

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of James McLaurine R6780

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Cumberland County State of Virginia to wit: On this 26th day of June 1843, personally appeared in open court, in the County court of the county aforesaid, James McLaurine a resident of said county, in the eighty fifth year of his age, who first 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 of May 15th 1828, entitled "an act for the relief of the surviving officers and soldiers of the revolution. That he enlisted in the army of the United States between the 3rd and 10th day of February 1777, with Captain Charles Fleming and served in the Seventh Virginia regiment of the line commanded by Col Crocket [probably William Crawford], second in command Lieut Col. [William] Nelson. The officers of his own company were Charles Fleming Captain, William Moseley and Mayo Covington lieutenants. He at that time resided in Cumberland, but the place of his (then) residence is now in Powhatan. The regiment marched through Fredericksburg, Baltimore &c to Philadelphia in the depth of winter and often slept on the snow. The hardships they underwent were extreme and the declarant had a violent cough fastened on him by the exposure. At Philadelphia the regiment was inoculated for the small pox. The declarants life was for a long time despaired of, since the disease left him with a disease of the lungs which threatened from year to year to put a period to his existence. In a feeble and emaciated condition he marched with the regiment to Middlebrook in N. Jersey, where a small portion of the army lay under the command of Col. Lee. He was in hearing of an engagement between Col Lee and a portion of the enemy, but his regiment took no part in it. On the opening of the campaign he was discharged as unfit for duty, from the broken state of his health. He was in service but three months But inasmuch as his health was entirely ruined by the service, and he was thereby prevented from serving the whole war, as his enlistment was for the whole war and it was no fault of his that he did not serve he claims the benefits of the act of 15th May 1828.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] James McLaurine

Powhatan County, State of Va. to wit

This 10th day of December 1844 William McLaurine of the County aforesaid appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the same, being first duly sworn according to law declared as follows. That he is the brother of James McLaurine, whose declaration is hereto annexed about two years younger than said Declarant, that he well remembers that in the winter of 76-77, as he believes, his brother went to the north in the service of the Va. State. that he returned the next Spring or Summer, in the situation he describes in his declaration, & for many years was in very delicate health. That he made the same statement to his Family & friends, which is contained in the annexed declaration, & we all believe it to be true, and do at this time, but not having been with him, I cannot swear that it is true. [signed] Wm. McLaurine

NOTE: On 9 June 1843 James McLaurine deposed as follows in support of the pension application (S9015) of his brother William: "I James McLaurine of the county of Cumberland and state of virginia do hereby certify, that my brother William McLaurine and I were living with our mother in Powhatan county at the time of Phillips invasion [Gen. William Phillips, Mar 1781], that we joined a corps of Cavalry, commanded, according to the best of my recollection and belief, by Littleberry Mosby of the County of Powhatan, that we marched from Powhatan with the troops to meet the enemy then in the vicinity of Petersburg, that the neighborhood in which we lived being in great alarm, I in company with, captain Poore, Major Hubbard, James Taylor and one other whose name I cannot recollect, went down to the neighborhood of Petersburg to collect news and were all taken prisoners immediately after the death of Phillips [13 May], whose coffin we saw, and of course saw no more of my brother, but I have no doubt, and have always heard that he served as he states."