

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Medley S1698

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/22/13: rev'd 7/25/18

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

State of Tennessee White County } SS

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting John Medley a resident of said County aged Eighty 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He entered the service in Fauquier County in the State of Virginia under Captain Thomas Conaway [sic, Thomas Conway, Jr.] for the term of three months. The company to which declarant belonged was marched by Captain Conaway to the house of William Brunt's Esquire on the Potomac River: where they were stationed and remained some short time when the company under furlough was marched back home and held in readiness at a moment's warning for duty. They however remained at home until this declarant's three months expired. Some short time thereafter he was again drafted for three months – his Captain's name was William Blackwell, he was marched about one mile beyond Fredericktown in the State of Maryland. Where out of six companies, three companies were made up by selecting the youngest men. The balance were discharged and returned home, among which number declarant was one. After remaining at home sometime but how long he is unable to say he was again drafted for three months – Colonel Dabney [possibly Charles Dabney] directed that we should meet him at Goochland Court House, we done so and remained there some short time waiting for him but he did not come. The company was then ordered to Richmond where they still expected to meet Colonel Dabney, when they arrived there however they were informed that he had gone to Petersburg. This declarant was then placed in the company commanded by Colonel John Mountjoy. – General Spotts was principal commander according to his present recollection. Colonel Mountjoy gave declarant and the balance of the company to which he belonged a furlough for six weeks when they were required to meet at Bolingreen [Bowling Greene]. They done so. Shortly after meeting news reached Bowling Green of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781]. Colonel Mountjoy discharged his men and this declarant returned home. He states that in the three terms he served eight months forming the best estimate he can at this time. He is unable by reason of his extreme old age, and the great loss of memory to give more than this imperfect sketch of his services to his country. A few years since he could have given the circumstances of his service, the officers who were with the troops where he served; His memory he finds is and has been failing rapidly for some years past. He cannot for the reasons above swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the period mentioned above (eight months). He has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any person whose

testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He recollects to have seen Joseph Cummings<sup>1</sup> a citizen of White County at Richmond when he was there and of having conversation with him in relation to a tract of land lying in Fauquier Virginia belonging to a relation of said Cummings, but having conversed with him since they met in this County he finds that Cummings does not recollect the circumstances above alluded to – 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 any agency of any State. –

Answers to the questions prescribed by the War Department<sup>2</sup> and propounded by the Court –

1. He was born in Frederick County in the State of Maryland the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year 1746.

2. He has no record of his age, his father had and he from repeatedly seeing it remembers the period to be as stated.

3. He lived in Fauquier County Virginia each time when called into service – After the Revolutionary war he moved to Patrick County Virginia – from thence he moved to Knox County in this State – He then moved to this County where he now lives & has lived 25 years past.

4. He was drafted each time when called into service he thinks but in this he may be mistaken. –

5. He has stated the names of the officers who were with the troops where he served together with such general circumstances as he recollects. –

6. He received written discharges for his two last tours – The first tour he did not. These discharges are worn out or destroyed.

7. He refers to the following persons in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution: viz.: Joseph Cummings, Turner Lane – General John W Simpson – Major Lewis Phillips and Moses Goddard. He states he cannot produce a minister of the gospel.

Sworn to in open Court 13 July 1833.

S/ Jacob A. Lane, Clerk

By S/ N. Oldham, D. C. [ Nicholas Oldham, Deputy Clerk]

S/ John Medley, X his mark

[Joseph Cummings and Moses Goddard gave the standard supporting affidavit

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the Virginia militia.]

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<sup>1</sup> Probably the same man as [Joseph Cummings S1659](#)

<sup>2</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.