

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Pearson S16507

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/6/12

[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 Kentucky Mercer County Sct.

On this 7th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful, the Justices of the Mercer County Court, now sitting, William Pearson, a resident of Mercer County and State of Kentucky, age ninety-four 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:

I, William Pearson, do upon oath solemnly aver that I have no record of my age, but from the best information, I was born in the year A.D. 1738, and am now ninety-four years old. I was born in the State of Maryland in the part of the State called "the Eastern Shore;" from whence I removed to the State of Virginia. I resided in Prince Edward County, Virginia, when the war of the Revolution broke out; and was enlisted as a Soldier in said war, for the term of one year in the Virginia line under the command of Colonel Walker – my Captain's name was Bob Walton. I enlisted as aforesaid, I performed about two months of duty before we marched to meet the enemy; I was then marched towards Georgia for about two weeks, and being unable from sickness to proceed any further I was honorably discharged by my officers.

I was again twice drafted in the Virginia Militia to go to Petersburg Virginia. I marched twice to Petersburg Virginia under the command of Captain Liggin. I performed under his command two tours of service – each for three months. These two terms of service were performed, I think, about the middle of the war. I do not now recollect the names of any of the officers except that of Captain Liggin mentioned above.

Again, I volunteered in the Virginia Militia on the following occasion. Lord Cornwallis with his Army was near Dan River marching (as it was then thought) to a place called "Moore's Ordinary" in Prince Edward County, Virginia. The militia was called out to meet Cornwallis and to prevent his coming in to Prince Edward. I volunteered in this service for a tour of three months, and marched to meet Cornwallis under the command of Captain Thomas Moore, our Ensign was a Asa Purnell – John Purnell was our Lieutenant, and ___ Cox our Colonel. We joined the Army under the command of General Green [presumably Nathanael Greene] a few miles from Dan River and with him marched and counter marched and retreated before Cornwallis for several weeks – until General Green thought proper to give him battle at Guilford Court-House North Carolina. I fought through the whole of this engagement [March 15, 1781], and after the Battle was over I retreated with General Green to Ramsour's Mill [sic, Ramsey's Mill] on Deep River. At this mill I was honorably discharged. The battle at Guilford Court-House was, I believe, in the year A.D. 1781.

The above three tours of military duty to – in the Virginia Militia when we were marched to Petersburg Virginia – and one when we fought the British at Guilford, I do aver, I faithfully

and fully performed. And the first tour for one year for which I was entered in the Virginia line I do further aver I was prevented (except two months and two weeks) from performing by sickness. At the expiration of each of my above tours of service I received from my officers Honorable discharges, these I have lost or mislaid, not thinking they would ever be of any service to me.

I aver that I have no documentary evidence by which I can prove my service in the war of the Revolution, and I know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify to my service.

After the war of the Revolution I continued to reside in the State of Virginia until about twenty-seven years ago, at which time I removed to the State of Kentucky, in which State and in the County of Mercer I now reside. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present; and do declare that I am not now, nor ever have been, a pensioner of the United States or of any State.

As witness my hand this seventh day of November 1832.

S/ William Pearson, X his mark

[Martin C. Duncan, a clergyman, Robert B McAfee & Ransdell Poulter gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$37.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia militia for 11 months & 14 days.]