

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis McDurmid (McDermid) R6686

Margaret McDurmid f42VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/24/13

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Fleming County Sct.

On this 3rd day of September 1823 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record expressly made so by the laws of the State creating and establishing the same for the County of Fleming aforesaid Frances McDurmid residing in the said County of Fleming aged sixty-six years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first of May 1820. That he the said Frances McDurmid enlisted for the term of 3 years or during the war in the month of April or May in the year 1780 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Isaac Taylor in the Regiment commanded by Colonel __ in the line of the State of Virginia in the Continental establishment. That he continued to serve in the said Corps until the latter part of the summer or fall of the year 1783 when he was discharged from the said service at the falls of Ohio in the then State of Virginia but now State of Kentucky. That at the time he was enlisted he was told he would be marched to the lower part of the State to join the Regiment but instead of that he was kept under Captain Taylor and employed with his company through the year 1780 principally in the upper parts of North Carolina and mostly against the Tories in that state. That he was not in any regular fought battle during the revolutionary War but was in many skirmishes with the British and Tories. The most signal of all was at a place called the Hollows of North Carolina where several of the Tories were taken prisoner and hanged on the spot. That in the fall of the year 1780 a major of the regular Army took command of the company to which he belonged with some Virginia militia and directed our march to Kentucky and continued with us a few days then leaving the detachment returned the major's name he cannot recollect. And that is the only field officer he was under the immediate command of through the year 1780. That about the last of December 1780 or early in January 1781 Captain Taylor arrived with his company he this deponent still being one of the same at the falls of Ohio when they were attached to the command of General George Rogers Clarke [George Rogers Clark] and thinks in the fall of 1781 or in the spring of 1782 Colonel Crockett [probably Joseph Crockett] came down the Ohio River with some Virginia troops when he was placed under the command of Colonel Crockett. That in the year 1781 Captain Taylor resigned his command, at which time he the said McDurmid was placed under the command of Captain Abraham Chaplain – After joining General Clarke he was employed against the Indians North West of the Ohio River, had many skirmishes and destroyed many of their towns and crops. That early in the year 1782 most of the Virginia troops under General Clarke except those that had enlisted in the regular Army for during the war was discharged from that time till late in the summer or fall of 1783 he remained at the fall of Ohio and was honorably discharged at the time

and place aforesaid. And that he has no other evidence now in his power to establish his Enlistment and services than the testimony of George Shepherd who is here present and served as a soldier with him the greater part of the time. And his sister Mrs. Williams who was acquainted with his enlistment &c &c.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed to wit

One horse creature worth in specie	\$30
One Cow worth in specie	6
One Dutch oven and small pot worth	2
Cupboard ware worth in specie	2
One old table and 4 old chairs worth	2
One Loom worth in specie	<u>5</u>
	\$47

That at the Court of Claims in Fleming County in the fall 1822 the said Court allowed me \$75 and in Commonwealth Bank paper for a support for one year. I being a pauper and unable to support myself the greater part of that sum has been paid to me by the sheriff and employed in my support a small balance of \$25 or \$30 still remains in the sheriff's hands and may go to augment the amount in the schedule above stated which balance is worth only one half the nominal amount. I further state on oath that in early life I was by trade a Carpenter or shape joiner that more than thirty years ago I lost the sight of one eye entirely and the other so much so as to be unable to follow my trade or any other vocation for a living which loss of eyesight it was believed was produced from being a long time subject to very severe convulsive fits.

That nearly eleven years ago I was taken with the rheumatic pains in my whole system which for nearly two years inflicted most excruciating pain such as cannot be described by tongue or pen and left me drawn and stiff in all the joints of my limbs. That for two years past I have been unable to stand on my feet or walk as much as I was the day I was born my right hand is drawn with my fingers inwardly till it is like a club and my left hand though not so badly drawn is useless the joints of my knees are drawn crooked and as stiff as if no joint had ever been there. I have a wife fifty-two years old in reasonable health and my own health as to appetite is good enough I have two sons and a daughter with me viz. Orlesto about 14 years old, Jason going on 12 years old and Asenaith going on 11 years of age. And I further state on oath that I am in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to support myself without the assistance of my Country.

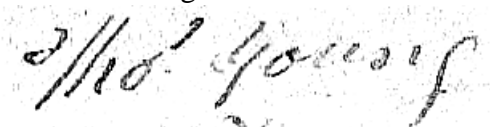
S/ Francis McDurmid, X his mark

I Thomas Young¹ of Bourbon County Kentucky do state on oath that I was a Captain in Colonel Crockett's Regiment in the Revolutionary War and while in the service of the United States or State of Virginia as a Captain in 1781 I became acquainted with the within named Francis

¹ [Thomas Young S11921](#)

McDurmide, who was then a soldier in the service of the United States. I knew him in the service from the summer of 1781 till the latter end of December of that year. I and my company was then discharged, And I left the said Francis McDurmide in the service. I have full confidence in the whole of his statement which I have read, although I was not with him more than 5 or 6 months, I know the said McDurmide was a good soldier and I have been acquainted with him for many years since we served together, lived several years together in Lexington Kentucky and have known him long since he left there.

S/ Thos. Young



[attested in Bourbon County Kentucky October 1, 1823]

[p 28]

I George Shepherd² of Mason County Kentucky do state on oath that I am personally well acquainted with Francis McDurmide who is now here personally present and with whom I have been well acquainted ever since the fall of the year 1781. The said Francis McDurmide being then a Soldier in the Revolutionary War. – I was one of the party of Henderson and Walker in 1779 running the line between Virginia & North Carolina and Kentucky and Tennessee and enlisted in the service of the United States as a soldier in January 1780 and in the latter part of the year 1781. I became acquainted with the said Francis McDurmide, who was then a soldier in the revolutionary war. As I understood enlisted for three years or during the war. – I know he remained in the service of the United States as a soldier from the time I was first acquainted with him until late in 1783 when he was honorably discharged, I was then present when he got his discharge at the falls of Ohio and saw it at that time but not since to my recollection. – McDurmide and myself were well acquainted in the Army and we lived near 10 years afterwards near together in Lexington Kentucky we both being mechanics were well acquainted and intimate, And have been acquainted ever since. I now live not more than 4 or 5 miles from him, and know that for the last 10 years the said Francis McDurmide has lived under the heaviest afflictions and in great distress on account of poverty, he is unable to walk or stand on his feet and has been so for many years, and when moved Only be in the arms of some persons like a child having no use of his legs at all.

S/ George Shepard



[Attested September 3, 1823.]

[p 29]

I Catherine Williams, of Greenup County Kentucky do state on oath that I am the sister of Francis McDurmide who is applying for a Pension, as a revolutionary soldier and about two years younger than the said Francis. I knew perfectly well he enlisted as a soldier in the service of the United States in the revolutionary war, in the year 1780. The circumstances are particularly strongly impressed on my memory from the following facts, In the fall of 1779, my father started

² Probably the same man as [George Shepherd \(Shepard\) W8723](#)

with his family to Kentucky from Prince William County Virginia and very soon occurrences happened which made it necessary to stop, the cold weather coming on, which was called they hard winter we remained there until the next fall, and in the spring of 1780 my brother enlisted for 3 years or during the war. In the fall of 1781 my father moved to Lexington in Kentucky where I lived and married, And my husband Charles Williams, in the fall of 1783 went to the falls of Ohio, and brought my brother to Lexington, his services as a soldier being then out. At the time he enlisted it was understood by myself and the family that he would be marched to the lower part of Virginia, – But as I was afterwards told and have always understood he was marched against the British and Tories in North Carolina, where he remained until the following fall when he was marched to Kentucky. I never saw my brother after he enlisted in 1780 till he was discharged and brought home in 1783. My brother started from home as a militia man, and a month or 2 afterwards we received a letter from him informing the family that we need not expect him home that year as he had enlisted for three years or during the war.

S/ Catherine Williams, X her mark

[Attested September 3, 1823.]

[p 31]

I Thomas Young of Bourbon County Kentucky do make the following statement to be used in connection with the statement that I have made some time last year in support of Francis McDurmid who was applying for a Pension as a Revolutionary Soldier and whose claim has been rejected by the War Department as I am informed under a belief that the said Francis McDurmid was a Soldier in Lieutenant Colonel Crockett's Regiment and not a soldier on Continental establishment. – I was a Captain in the Virginia State line under Colonel Crockett. The said Francis McDurmid was not a soldier in Crockett's Regiment to the best of my recollection and belief; nor did he ever received any pay or rations as a soldier in that Regiment to the best of my knowledge and belief. – Crockett's Regiment was marched to the falls of Ohio in 1781. And when we arrived there, I filed the said Francis McDurmid there with a few others a detachment that had been marched there as I understood long before, McDurmid and those soldiers done duty with Crockett's soldiers as the soldiers of one Regiment do with another when together, but was never considered as a soldier of Crockett's Regiment. In December 1781 the soldiers of Crockett's Regiment was discharged, and mostly left there for their homes – Francis McDurmid and those few soldiers that I found at the falls when I got there was not discharged, but remained in the Service. – I am as positive as I can be of anything of that length of standing that the said Francis McDurmid was not then nor never was a soldier in Crockett's Regiment as I believe all the roles if in existence will show; But was a soldier in some other Virginia Regiment, but what one this deponent has no knowledge nor does he remember ever to have heard.

S/ Thos. Young

[Attested May 25, 1824]

[p 33]

The deposition of George Shepherd of Mason County Kentucky: Taken to be used in connection with a former deposition given by him last year in favor of Francis McDurmid a revolutionary soldier – who is applying for a pension under the laws of Congress: This deponent states that he himself was a soldier in a Regiment commanded by Colonel George Rogers Clark usually called the Illinois Regiment: That he first became acquainted with the said Francis McDurmid at the falls of Ohio as he believes in the fall of the year 1781 or in 82 having no papers to strengthen

his recollection as to dates cannot be positive as to the exact time. This deponent arrived at the falls of Ohio just about the time Crockett's Regiment was discharged. He well recollects that about the time he got to the falls a very short time after all Crockett's Regiment left that station: that the said Francis McDermid, with some few other Continental Troops remained in service & afterwards were attached to Clark's Regiment. The said McDermid remained in service as stated in his former deposition. – This deponent was not present at the enlistment of the said Francis, but afterwards understood that he belonged to the same Virginia Regiment which had never been marched to the West except the few which was with him at the falls. This deponent is firmly of belief that McDermid was not enlisted in Crockett's Regiment but was a Continental soldier in the Virginia line, but cannot say the number of the Regiment nor does he know the name of the Commanding officer. – This deponent knew the said Francis McDermid between one and two years as a soldier in the service of the United States, he was discharged from said service in the usual way as a soldier having done his duty as such while in the service. – This deponent states that he was born (by information of his parents and family register, or record of births) on the 25th of January 1760 and is now in his 65th year. And of perfect mind and recollection as he ever was.

S/ George Shepard

[Attested July 5, 1824]

[p 3: On April 18, 1853 in Mason County Kentucky, Margaret McDermid, 85, filed an application as the widow of Francis McDermid, a revolutionary war soldier; that she married him May 16, 1792 in Mason County Kentucky; that they were married by Robert Willson, a minister of the gospel; that her name prior to her marriage was Margaret Redden and that her husband died in Maysville Kentucky April 23, 1833. She signed her application with her mark.]