

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Venard<sup>1</sup> S14766

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/1/11

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Harrison County: Sct.

On this 10th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court before us William Turnish, Thomas B Woody and Stephen B Currant and Lewis Day Esquires Justices of the County Court of Harrison County now sitting William Venard a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy-three years on the 16th day of March 1832, who being first 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 was born in Loudon [Loudoun] County in the State of Virginia on the 16th day of March 1759 according to his family register now in his possession.

That at the age of about seventeen years he removed to the County of Washington in the State of Pennsylvania, and that about the spring 1777 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was drafted and served one tour of one month had Beach bottom on the Ohio River near the mouth of Buffalo under Captain (since Colonel) Thomas Gaddis<sup>2</sup> of the Pennsylvania militia. Again in the fall of 1779 he served one month as a guard or Indian spy at Lindsey's Fort on ten mile Creek a branch of the Monongahela River; under Captain Thomas Gaddis aforesaid.

Again in the year 1778 he served three tours of one month each at Lindsey's, Jackson's and Atkinson's forts on the Creek aforesaid; under Lieutenant William McFarland of the Pennsylvania militia. In 1779 he was called into the service and assisted Ensign John Venard of the militia aforesaid in arresting some Tories near Whitley's Fort. After delivering those Tories to proper authorities, to be dealt with according to law, they received an express, stating the Indians had besieged Whitley's Fort. We marched immediately to its relief; when we arrived, the Indians were gone; and after our term of one month expired, we returned home by permission.

Again, in the same fall, he served one month at Lindsey's Fort as a guard or Indian spy under Lieutenant \_\_Myers of the militia aforesaid.

Again, in 1780 while engaged as a guard or spy near Atkinson's Fort, he received orders to rendezvous at the Fort aforesaid in order to go on a campaign against the Indians. He attended; but, after consultation among the officers, they concluded not to go; and he was

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<sup>1</sup> I did not find in this file any explanation for why this veteran's application was filed under the Virginia veterans. It is my impression, however, from other similar applications that the probable reason for filing this application under the Virginia files instead of the Pennsylvania files is that the area of Washington County at the time the veteran claimed to have served from it was then claimed and administered by the state of Virginia. Also, the officers under whom this veteran claimed to have served were officers in the Virginia militia.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas Gaddis is listed in the Virginia militia records as being a Captain of the Monongahela militia at Fort Liberty.

directed to return to his station at the Fort aforesaid. He obeyed, and served out his term of one month under Lieutenant Philip U. Allen of the militia aforesaid.

And again in the same year he was called as a guard to the frontiers on the waters of Wheeling Creek; and served under the aforesaid named Ensign John Venard the time not recollected, but believe to be one month.

He served again under Captain Abner Howd in relieving Fort Wheeling when the siege by the Indians in 1780 or '81. Again he served on and during McIntosh's campaign under the aforesaid named Lieutenant Philip U. Allen. Again in 1782 he volunteered and served under Captain Bayne of Major Bunton's Battalion, on and during Crawford's campaign; when the little Army under Colonel Crawford was routed and defeated on the Plains near the Sandusky River; and their brave, though unfortunate commander captured and burnt. And this declarant always understood that all those who served on this campaign were created with two tours by reason of having furnished their own horses and provisions. This declarant further states that he cannot now say whether he received regular discharges for all the services aforesaid and if he did, they are now lost; and he has no documentary evidence to prove the service or discharges; and he knows of no living witness by whom he can prove the same.

Moreover he resided in the said County of Washington and State of Pennsylvania until the year 1792 when he removed to Kentucky where he has resided ever since.

I William Venard do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state or territory whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Venard, X his mark

[Isaac Munson, a clergyman, John Conner and Abner Haydon gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p 14: in a letter dated February 23, 1838 addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions the veteran is described as being about 80 years of age; his wife of about the same age and very palsied in the head; that the veteran and his wife have lost "to promising son's in the unfortunate battle at the River Raisen on the 22nd of January 1813, and some of their children have died since, so that they are now without help, and helpless themselves."]

[f p 24]

State of Kentucky Harrison County: Sct.

Be it remembered that on the 23rd day of April 1838, William Venard of the County and state aforesaid makes the following amendment to his former Declaration.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said County William Venard, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades

For nine months I served as a guard or Indian spy. For four months I served as a private in guarding the forts, and on campaigns against the Indians; and for such service I claim a pension. I am now nearly blind, and so palsied as not to be able to feed myself.

Sworn and subscribed this 23rd day of April 1838 before me

S/ William Furnish, JPHC

S/ William Venard, X his mark

[f p 10: in a letter dated May 3rd, 1838 addressed to the Commissioner of pensions, the writer states that the veteran and his wife (not named) are both living; that they were married in 1780; that they had children before the veteran volunteered to serve in Crawford's Campaign; that the veterans wife was at that time nearly deaf and badly palsied.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]