

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William McLeskey [McLusky]¹ S1693

f14SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/23/09: rev'd 1/29/17

[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 Tennessee Weakley County

On this 8th day of April 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions now sitting, William McLusky a resident of Tennessee & County of Weakley aged about Sixty-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 service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

He states that he entered the service about the year [garbled entry, could "1780"] under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], Col. Hayes [Joseph Hayes] & Major Noble [Alexander Noble] & the name of our Capt. was Francis Carlisle. Under these officers I served two months in 15 or 20 miles of Charleston. The British forces at this time had possession of Charleston -- our officers marched us in the direction of that place for the purpose of besieging it, but was diverted from their object by some circumstance I do not now recollect. At the time I entered the service I lived in the County of Abbeville in the State of South Carolina. When I left this service & returned home I received no discharge from my officers & consequently I am unable now to produce one -- When I entered the service under General Greene I was drafted for two months, which I served as above stated without being in any engagement whatever. As soon as I left the Army under General Greene I volunteered under General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] & served four months Anderson [probably Robert Anderson] was our Col. & the name of my Capt. was Norrad [John Norwood] -- During this term of my service we frequently had skirmishes with parties of Tories in the County of Abbeville South Carolina, and I was present at the siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781]² which we kept up two or three weeks, & while we were engaged in drawing a line of circumvention around the place, a Reinforcement of the British arrived from Charleston & we were compelled to raise the siege and evacuate the place. We then went into parts of North Carolina; we passed in our route through Burke & Mecklenburg Counties without meeting with either British or Tories in our way -- Shortly after the siege of Ninety Six the Indians & Tories united in the upper part of Abbeville County and was spreading fire & devastation over the Country, when we were marched against them by our officers, and dispersed them after having a few skirmishes -- This I think must have been in the date of 1781 -- I entered the service in 1781 & quitted it in 1781 as well as I can now recollect and I never

¹ This veteran's pension file is indexed under the name "William McLusky" but he clearly signed his name "Wm McLeskey" so I've used it in this index.

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

received a discharge from any of my officers -- I have no documentary evidence of my service, nor do I know of any person living in this Country by whose testimony I can prove it -- I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State -- Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid -- The reason the declarant has not procured the certificate of a clergyman is that he is not sufficiently well acquainted with one residing in his neighborhood.

S/ William H. Johnson, Clerk

S/ Wm McLeskey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wm McLeskey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail.

[Isaac Cruce & James Smyth gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the South Carolina militia.]