

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Adam Link¹ S1771

fn94PA/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/10/11

[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.]

[fn p. 6]

State of Ohio Richmond County: SS

On this 25 day of September in the year 1833, personally appeared before Wells Kellogg Esquire a Justice of the Peace Adam Link a resident of the Township of Milton, in the County of Richland and State of Ohio, aged seventy-two 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the Revolutionary War in the year 1777 on the first of the month of June of said year and served under Captain Williamson in the Militia of the State of Pennsylvania for a period of six months, and said Williamson his Captain was during said tour promoted to be a Colonel in said militia, and in this applicant was commanded by one Captain Biggs, and said tour of service was sent to keep garrison at a place called "Dement's Fort" and this applicant cannot now recollect the number of the Regiment to which the company he served in belonged, that Williamson was Colonel of the Regiment, in this deponent further says that he is not able now to recollect the name of the Colonel who commanded the Regiment before the promotion of said Captain Williamson. That he entered and served from the first of June 1777 and served until the first of December 1777. That he served as above in the capacity of a private soldier for said period, when he was verbally dismissed from the service, but never received any written evidence of his services from said officers, that he was drafted out to serve in the County of Washington in said State. – And this applicant further states that he again served as a private soldier of the Revolutionary Army another tour of six months in the militia of the State of Pennsylvania, that he was drafted to serve said period in Washington County in said State – that he entered the service under one Captain Mason, and was placed under the command of Colonel Williamson, that he entered in the Spring of the year 1778 in the month of April that he served from the first of April until the first of October in the said year 1778 – that the number of the Regiment he does not recollect – that the troops were sent to a place called Shepherd's Fort, where they were stationed to keep charge of the garrison at said place during the time said tour of six months under the said officers above named, where he received a verbal dismissal from the service, but received no written discharge from his officers – that he so entered the service in the County of Washington in the State of Pennsylvania – and this applicant further states that he again entered the service for a 3rd period of six months in the County of Washington in the State of Pennsylvania, that he served in the Militia of said State for a period of six months as a drafted militia man under one Captain Noble and the Lieutenant's name was "Ogle" and the Colonel's

¹ BLWt26343-160-55

name was "Shepherd" – that he entered the service in the County of Washington and marched from said County into the State of Virginia to a place called "Wheeling Garrison" where they served this tour of duty at said place under said officers. That he entered the service this last time on the 15th of June in the year 1779, and served until the 20th of December thereafter, making this last tour of Revolutionary service of six months under said officers above named when he was verbally dismissed from the service by his officers, but never received any written discharge from his services – And that I was not during my eighteen months service engaged at any time in any civil pursuits – that this applicant has no written evidence of his discharge or services in the Revolutionary War. That he is now old, weak and infirm, and is not, in consequence of impaired memory, able at this time to recollect all the particulars of his service, but the above is as particular as he is able at this time to recollect – And this applicant says he is not now able to prove his services or any part portion of them by any contemporary survivor of the revolutionary War, other than by the annexed deposition herewith exhibited. That the soldiers who served with this applicant are now dead or residing parts not known at this time to the applicant, and cannot be made or procure to prove the services of this applicant. The names of the officers who served with me were Captain Mason, Captain Noble and Captain Biggs – Lieutenant "Ogle", Colonel Williamson and Colonel Shepherd

(signed) Adam Link [in the handwriting of the scribe]

I the said Adam Link do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State.

(signed) Adam Link [in the handwriting of the scribe]

Sworn and subscribed this 25th day of September 1833

S/ Wells Kellogg, JP

[Frederick William Bindeman, a clergyman, and Luther M Pratt gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the year 1760, in the State of Pennsylvania.

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

Answer. I have no record of my age, my father had one, but it is lost or destroyed long since, it is out of my power to produce it – my father kept my age in an old family Bible which is now lost & destroyed.

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

Answer. I lived at the time I was called into service in Washington County, in the State of Pennsylvania, and since the Revolutionary War I have resided about 7 years in the County of Beaver in the State of Pennsylvania and then I moved into the state of Ohio where I now live.

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

Answer. I was 3 times drafted out to serve in the militia of the State of Pennsylvania for 3 terms of 6 months each, making a Revolutionary Service of one year and 6 months, and that the same was served by me as a private Soldier.

5th State the names of the officers under whom you served –

My Captains was Mason, Captain Noble, Captain Biggs, & Lieutenant "Ogle"

Colonels names were Williamson and Colonel Shepherd

signed Adam Link

Sworn & subscribed this 8th day of December 1833
S/ Isaac Osbun, Associate Judge

[fn p. 15]

I Adam Link applicant for a pension who has subscribed & sworn to the annexed declaration further states that in the war of the revolution my parents resided in Washington County in Pennsylvania near the line of the State of Virginia, that our family suffered severely in the war, that the Indians murdered & scalped my father in the war, burned his house & barn & took away all his stock of cattle & horses, & forced my father & family to leave their home with all the corn & crops standing on the land, my father was a man not to be intimidated by the Indians and was often cautioned that he would be butchered, but he always insisted that he would stand his ground & not go away for any Indian or any enemy, but he was at length killed by the Indians in the year 1780. I served one year and six months, and so did my brother (who is now dead) serve in the war of the Revolution as I have stated & set forth in my amended declaration, and I do further states that residing as we did in that part of the State of Pennsylvania & situated where we were, no family could suffer more than distress & cruelty then did my father and his family. We had often to unite in neighborhoods & go & lie in small bodies of men & get into some old log buildings and stand with our guns in our hands to defend the lives of our sisters & friends until the Indians had dispersed & that I do say that we were all surrounded with Butchers, death & cruelty where we live, all was "war and death," we fled sometimes to our neighbors, sometimes to the woods, & at other times to the forts & garrisons for protection of our lives, & in fact I was almost continually in service of my country through the most of the revolutionary war as volunteer at short intervals to aid in defending the Western Frontiers with the rest of my friends & neighbors who resided in that part of the State, but was only three times drafted for six months each, making regular service as a drafted militia man for eighteen months as a private soldier. I would further mention that Captain Mason who commanded me as mentioned in my declaration hereto annexed was shot through the hips at Wheeling garrison by a musket or rifle ball by an Indian while lying at the garrison.

(Signed) Adam Link

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

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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

[fn p. 34]

The State of Ohio Ashland County: On this 11th day of February in the year of our Lord 1852 personally appeared before me J A McClusky a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Ashland and State of Ohio, Adam Link, a resident of the said County of Ashland and State of Ohio, aged eighty-eight years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath say and makes the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832,

That he was a Soldier in the revolutionary war with Great Britain, that in the month of March 1775 he settled at the place called Middle Wheeling on the Ohio River and that in the summer of the year A.D. 1777 I was stationed in Sheppards fort, and helped to garrison and

defend the fort for five months. Affiant further says that by reason of his old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot now swear positively as to the precise dates, nor the precise length of time he was in one fort, or served as an Indian Spy but well endeavored to give all as near as he can. And he further says that after he with his company left fort Shepperd in the fall of 1777 he acted as an Indian Spy and scout, and was actually engaged along the frontier until the summer of 1778, when he was again called upon to garrison and defend Dements fort for five months. After our discharge from the last named fort I was again continually engaged as an Indian Spy until the following year when if my memory serves me right we were again placed in Dements fort, but how long we remained there at that time I cannot certainly tell. In the year A.D. 1780, in the month of August our house was burned by the Indians, in my father was taken prisoner, and our house was then burnt to ashes, and everything we had on it destroyed, our barn was burnt and about 40 head of sheep burnt up with it, all our horses and cattle were driven off and killed, and about 100 head of hogs destroyed, and totally lost; in my father was marched out a few miles by the Indians, and murdered and scalped, we also had 300 bushels of grain burnt by the Indians and a large field of corn entirely destroyed. Although we had a large property at that time, I and my oldest brother were then compelled to work days work for our support and the maintenance of our mother and sisters. In the year A. D. 1782 I was again stationed in Moore's fort in Washington County Pennsylvania for the term of six months as near as I can now remember or from the spring until the fall of the year. In the year A.D. 1790 as near as I can now remember the time I volunteered in the company commanded by Captain Noble to join St. Clair's [Sinclar] Army but from some cause was never called on to go, although I stood ready to march at a moments warning. From the commencement of the Revolutionary war, almost until its close I was continually on the frontiers, and exposed to all the hardships, and dangers, and privations of a border warfare, and a frontier life, I have lived for days and nights [indecipherable word] in a cave of rocks, to save my life from the merciless savages. I was for more than four years from the commencement of the Revolutionary war continually engaged either in garrisoning forts, or serving as an Indian Spy; or defending the frontier settlements with whatever skill and courage I could command.

Perhaps more than fifteen years since I made my application to the Pension Office for a pension and some sent on the troops, in the same was held to be sufficient; in a pension was allowed to me, and my pension was then again stopped and as I have been informed through the representations of persons wholly ignorant both of my past life and my services to my country, and that I had an Original Pension certificate issued by the Commissioner of Pensions to make, for a long time in my possession and that if my memory has not failed may I gave it a bracket 2] judge Patterson who was at that time a member of Congress from this District, and that after diligent search he cannot now be found. And I hereby relinquish any claim whatever 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.

S/ Adam Link, A his mark

[fn p. 4]

State of Ohio County of Ashland: SS

On this 21st day of April A.D. 1855 – personally appeared before me J. A. McClusky Esquire within and for the County and State aforesaid Adam Link aged 92 years a resident of Ashland County in the State of Ohio who being duly sworn according to law declares that he is the identical Adam Link who was a Soldier in the Revolutionary war commenced April 1775

ended November 1783 in the company commanded by Captain David Williamson in the Regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by Colonel Shepard that he enlisted at Wheeling or Shepard fort Virginia on or about the 20th day of May A.D. 1777 for the term of 10 months and continued in actual service in said war for the term of 10 months and was honorably discharged at a [word written over and unclear, could be either "Moss" or "Moore's"] fort on the 20th day of May A.D. 1778 he never got a written discharge.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the act approved March 3, 1855 he also declares that he has not received a warrant for bounty land under this or any other act of Congress nor made any other application therefore. The applicant draws a pension from the Department at this time.

Attest: S/ John A. McClusky, JP

S/ Adam Link, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and reduced to \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1834 and increased to \$130 per annum effective January 1 1864.]

The following photo said to that of Adam Link, the pensioner is posted at <http://www.americanrevolution.org/last%20men/lastmen6.html>

Adam Link

