

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Watson S17180

fn19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/15/11

[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.]

Carroll County Ohio SS

On this 18th day of April 1833 Personally appeared in in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County now sitting William Watson a resident of said Carroll County in the State of Ohio aged seventy-three 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, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service first under the command of Captain Francis Russell as a volunteer some time in the fall of the year 1780 the day and month not exactly recollected but he remembers it was the fall prior to the year in which Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown. That he served three months under the command of said Captain Russell, that he does not think they were attached to any particular Regiment. That he resided at the time of his several services mentioned in the County of Loudon [Loudoun] in the State of Virginia. That during his first engagement he marched from his place of residence in said Loudon County Virginia through Fredericksburg thence to Richmond from there through Petersburg from there to a place called Cabbin point [Cabin Point] where I was when my first engagement ended and where I was discharged. That during this engagement he was in no battles. The second time he was drafted and served three months under the command of Captain James Cleaveland [James Cleveland] the Lieutenant's name was Joel White and Ensign John Turley. That he marched from Loudon County through Fredericksburg and passed near Richmond thence to a place called Diniking Spring near Williamsburg where my three months expired and was discharged. He was commanded part of the time by Colonel Dabney and Major Qualls [probably Major James Quarles] and some of the time he was commanded by General Green [Nathanael Greene] and part of the time I the Marquis de Lafayette. That this 2nd term he served some time through the summer of 1781 but the particular time of the month or day of the month either of his entering or quitting the service he cannot recollect but knows it was in the summer preceding the surrender of Cornwallis.

The 3rd term he entered the service he was drafted and served under the command of Captain Thomas Lewis, Daniel Lewis Lieutenant and John D. Bell [?] Ensign the Regiment was commanded by Colonel George West. That during this last term of service of 3 months he marched from Loudon County Fredericksburg to near Gloucester which was then in possession of the British where I remained until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown when he marched back as a guard to the British prisoners through Virginia to Nolins Ferry on the Potomac where I was discharged. That he knew General Washington, Marquis de Lafayette, General Green and General Anthony Wayne. That he never had any documentary evidence either of his

service or his discharge. That he knows that John Slack¹ and Samuel Beavers² now of Muskingum County knew of his service in 2 of his tours or 3 months services whose affidavits are herewith sent and he believes that one Thomas Mercer now of Jefferson County of Ohio knows of all 3 of his tours of service as he lived in the immediate neighborhood in Loudon County when he entered the service each time whether he can get his testimony or not he cannot say. 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.

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born – A. I was born in Loudon County Virginia on the 22nd day of February 1760

Have you any Record of your age and if so where is it – Answer – I have a Record of my age at home transcribed from my father's family Bible.

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live – I lived in Loudon County Virginia when called into the service from there I removed to Frederick County Virginia where I lived about seven years that about seventeen years ago he removed from Virginia to Jefferson County of Ohio where he resided about thirteen years from thence in the fall of 1829 he removed into Stark County into this part that has since been struck and forms a part of Carroll County – that he still lives in Carroll County but in that part struck off from Harrison County

Question 4th How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer. The first tour of three months this I volunteered the two last tours of three months each I was drafted

Question 5th State the names of some 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

Answer. The first tour I was with no regular Regiments. The 2nd tour I was with General Green and some of the time under the command of General Marquis the Lafayette the particular Regiments he does not recollect. The 3rd tour he was most of the time on the Gloucester side of the River opposite Yorktown and recollects General Washington Marquis de Lafayette General Green and a number of others and the principal circumstance is that he was present or rather on the opposite side of the River near Yorktown when Lord Cornwallis surrendered and he marched as guard to the prisoners to Nollins Ferry on the Potomac where I was discharged.

Question 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Answer I never received any discharge whatever from anyone

Question 7th 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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answered John Shover

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Daniel McCook, Clerk

S/ William Watson, X his mark

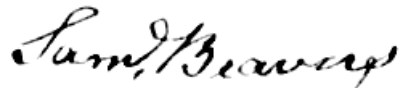
State of Ohio Muskingum County: SS on this [illegible] day of November 1832 personally

¹ FPA S4846

² [Samuel Beavers W4887](#)

appeared before me a justice of the peace of said County Samuel Beavers who being first duly sworn according to law doth depose & say that he Deponent, in 1780 was a private soldier in Captain Francis Russell's company in Major Meriwether his Regiment of Virginia militia. That at that time he was well acquainted with William Watson now a resident of Starke County Ohio & an applicant for a pension, that said Watson entered said company & was discharged at the same time with the deponent, that they served together at that time 3 months. Deponent further states that in the year 1781 he deponent was drafted for 3 months & mustered in Captain Thomas Lewis' Company & was put under the command of Colonel George West & was present at the siege of Cornwallis on the Gloucester side, that the said Watson was drafted at the same time with deponent served a tour of 3 months with them & that they were both discharged together at Noland's Ferry on the Potomac River both served in the same company.

S/ Saml. Beavers



Also at the same time & place before me personally appeared John Slack who being by me duly sworn according to law doth depose & say that he deponent was acquainted with the above mentioned William Watson in the Regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by Major Meriwether in the autumn of the year 1780 – Deponent & the said Watson were in the same Regiment but not the same company – they served at that time together a full tour of 3 months. Deponent after the war was well acquainted with said Watson in Virginia & has known him since his residence in this & believes that he has at all times sustained a good character for truth & veracity

S/ John Slack



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]