

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of David May R7052

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky County of Perry SS.

On this 12th day of May personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County of Perry County now sitting David May a resident of said County of Perry Ky. aged 70 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 pass'd. June 7th 1832

That he entered the Service of the United States as a volunteer for 3 months in Halifax Town Pitsylvania County [sic: Halifax County, not Pittsylvania County] Virginia under Capt. Wm. McDaniel [William McDaniel] Lieut. Clem McDaniel [Clement McDaniel] in the Spring before Gates defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] marched from there & cross'd Staunton River at Dicks Ferry [sic: Dix's Ferry on Dan River 1 mi W of present Delila], before they got to the ferry met other companies at different points Militia & Regulars, cross'd. the Catawba river at the old Nation Ford [Nations Ford near Rock Hill SC] – pass'd. W. Lynchs tavern before got to Catawba River where we were also joined by some troops – pass'd. Bush's River [sic] & on to the main Army under Gen'l. Gates (& perhaps Gen'l. Pinckney [possibly Maj. Thomas Pinckney] as the name is recollected somewhere) about 8 or 10 miles from the Battle ground. And was in the Battle at Gates defeat & was a guard of the Baggage – the army retreated & many were slain in the swamp after they left the Battleground – returned afterward home & was discharged by Capt. Wm. McDaniel for 3 months

Shortly afterwards he entered the service again for 3 months as a substitute for Thos. James [Thomas James] under Capt. Spencer Shelton Lieut Ebenezer Hall & Ensign James Maid they met at Wilsons old Mill in Pitsylvania County Va. the Commandant of the Reg't. not recollected; but the Maj'r. was Maj'r. Rob. Williams [Robert Williams] until he was either broke or resigned then Maj'r. Alexander Rose; Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] he recollects – they staid 2 weeks at Wilsons Mill then went on by Salisbury & Charlotte to the Siege of 96 [Siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781] Recollects Col's. [Henry] Lee, [William] Washington & Maj'r. Ladolph [sic: Michael Rudolph]. He was in the Battle at the at the Siege and was in the ditch with many others [as part of the assault on the Star Fort, called the "forlorn hope," 18 Jun] when about 60 were killed & wounded & he himself was wounded in the thigh. He recollects a few days before they had to retreat the centry had gone to sleep & a man passed them on a white Horse and raised a flag, the gate was opened & he went in & great rejoicing was heard – at the retreat when we cross'd. Broad River a Line of Battle was formed expecting the enemy but they only come to the River & did not cross – in a few days he was taken with the smallpox and was able to do no more service until at least a month after his term had expired – he got his discharge for 3 months but could not go home for 4 months

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 & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[signed] David May

[Edward Polly (pension application W9236) certified that he had served with May in the three-month tour under Capt. Shelton.]

NOTE: May's claim was not allowed because it was thought at the Pension Office that he had not served the minimum of six months. No explanation was given.