

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Michael Massengill S1687

f37NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 Tennessee, Grainger County

On the eighth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open court, being a Court of record for said County, Michael Massengill, a resident of the County of Grainger and State aforesaid, aged Seventy Seven 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 Army of the United States in the year 1776 and served under Captain Jacob Wormick [sic, Jacob Womack] some time in the month of June until some time in the month of October of said year and that he afterward volunteered under Captain James Shelby, who joined General Christy [sic, William Christian] at the Long Islands in Holston River, in an expedition against the Cherokee tribe of Indians, in the State of Tennessee. In the month of July 1780, we marched under Captain Bean [William Bean] in the regiment commanded by Cols Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke], Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and Williams [James Williams] against a large party of Tories and British encamped at Musgrove Mills,¹ on the south side of Enoree River, where we had a battle with them on 19th day of August 1780, which resulted in the defeat of the British and Tories, a number of them were killed and wounded and a considerable number were taken prisoners.

This applicant was in that battle and in that expedition he served about three months.

That after the battle of Enoree River he returned home and that a short time afterwards he volunteered under Captain Burnett in the expedition against the British and Tories encamped at Blackstocks, where we had a battle with them, the precise time this applicant does not recollect, owing to the great lapse of time since it took place. At the battle of the Blackstocks,² we killed and wounded a great number of the British and Tories, and took a considerable number of them prisoners amongst whom were several British officers. In this expedition against the British and Tories we were gone six weeks.

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 in open court this 8th day of April 1833.

S/ Michael Massengill, X his mark

¹ August 19, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/musgrovesmill.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_musgroves_mill.html

² November 20, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/blackstocks.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_blackstocks.html

[John Kidwell, a clergyman, and John Bunch gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

S/ William E. Cocke, Clerk

S/by D. Barton, DC

[John Kidwell, a clergyman, and John Bunch gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

In answer to the interrogatories required to be propounded to him by the Court, this applicant further states:

1. That he was born in Northampton County in the State of North Carolina on the first day of March 1756.
2. That he has no record of his age.
3. That he resided in Watauga River in what is now Washington County in the State of Tennessee during the whole of the Revolutionary War; that he afterwards removed to what is now Jefferson County in said State and that now he lives in Grainger County in said State, where he has resided for upwards of thirty three years.
4. That he always served as a volunteer; that he was drafted once but furnished a substitute and that he never served as a substitute for any one.
5. That he never served as well as he recollects with any Regular Officers and the names of all the militia officers and regiments that he now recollects are mentioned in the foregoing declaration or statement of his services.
6. That he never received a written discharge.

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court this 8th day of April 1833.

S/ Michael Massengill, x his mark

S/ Wm. E. Cocke, Clerk

By S . D. Barton, J. C.

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State of Tennessee Grainger County:

Be it remembered that on this 8th day of April 1833 personally appeared Pharaoh Cobb³ before James R. Cocke one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County of Grainger and State of Tennessee and made oath in due form of law that he served two tours of duty as volunteers in the Revolutionary War with Michael Massengill that they were citizens of what is now Washington County in the State of Tennessee in the company commanded by Capt. Warmick [Jacob Womack] that they were attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonels Clarke, Shelby & Williams and that they were together in an expedition against the British and Tories encamped at the Musgrove Mills on the South side of Enoree River when a battle was fought on the 19th of August 1780. Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

S/ Pharaoh Cobb, X his mark

S/ J. R. Cocke, JP

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State of Tennessee Grainger County:

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, a Justice of the peace for the County of Grainger aforesaid, Michael Massengill, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that by

³ [Pharaoh Cobb S1657](#)

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: In the year 1776 I served as a volunteer under Capt. Wormick a period not less than four months. In the latter part of the year 1776 or in the commencement of the year 1777 I served as a volunteer under Capt. Shelby a period not less than three months. In the year 1780 he again volunteered under Capt. Bean and served a period of not less than three months. That in the latter part of the same year (1780) I again volunteered under Capt. Burnett and served a period of not less than six weeks -- making in all eleven months and fourteen days that I served as a private in the Revolutionary War --

I will here state that I am well acquainted with General Andrew Jackson President of the United States, General John Cocke, Judge Hugh L. White and divers other persons whose testimony I could procure as to my character for veracity, and the general belief of my neighborhood as to my having been a soldier of the Revolution if it should be required. I am also known in my immediate neighborhood to John Kidwell a clergyman and John Bunch who ~~can~~ ~~now~~ have certified as to the general belief of my neighborhood as to my character for veracity and my services as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 5th day of July 1833

S/ Wm E. Cocke, JP

S/ Michael Massengill, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$38.21 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months and 14 days in the North Carolina militia.]