

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Scott R9314 Seley R. Scott VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 Aug 2014.

State of Illinois – Morgan County Sct.

In the County Commissioners Court

On this 3rd day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Commissioners Court of said County now sitting William Scott a resident of Morgan County State of Illinois aged seventy seven years who first being duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832–

That he entered the service of the United States in the month of June 1780 being one of the Virginia drafted militia, his captain was Charles Balls [possibly Charles Ballew], the Colonel of the regiment George Stubblefield the lieutenant Colonel Joseph Spencer [pension application S37436] of Orange County Va. the General Edward Stephens of Culpepper County [sic: Edward Stevens of Culpeper County]– when he was drafted he resided in Cumberland County Virginia – he was in the battle commonly called Gates defeat in North Carolina [sic: defeat of Gen Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden in South Carolina, 16 Aug 1780] – He was in service six months at that time –

In the month of March 1781 he volunteered and returned to the service of the United States in a Volunteer Company formed in the Counties of Cumberland and Prince Edward and commanded by Captain Ambrose Nelson who was under General [Robert] Lawson, General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] Commander in Chief – He was in the battle of Guildford Courthouse North Carolina [sic: Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] – He served three months at that time–

He states that a skirmish took place near Camden the night before Gates defeat between the advanced guards of the two armies and that the general battle commenced early in the morning– The American militia were put forward to begin the fighting with orders to fire and retreat – many of them forgot the former part of the orders & retreated without firing at all – The officers tried to rally them but in vain – Lt. Colonel Spencer was taken prisoner –

That at Guildford Courthouse we the American forces were stationed on a ridge or elevation the enemy on low ground in a plantation – the enemy fired cannon at us but shot too high and did no injury but what was caused by the falling limbs of trees cut off by balls– The enemy nearly flank round us before we discovered their movements when we retreated a short distance and formed again for battle – The enemy it was said thought we fell back for a reinforcement & they very hastily moved off – we pursued but found them not–

He also states that Continental money was very abundant during his service in the U. S. army that frequently in hiring washing he paid four dollars a garment – All the gambling negroes carried rolls of it– That it was so much below par as to be of no value scarcely to any body. That he does not recollect and actually knows he did not receive any pay for his services– money was of so little worth that the expence of applying for it would have been more than the value of it when received–

He states that he moved from Virginia to Wayne County Kentucky and resided there 27 or 28 years– that he then moved to this State (Illinois) where he has resided more than two years – that he is blind and in very low circumstances in a pecuniary point of view– that he has no documentary evidence of his service – and hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present – and declares that his name is not on the roll of the Agency of any State–

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid– William hisXmark Scott

NOTE: On 17 June 1844 Seley R. Scott, 68, applied for a pension stating that she married William Scott on 20 or 21 May 1792 in Surry County NC, and he died on 4 Oct 1836. Her application was rejected, apparently because of insufficient proof of marriage.