

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Welch S1733

f42NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/11/16

[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.]

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State of Tennessee White County: SS

On this 8th day of July A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County now sitting Thomas Welch a resident citizen of White County and State of Tennessee aged Eighty-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.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He entered the service in the latter part of the Summer of the year 1776 about the 21st of August as well as this declarant now recollects under Captain James Morrison, his Lieutenant's name was David Robinson his Colonel's name was Charles McDowell [Charles McDowell]. He then resided in Lincoln County North Carolina and was drafted for six months. He was marched to headquarters, at a place called Pleasant Garden at the head of the Catawby River [Catawba River] in Burk [Burke] County North Carolina under the command of Captain Archibald Fleman (or Fleming). Here he was placed in the company commanded by Captain James Morrison. His Major's name was Richard Singleton. The object of this expedition was to go against the Cherokee Indians¹ who had become remarkably troublesome. He remained at Pleasant Garden something like ten days until the troops had collected there, provisions provided &c. The troops twenty-two hundred in number were then marched into the Cherokee Nation West of the Blue Ridge passing through and destroying their Towns, crops &c they were marched as far as the Over Hill towns which we also destroyed by fire. They then marched back to Cowwee [Cowe] town where a number of the troops had been left with the Magazine & provisions. The whole of the troops were then marched back to Pleasant Garden. This declarant with others were then Stationed at Cathey's Fort about one mile from Pleasant Garden until his six months expired when he was dismissed or discharged. Colonel Charles McDowell during this tour of service resigned his office as Colonel and was promoted to the office of General – After this promotion Generals McDowell and Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] were with the troops. Declarant after being discharged as already stated, returned home to his family which consisted of a wife and one child in Lincoln County. He remained with his family a short time, when he was again drafted for three months. This declarant then returned to Cathey's Fort and was placed under Captain Joseph McDowell, cousin of Colonel Joseph McDowell. This declarant was here again stationed & served out his three months there and was again discharged. Declarant's Lieutenant's name was John Davison – General McDowell was with the troops, he does not recollect to have seen General Rutherford during this tour: – After being discharged he

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

again returned home. He remained at home this time something like five or six weeks when he volunteered for three months under Captain Joseph McDowell again. His Lieutenant again was John Davison. He was again stationed at Cathey's Fort where he continued for three months the time for which he had volunteered. General McDowell was again principal commander of the troops. Joseph McDowell his Captain's cousin was his Colonel. He was again discharged & returned home to see his family. He again in a short time thereafter volunteered for three months and went up to Fort Cathey where he was sent among others with General McDowell out on a scouting party. John Davison above spoken of being well acquainted with the country was sent with them as commander and pilot of the party. They continued on this scouting expedition [indecipherable word] the woods some fifteen, twenty and as far as thirty miles from the Fort occasionally in the meantime returning to the Fort for the purpose of imparting their discoveries, & recruiting there provisions. He served out his three months and was discharged at the fort and returned home not having been in any battle during either of his engagements, nor anything remarkable having occurred. This terminated the principal part of his services rendered his Country. Having served in all Fifteen months. He states that he is unable from his extreme age to give the precise periods of the war when he served but is confident that he entered the service first in August 1776 as stated by him. He has no documentary evidence, neither does he know of any person, whose testimony he can procure, who can certify as to his service. 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.

Answers to the questions prescribed by the War Department and propounded by the Court.

First. He was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania in the year 1749.

2nd. He has no record of his age: – he wants had his indentures of apprenticeship in which his age was stated but they are lost.

3rd. He resided in Lincoln County North Carolina when called into service each time. He now lives in White County Tennessee.

4th. He was drafted twice and twice volunteered as before stated.

5th. He has stated as fully as he can the officers who were with the troops where he served. There were no continental regiments with the troops where he served. He has already stated the general circumstances of his service.

6. He never received a written discharge from the service.

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.) William Hunter, Thomas Bounds Esquire, Joseph Hudgens, Joseph Hunter, Nathan Bartlett, Aaron England. There is no minister of the gospel who can be procured sufficiently acquainted with him to testify as to the general reputation of his service.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 8 July 1833

S/ Thomas Welch, X his mark

[Thomas Bounds & William Matlock gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina militia.]

[Another version]

Pension application of Thomas Welch S1733

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

State of Tennessee, White County, on this 8th day of July, **Thomas Welch** aged 84 years: He entered the Service in the latter part of the Summer of the year 1776 about the 21st of August as well as this declarant now recollects under Captain James Morrison, his lieutenant's name was David Robinson, his Col's name was Charles McDowell. He then resided in Lincoln County North Carolina and was drafted for Six months - He was marched to headquarters at a place called Pleasant Garden at the head of the Catawba River in Burk County North Carolina under the command of Captain Archibald Fleman(or Fleming.) - Here he was placed in the Company commanded by Captain James Morrison. His Major's name was Richard Singleton. The object of this expedition was to go against the Cherokee Indians who had become remarkably troublesome. He remained at Pleasant Garden something like ten days until all the troops had collected there, provisions provided them.

The troops twenty two hundred in number were then marched into the Cherokee Nation, West of the Blue Ridge passing through and destroying their Towns, crops, etc - They were marched as far as the Over Hills towns which we also destroyed by fire - They then marched back to Cowee town where a number of the troops had been left with the Magazine & provisions - The whole of the troops were then marched back to Pleasant Garden - This declarant with others were then stationed at Cathey's fort about one mile from Pleasant Garden until his Six Months expired, when he was dismissed or discharged. Col. Charles McDowell during this tour of service resigned his office as Colonel and was promoted to the office of General.

After this promotion Generals McDowell and Rutherford were with the troops - Declarant after being discharged as already stated, returned home to his family which consisted of a wife and one child in Lincoln County - He remained with his family a short time, when he was again drafted for three months - This declarant then returned to Cathey's Fort and was placed under Captain Joseph McDowell, Cousin of Col. Joseph McDowell - This declarant was here again stationed and served out his three months there and was again discharged. Declarant's lieutenant's name was John Davison - General McDowell was with the troops, He does not recollect to have seen Genl. Rutherford during this tour - After being discharged he again returned home.

He remained at home this time something like five or six weeks when he volunteered for three months under Captain Joseph McDowell again - His lieutenant again was John Davison He was again stationed at Cathey's fort where he continued for three months this time for which he had volunteered - General McDowell was again principal commander of the troops.- Joseph McDowell, his Captain's cousin was his Colonel - He was again discharged and returned home to see his family - He again in a short time thereafter volunteered for three months and went up to Fort Cathey when he was sent among others by General McDowell out on a scouting party - John Davison above spoken of being well acquainted with the country was sent with them as commander and pilot of the party - They continued on this scouting expedition searching the woods some fifteen twenty and far as thirty miles from the fort occasionally in the mean time returning to the fort for the purpose of imparting their discoveries, and receiving their provisions - He served out his three months and was discharged at the fort and returned home not having been in any battle during either of his engagements nor anything remarkable having occurred.

This terminated the principal part of his service rendered his country. Having served in all Fifteen months - He states that he is unable from his extreme age to give the precise periods of the war when he served but is confident that he entered the service

first in August 1776 as stated by him.

Answers to the questions prescribed by the War Department and propounded by the Court.

1st He was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania in the year 1749-

2nd He has no record of his age - He once had his indentures of apprenticeship in which his age was stated but they are lost -

3rd He resided in Lincoln County North Carolina when called into service each time - He now lives in White County Tennessee-

4th He was drafted twice, and twice volunteered as before stated -

5th He has stated as fully as he can the officers who were with the troops where he served -

There were no continental Regiments with the troops there he served - He has already stated the general circumstances of his service -

6th He never received a written discharge from the service -

7th 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) William Hunter

- Thomas Bounds Esq. - Joseph Hudgens - Joseph Hunter - Nathan Bartlett - Aaron England -