

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William McKinney S16470

Transcribed by Will Graves

f28GA/VA

rev'd 4/1/09 & 1/23/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, Adair County: SS

On this 10th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Adair County Court now sitting William McKinney a resident of the County of Adair and State of Kentucky aged 74 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 passed June 7th, 1832. --

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. --

He states that he enlisted in the service of the United States in the year 1775 under Captain Thomas Colier [sic, Thomas Collier] whose Lieutenant was Douglass Watson. He lived at that time in Charlotte County Virginia and after enlistment marched from thence to Petersburg Virginia and there joined the Halifax & Mecklenburg troops and marched down to Jamestown, crossed the River and entrenched awhile and moved on to Williamsburg, then to York, thence to Gwyn's Island [Gwynn Island] and there was stationed until the battle¹ was over then marched to Potomac at a place called Cherry Point & there are stationed awhile and under the command of General Lewis until the Indians broke out on the Holston [River]. When the Army heard that, we marched on home, gave up our muskets, drew small arms and marched on to Holston to rout the Indians. There we were stationed at the Island of Holston until the Army returned who had gone on in pursuit of the Indians to their Nation under the command of General Lewis, before we got there who [sic] General Lewis had left under the command of Colonel Haynes Morgan and when they returned from the Nation he received a discharge from General Lewis and returned to Virginia. The foregoing tour was 15 months. He remained at home about two weeks, went on to Georgia and enlisted under Captain Austin for three months during which time he was ranging and guarding the Country from the outrages & barbarity of the Indians. He sometime after enlisted in Georgia under General Williamson [Andrew Williamson], Captain Logan & Lieutenant Charles Herd to go to Florida and went on to St. Mary's River, crossed and there met General Howe [Robert Howe] Continental officer.² General Howe wanted General Williamson to give up the flour & bacon to his officers and us to draw beef & rice in its stead but the soldiers refused and General Williamson also. General Howe and his officers got mad and went off and left the Army at St. Mary's River. After he had been a few days, General Williamson sent some men to ascertain how far the Tories had gone. He volunteered amongst the rest and marched out 25 miles to Trout Creek; there we came across the Tories and British in a half-faced Fort,³ had a

¹ July 8-10, 1776, Gwynn Island

² Second Florida expedition: Spring 1777 <http://www.ourgeorgiahistory.com/wars/Revolution/revolution11.html>

³ This probably is a reference to Fort Tonyn at which a battle occurred on June 30, 1778 in which Elijah Clarke was wounded (and nearly captured). This battle is sometimes referred to as the Battle of Alligator Creek.

scrimmage & Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] the commander got wounded & we had to retreat back to St. Mary's River. Upon our return, General Williamson sent Major Pickens [Andrew Pickens], afterwards General Pickens, back to Trout Creek, pressed all the wagons, horses and he, your petitioner, volunteered and went back under the command of Pickens but upon the arrival of the men, the British & Tories had fled across St. Johns River. Pickens followed them as far as the River and camped on one side & the British & Tories on the other. The next morning we commenced our march to join General Williamson at St. Mary's River then marched on to South Carolina into 96 district. He continued in the service & the spring following was at Augusta under General Williamson when the British took Augusta at the time of Ashe's defeat [John Ashe at the Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779] at Briar Creek. He then received his discharge from General Williamson & returned to Virginia. This tour was 18 months. A few months thereafter he went to Augusta and was taken prisoner by the British and [held] four months & let off upon parole. He made his escape & joined General Clark upon Little River. General Clark then went on to Augusta & your petitioner with him and under his command. A fight ensued at Augusta & continued four days and your petitioner was in the battle from beginning to end.⁴ The Army and your petitioner in it went to Kings Mountain and in that battle [October 7, 1780] he was engaged all the time and assisted in defeating General Forgusson [sic, Major Patrick Ferguson], took a great many prisoners, took them to Bickerstaff and hanged nine of them and after we crossed the River Catawba we hung three more and took the balance on to Moravian town. He was under the command of Camell [sic, William Campbell] & Shelby [Isaac Shelby] at Kings Mountain. A short time after he with others joined General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] & pursued routes for the purpose of coming across Col Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] but when we came across him he was in company with Cornwallis & his Army. We fired at them across the River. We then marched up to Blackstock's on Tyger River. Tarleton followed us. We whipped him back and General Sumter was wounded in the shoulder [Blackstocks, November 20, 1780]. He states that he has lost all his discharges and has no documentary evidence by which he can prove this service and further he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. 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.

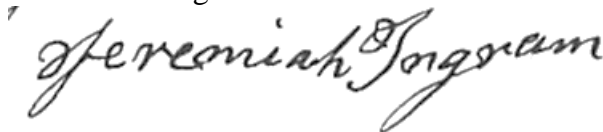
S/ William McKinney, X his mark

[Nathan Gaither and William Young gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Kentucky Adair County to wit

I Jeremiah Ingram⁵ of the aforesaid County & State do hereby certify that William McKinney was in the United States service at Gwyns Island at the time Dunmore's Fleet lay at that place. Given under my hand this night day of August 1832.

S/ Jeremiah Ingram



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Georgia and Virginia militia.]

⁴ Siege of Augusta (first/Clarke) [September 12-18, 1780] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/>

⁵ [Jeremiah Ingram S15184](#)