

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Rowlett (Rawlett) R8607

f8VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/10/12

[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 Tennessee Shelby County: February Term 1840 Circuit Court

On this 10th day of February 1840 personally appeared William Rowlett a citizen of said County of Shelby in open Court aged eighty years on the 15th of May next who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted for two years & served the time out in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 in the month of September with Captain Bland and served in the Regiment in the Virginia line under the following officers. That he was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Robert Johnson and as well as he recollects Captain Bland was made Colonel the Major's name was Asa Purnell who was killed by a British deserter. Benoney Overstreet [perhaps Benoni Overstreet] was also a Major that he served under. That he was attached to the company of Captain William L. Moore and also under John Crute who was a Captain.

When he was first enlisted he was marched by Captain Bland to the Valley Forge and remained there until March and was then marched across the Delaware River and to the different places I do not now recollect. The night we crossed the River the American Army built up the fires and the British Army seeing the fires were deceived by General Washington and we marched to Mud Island Fort about 25 miles and we took the Fort at Mud Island and then we marched through the different Eastern states until the Battle of Brandywine on the 15th of September 1777 [sic, September 11, 1777] where he was engaged in the next Battle we were engaged in was at Germantown on the 4th of October 1777 as well as he now recollects, we were then marched back to Valley Forge where we took up winter quarters and during the spring of 1778 we were marched to different places and on the 28th of June 1778 as well as recollected we engaged the British Army at Monmouth Court house and had a Severe Battle and we were marched to different places until the British left Philadelphia and we were then stationed there and there the time expired for which he had enlisted and he again reenlisted under Captain William L. Moore for one-year at the time of his second enlistment there was many of the soldiers who refused to continue in the Army unless they were paid in silver and General Washington made a speech that they were fighting in a good cause and would be sure of success and that they ought not to leave the Army at that time, and that he then reenlisted and they were called new levies and Colonel John Steel was there Colonel a part of the time we then marched from Philadelphia to Maryland, Virginia & to Hillsborough North Carolina and at Guilford C. H. we had a Battle [March 15, 1781] but the North & South Carolina & Virginia Troops done the most of the fighting the detachment I was attached to had but little to do on that day and from there we were marched to George Town [Georgetown] & then Campden [Camden] where we had a small brush [perhaps a reference to the battle of Hobkirk Hill April 25, 1781] with the British

and we then went to Black River Fort South Carolina and then we marched to the Eutaw Springs where we had a severe battle [September 8, 1781] we were then marched to Little York in the State of Virginia and after the surrender of Lord corn Wallace [October 19, 1781] and we were marched to Concord where we were discharged after the treaty of peace.

The said William Rowlett hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State and that the reason he has not heretofore applied for a pension is that his circumstances have been such that he did not need the bounties of the United States but that his circumstances are now changed & that he has lost his discharge and that the evidence of his service he has no doubt is now of record in the War Office.

Sworn to in open Court the 10th of February 1840

S/ L. R. Brown, Clk

S/ Wm Rowlett

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wm Rowlett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.