour in the company of Captain William Bruce, Lieutenant Jeremiah Wright, Ensign William Wilkins, In the month of July A.D. 1781 at a place called the New Store on the Monongahala River about twenty miles above Pittsburgh, in the now State of Pennsylvania, Marched to McKee's Island below Pittsburg. There joined the troops of General George R Clark [George Rogers Clark], Colonel Peaticost [perhaps a mistaken attempt to refer to Colonel Dorsey Penticost] then commanded us but returned to Pittsburgh Colonels Harden and Morgan commanded us afterwards. We were put on board of Boats and sent down to the Falls of Ohio. Said declarant volunteered on said third tour, as private, were stationed at the Falls of Ohio – aforesaid a part of said six months, that we volunteered for, said declarant attended the treaty that General Clark had at the Falls of Ohio (as a guard) with the Six Nations of Indians, (or their King Batters [?]), marched from the Falls to Boones Station on the Kentucky River relieved the Fort when besieged, and brought the persons that were in said Fort to Lynns [?] Station, Buried the dead that had been killed between wounds Station and Jynns [?] returned to the Falls aforesaid and were discharged were six weeks in performing the Journey home through the wilderness from the Falls, got home a few days before Christmas 1781, did not serve on said tour less than six months on said tour. On a fourth tour said declarant entered the Service of the United States aforesaid (as follows to wit) he being the Oldest commissioned Lieutenant in Ohio County Virginia of Militia, was ordered out by Colonel Shepherd with the Command of twenty-five men who were drafted at Shepherd's Stationed in said County of Ohio, said declarant marched them to Bogg's Station below Wheeling, and there were stationed one month, to guard the frontiers, rendezvoused in the month of August 178\_ [last digit written over and illegible] at the station aforesaid – that men that said declarant commanded as aforesaid he discharged in the month of September in the year 1787 and made out a pay roll and drew certificates for their pay.

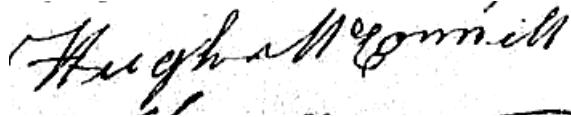
The following is the interrogatories required by the regulations of the War Department

1<sup>st</sup> Declarant was Born in the year 1756 in the County of New Castle State of Delaware, he has a

record of his age at his house,

3<sup>rd</sup> Was living in Wheeling Ohio County Virginia – have lived since the Revolutionary War a part of the time in Ohio County aforesaid, a part in the State of Ohio – I reside now in Fountain County Indiana, on the first tour I volunteered, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> tour I volunteered, and was promoted or elected to an Ensign's command, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> tour volunteered, on the 4<sup>th</sup> tour was ordered out as a Lieutenant being the oldest commander in the County, The names of the regular officers who were with the troops where I served was General Clark, Colonel Broadhead, Colonel Bryant, Major Findley, Captain Clark and Captain Brady & Crockett the militia officers were Colonel Shepherd, Colonel Hardin, & Colonel Morgan, 6<sup>th</sup> Question I received 2 commissions the one signed E. Randolph and Patrick who was at the time of said commission Governors of Virginia that he this said declarant has no discharge and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his Service. That 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] any Agency.

S/ Hugh McConnell



[p 9]

August the 6<sup>th</sup> 1787

Sir

You are to Repair Emediately to John Bogg's where you are to take the Command of the Drafts that Shall be Sent to that place and So Regulate your Conduct as will be best to Cover the Settlement by Scouting when it Shall best suit & from Welin [Wheeling?] Down the River as Low as fish Creek at Least Weekly but you are to keep out Som of your party Every Day as Spies I think it would be best for to Make Discoveries to Send them over the River & Spy from Indian Weelin as Low as you May think proper if there is any Discoveries you are to Let me know as quick as possible be Cearful in your March Not Suffering men to make a noise or Shoot to Waste the Amunition in Other matters that May [indecipherable word] your Conduct will Direct . I am Sir your Huml Sert

S/ David Shepherd

Hugh McConnell Lieut.

Cy Lieut [County Lieutenant?]

[p 13: original Lieutenant's commission dated April 2, 1787 signed by the Beverly Randolph, Governor of Virginia.]


[p 17]

We John Hamilton and D. G. Keedy of Covington Fountain County Indiana, do hereby certify that we have examined Hugh McConnell of said County and find him to be an old infirm man wounded in right side apparently by a musket or rifle ball, the ball entered the right side, into the cavity of the abdomen, and in consequence of Old age and the effects of said wound we consider the said Hugh McConnell totally disabled.

Given under hand this \_\_ day of November A.D. 1835

August the 6<sup>th</sup> 1787

Sir


 You are to Repair Immediately to John  
 Poyss where you are to take the Command  
 of the Troops that shall be sent to that  
 place and so Regulate your Conduct  
 as will be best to Cover the Settlement  
 by Searching when it shall  
 be sent Suit & from Weelin Down the River  
 as Low as Fifth Creek at Least Weekly  
 but you are to keep out some of your  
 party ~~out~~ Every Day as I will think  
 it would be best for to Make Discoveries  
 as to send them over the River & by  
 from Indian Weelin as Low as you may  
 think proper if there is any Discoveries  
 you are to Let me know as quick  
 as possible be Careful in your March  
 not Suffering men to Make a Noise  
 or shoot to Waste the Ammunition in other  
 matters that may happen your Conduct  
 will Great I am Sir your Humble  
 Servant  
 David Shepley  
 Captain

Aug 2<sup>d</sup> 1787  
 David Shepley  
 Captain

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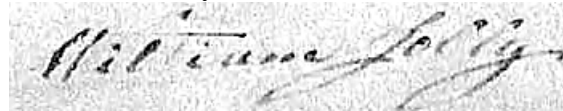
John Hamilton  
 D. G. Keedy

[p 25]

State of Indiana Warren County Sct.

Personally came before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace of said County William Jolly who after being duly sworn deposed & saith that he this deponent has been acquainted with Hugh McConnell since he this deponent was six years old and always were living near him except the six years this deponent was a prisoner with the Indians, and to this deponent's own personal knowledge the said Hugh has been reputed and believed to have been a Soldier of the Revolutionary Army, in the neighborhood where said Hugh resides, this deponent perfectly recollects to have heard said Hugh relate frequently [for] thirty years or more sense that he was wounded at the Battle of Wheeling, and that he the said Hugh was with General Clark a Campaign [campaign] to the falls of the Ohio; and that this said deponent has frequently seen the wounds that said Hugh told him this deponent that he the said Hugh received at the Battle of Wheeling under the command of Captain Samuel Mason, further deponent saith not.

S/ William Jolly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Jolly". The ink is dark and the paper has a slightly textured appearance.

State of Indiana Warren County Sct: Personally came before me John B. King a Justice of the said County Jacob High<sup>1</sup> who deposed and saith that in the year 1776 or '77. That he this deponent was called out [by] the Constituted Authorities of the colony of Virginia to go against the Indians on the Frontiers of Virginia in the Company of Captain Foremon [William Forman] of Hampshire County Virginia, that this deponent was marched to Fort Wheeling a short time after Battle of Wheeling –laid at Fort Wheeling a few days and now perfectly recollects after having a conversation with you McConnell and the said McConnell relating to this deponent the names of the Officers and some of the circumstances that occurred while Foremans Company that this deponent belonged laid at said Fort that the said Hugh, must be the identical man that was then lying wounded in said Fort: it being but one wounded man in the Fort at that time this deponent well recollects of seeing Doctor Pusey dressed the wounds of the wounded man the morning that said deponent left the Fort and marched to the Battle of the Narrows on Grave Creek where Yocum's and Foreman's Companies were principally killed by the Indians and further deponent saith not.

S/ Jacob High, X his mark

[attested November 17, 1835]

[p 28]

State of Indiana Fountain County: SS

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1835, personally appeared before the Probate Court of said County, now sitting – Hugh McConnell, resident of said County aged seventy-nine 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, That he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated, (to wit,) in the Company of Captain Samuel Mason, Lieutenant Samuel Tomlinson, Ensign George Rinehardt [George Reinhardt?] at Grave Creek Station in Ohio County Virginia said Company was raised for a company of Rangers for the term of one year, by order of Colonel David Shepherd of Ohio County Virginia, The

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<sup>1</sup> FPA S32322

Company Officers being first duly appointed, came to the Stations of Grave Creek, Shepherds, and Wheeling, and there made engagements with such persons as would enroll themselves in said Company to serve as a company of Rangers as aforesaid, said declarant, engaged to serve in said Company in the month of February 1776, a private, were employed Ranging and Scouting, to repel the then frequent attacks of the Indians on the Frontier settlements of Virginia, and stationed at the different Stations in said County: when he was not engaged in ranging until about the last of August 1776, declarant was then in Wheeling Station (so-called) information was received at said Station, from a man by the name of Robert George, who had been a prisoner, taken by the Indians, and had made his escape from them, that the Indians, British and some French would attack the Fort Wheeling soon, However they did not attack the Fort, until about a week from the time we had been informed they intended to make an attack. They came in the night of the last day of August 1776, and crossed the Ohio River, and burned the House [of] McMahan, a few miles below Wheeling, The next morning, three men went out from said Fort for the purpose [of] reconnoitering, and if possible to ascertain the position of the enemy – They had not proceeded far before a small party of enemy showed themselves, The troops that were sent from the Fort retreated, and were pursued by the enemy and were overtaken, and [one member of that party was] killed by the name of Boyd, the others made good their retreat to the Fort, This said declarant, and Lieutenant Tomlinson was ordered out in front of the troops from the Fort that had marched out to engage with the enemy, as spies, declarant marched near a half mile from the Fort, when the enemy rising from an ambuscade attacked the troops generally, the Battle continued probably an half an hour, our troops suffered severely; Lieutenant Tomlinson and Ensign Reinhardt was both killed, Captain Mason, dangerously wounded. Said declarant being wounded the ball entering the right side, and passing through the Hollow of the body, The troops retreated to the Station declarant got into Fort Wheeling, two of our men was killed in the retreat Colonel Shepherd's son, and a man by the name of Thomas Glenn, the Fort was attacked the same evening. The enemy continuing the attack till the next morning, Colonel Shepherd sent immediately to Pittsburgh (that is now) for Doctor Pusey, of the regular troops to attend to the wounded, that were at Fort Wheeling, that had been wounded in the battles of Wheeling and the Narrows the former was fought on the first day of September and the latter on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the same 1776. Doctor Pusey remarked to said declarant when dressing his wound if you had eaten your Breakfast (meaning this declarant) that morning your wound would have needed no dressing, The Captain Mason being dangerously [wounded] and [he] was taken away to have his wound to word, and the Lieutenant, and Ensign being both killed in the battle, The Company was without officers, declarant was permitted to return to his home he being unable to perform military duty on account of being wounded, Served not less than six months in the Company aforesaid engaged aforesaid, Engaged in the service of the United States on a 2<sup>nd</sup> tour at shepherds Station aforesaid in the Company of Captain Andrew Ramsay, volunteered served as an Ensign in said company, in the month of March 1777 or 1778, Colonel Shepherd raised about one hundred volunteers and militia and joined Colonel Broadhead, who commanded about one hundred fifty Regulars, we marched from Shepherd's Station in Ohio County Virginia, and crossed the Ohio River at Wheeling from thence to Coshocton Indian Towns on the Muskingum River, there destroyed the Indian towns together with their corn, and about ninety head of that cattle belonging to the Indians, took some Indians prisoners, returned home to Ohio County Virginia and was discharged in the month of April 1777 or 1778, served not less than one month and said tour,

The said declarant entered the said service of the United States on a third tour, in the

month of July 1781. A new Store on the Monongahela River about twenty miles above Pittsburgh, in the company commanded by Captain William Bruce, Lieutenant Jeremiah Wright and Ensign William Wilkins, marched from thence to McKee's Island there joined the troops commanded by General George R Clark, Colonel Pentacost then commanded us; but he returned to Fort Pitt we were put under the command of Colonels Hardin and Morgan, and on board of Boats, and went down the Ohio River, to the Falls, there stationed; and attended the treaty that General Clark had with the Six Nations of Indians or their King, Battees, as a guard, were then marched to relieve Boone's station and Lynn's Station, When besieged and relieve them, and brought the besieged from Boone's station to Lynn's Station, and buried the dead, that was killed by the Indians between Boones and Lynns Stations, We returned to the Falls = aforesaid and was discharged by Companies by General Clark. We were six weeks in performing our journey home, arrived at home a few days before Christmas A.D. 1781. Said declarant further saith that he volunteered and was a private on tour and did not serve less than six months.

Declarant entered of the United States on a fourth tour (as follows to wit) he being the oldest Lieutenant of the Militia that was been in the County of Ohio Virginia, was ordered out by Colonel Shepherd, of said County with twenty-five men that was then called a Lieutenant's guard, in the month of August 1782 or 1783, said it militia man being drafted in Ohio County Virginia, and put under Declarant's Command, rendezvoused at Shepherd's Station and marched to Boggs Station below Wheeling and was there stationed under the command of said declarant one month, to guard the frontiers of Virginia, said declarant at the end of one month after being stationed at Boggs Station aforesaid discharged in the militia man under his command, and made out a pay roll, and drew certificates for their pay,

Declarant further saith in relation to the commission purporting to be his now on file of the War Office, and at which it appears, that Mr. Edwards in his letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 1835 to John B. King Esquire, cannot conceive for what purpose said Commission was forwarded to that Department, unless it was for the purpose of exposing the forgery it bears upon its face, for the purpose of removing the impression that the arransure [erasure] has made on the Department (if possible) I shall be compelled to detail under oath the circumstances (to wit) at the time that said declarant served in the war of the Revolution that a Company of militia man, in the now state of Virginia, consisted of forty privates which was a full company, But in the year 1786, that militia Companies were augmented to sixty in consequence of which, one third, of the company officers, were supernumerary, the County Court of Ohio County Virginia recommended so many of the militia Officers as was necessary to command the militia Companies in said County to the Governor of said State, and they were commissioned again by Beverly Randolph, then Acting Governor, of Virginia, and said Commissions was sent on to Colonel Chaplin, who was then Colonel Commandant of Ohio County Virginia, declarant being recommended by said court to the Governor, through some mistake, either in the clerk of the said County Court (or elsewhere) the Commission of said declarant was forwarded to Colonel Chaplin in the name of James McConnell Colonel Chaplin being Clerk of said court and Colonel Commandant of said County and being well acquainted with the circumstances arreased [erased] the name (James) with a pen and inserted (Hugh) I received said Commission and was ordered to qualify into office, I did so accordingly, The first Commission received by said Patrick Henry my second commission it being for a lieutenancy was signed by Thomas Jefferson, when said declarant was about to leave Virginia, he intended to have given up his commission signed by Beverly Randolph But through a mistake, he gave up the commission signed by Thomas Jefferson for a lieutenancy under which he served at Boggs Station in the year 1782 or 83 and that he has no

documentary evidence of his services, and that he knows of no person living who can testify to his services, except (William Hardisty if living) who served under said declarant one month at Boggs Station. 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.

S/ Hugh McConnell

[John Hamilton and David Rawles gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born

Ans. Born in the year 1756 in New Castle and State of Delaware (Quest 2<sup>nd</sup>) I have a record of my age that I copied from the records of my father, (3 question) I were living at Wheeling in Ohio County Virginia I have lived since a part of the time in Virginia a part in the State of Ohio and a part in Indiana where I now reside, first tour I volunteered, in company of Rangers 2<sup>nd</sup> tour I first volunteered a private but was afterwards elected and Ensign and served as such one month received no commission, 3<sup>rd</sup> tour volunteered – 4 tour was a Lieutenant by commission was signed by Beverly Randolph – (5 Question) The Regular officers were Colonel Broadhead, Colonel Pentecost General Clark, (militia) Colonel Shepherd Colonel Morgan Colonel Harden (Colonel Byard, Major Findley, Captain Clark, Captain Samuel Brady were regular Officers) I have never received a discharge, received 3<sup>rd</sup> commissions one signed by Patrick Henry one by Thomas Jefferson and one by Beverly Randolph, never received a discharge. David Rowls and John Hamilton