

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Palmer R7912

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/28/12

[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 Virginia County of Westmoreland: SS

On this 24th day of February 1834 personally appeared before the County Court of Westmoreland William Palmer a resident of said County & state aforesaid; aged about 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 provision made by the Act of Congress, June 7th 1832. That he was called out in Service between the year 1776 & '83 as well as he can recollect, the precise year he does not recollect, under a Captain William Edwards, who commanded a company of militia; & when the British first came up the Potomac River, his Company with others descended the shores as well as they could, against the depredations of the enemy. He was first stationed at Nomony ferry [Nomini Ferry] on the Nomony Creek [Nomini Creek] a branch of the Potomac River where we had boats &c & guarded them, so that the Servants or slaves in the neighborhood might not go to the enemy; also to guard the tobacco warehouses at that place, where he continued four months, the Enemy having left the River as was believed, he was discharged for a short time; but was soon called out again under the same officers, and marched to Bushfield at the mouth of the Nomany Creek or River, and continued there some time from thence he was in moved down the Potomac River to sundry stations: and last to Sandy Point; during which time he served six months. The enemy then went up the River, and he was attached to Captain Edward Sanford's Company and marched from the mouth of Nomany to Stratford on the Potomac: where he was in a small engagement, from thence up the River a short distance to Lee's mill; making in that last tour eight months. This whole Service of eighteen months is at this distance of time all he can recollect: but he commenced the service soon after the war began, he was more or less engaged during the war. In one year particularly, he cultivated no crop. He relinquishes hereby every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State except this present application.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Teste: William Hutt, Clerk

S/ William Palmer, X his mark

[Samuel Templeman, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[The following document is partially compromised by the overlap of a seal over some of the text]

[Text missing] Westmoreland County Virginia

[text missing] the amended declaration of Wm Palmer taken at [text missing] his own house in consequence of bodily infirmity forbidding his attendance at Court, before me James Jett a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid this 12th May 1834.

Question. In your former declaration you state a service of 18 months: How was that service

rendered?

[Appears to be text written over or obscured]

4 months as set forth in my former declaration;

The residue of my service, charged, say 6 & 8 months, was rendered in regular stated companies, but at different times; sometimes I would be carried out for one month & discharge; & in a few days he [indecipherable word] in again, & serve another tour of some two or three weeks & again discharged & again be again called out accordingly as the enemy would make their appearance in our waters & so on nearly as long as the war continued, making my next time from the whole service, at least 18 months as above stated from home in actual service.

S/ William Palmer, X his mark

Westmoreland County Virginia SS

A Supplement to an amended declaration made by William Palmer a Soldier of the Revolution at his own house in consequence of bodily infirmity, forbidding his attendance at Court, & taken before me James Jett a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid this 29th day of July [?]¹ 1834, by way of question & answer as follows viz.:

1st Question. In your first declaration made the 24th of February 1834, you said a that you served 18 months as a militia man in the Revolutionary war, and in your amended declaration, made the 12 May 1834 you say this 18 months service was performed at different times and in different stations without designating the length of time at each place; that you will if you can, say how long you stayed at each place & what were the names of the different stations?

Answer. I am still confident that I served in all at least 18 months as before said on oath: for I was out off & on, 6 years, & one year I cultivated no corn.

I will state such places, & such time at each, as I can now distinctly recollect, & shall not mentioned the many days & weeks lost in marching from place to place, which I suppose I shall have to lose.

In my first station at Nomony ferry I continued 4 months. Next, at Bushfield, I stayed two weeks. From thence to Sandy Point, I stayed one month. Thence coming up the River, was stationed at Booth's two months. Thence at Curry omen [?]² house two weeks. Thence at Hollis' Marsh two weeks. Thence at Chantilly house six weeks. From thence to Stratford & Lee's Mill; at the first place, I stayed one month, & at the last, 3 [?]³ months, where we had a battle with the Enemy. And further he saith not.

S/ William Palmer, Senior, X his mark

Questions propounded to the aforesaid William Palmer which should have been part of the Court aforesaid, but being omitted at that time, and the said Palmer being of infirm health & unable to attend again in open Court avails himself of the law in that case provided, before a justice of the Peace, this 24 day of March 1834 – 1st Where and in what year were you born?

1 Judge
 2 Curry omen
 3 3 months

Answer. In Westmoreland County, but the precise year I don't recollect I believe about the year 1764

2nd. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I have no record of my age, if it was made, I have never seen it –

3rd. Where were you living when called into service & where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, & where do you now live?

Answer to the 3rd Question. I have lived all my life in Westmoreland County; having in my life made several removals, but never out of the County –

4th. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute? And if a Substitute for whom?

Answer – I was called into service as a militia man, was not drafted, nor was I a substitute for any person.

5th. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental & militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general Circumstances of your services.

Answer. Captain William Edwards, Captain Richard Muse & Captain Edward Sanford were the principal officers that were with the troops where I was. [Entire line of text compromised and illegible] the general circumstances of my service are set forth in my declaration.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service, and if so by whom was it given & what has become of it?

Answer. I do not recollect to have received a discharge from service; if I did, I have forgotten it –

7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify to your character & veracity, and their belief of your Services as a soldier of the Revolution?

Answer. Captain George Glasscock, Ransdall Pairse, & James Jett have known me for a length of time, and I have no doubt would testify as to my honesty & veracity as well as many others in the neighborhood & heard of my services.

S/ William Palmer Senior, X his mark

[f p. 11: Daniel Marmaduke, about 65, gave testimony in Richmond County on February 15, 1834 that he is sure that Palmer was a soldier serving generally on the Potomac River with other troops.

Dan Marmaduke