

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Watson S17752

fn46VA

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.]

[fn p. 10]

State of Kentucky Madison County: SS

On this 12th day of Sept. [? very faint] 1832 personally appeared before John [illegibly faint] one of the Justices of the County Court in the County of Madison aforesaid William Watson a resident of said County aged 90 years the 5th day of September 1832, 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 –

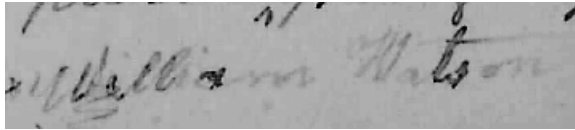
That in the fall of 1780, he knows it was but a short time after General Green [Nathanael Greene] went on to the South, he went out in the militia from Pittsylvania County Virginia as Lieutenant of a company commanded by Captain Thomas Smith – Robert Smith he thinks was Colonel – his recollection is he volunteered – he marched into North Carolina & did not return until after the Battle of Guilford or Guilford Court House – he was not in the battle having been out upon a scouting or foraging expedition & not returning till the morning after the battle – Shortly after that battle he was discharged & returned to Virginia. He thinks he was out on this Tour or Campaign 6 or 7 months – Immediately after his return to Virginia the militia were again called out & he again volunteered as Lieutenant of a company commanded for some time by Captain Smith – that he was afterwards detached & served as Lieutenant in a company commanded by Captain James Cowden – thinks Colonel Tucker was his Colonel – was in General Lawson's Brigade. He marched to Richmond – was at Jamestown – Mobbin Hill [Malvern Hills] & York – continued in the service till a short time before the surrender of Cornwallis – when he was discharged – thinks he was out on this tour 5 or 6 months – is confident that he was out in all more than 12 months – his memory has failed him a good deal of late & he cannot detail things as he once could – his commissions as Lieutenant was signed he thinks by Mr. Jefferson – by him or Patrick Henry – it has been lost or destroyed long since – He has no discharges or documentary evidence in his possession to prove his Services – trusts the proof of his old friends Anthony¹ & Samuel Perkins² will be sufficient – he was born in Louisa County Virginia – has been in Kentucky about 28 years – He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed by said Watson with his own hand the day & year aforesaid.
S/ John Broaddus, JP MC

¹ [Anthony Perkins S11234](#)

² [Samuel Perkins W1992](#)

S/ William Watson



Kentucky Madison County: SS

We Anthony Perkins & Samuel Perkins residence of Madison County aforesaid do hereby certify that we have been acquainted with William Watson and applicant as a Revolutionary officer for the benefit of the late act of Congress ever since we were boys. That we knew him in the Revolutionary war & that he was an officer in the militia in the service of the United States, we think a Lieutenant – we both saw him in the service as an officer at Mobbin Hill during the war – fully confident he was a Lieutenant – that he has always been so reputed – that we believe him to be 90 years of age as he states – & that he served in the Revolutionary war as a Lieutenant – we further certify that said Watson has always sustained a fair character.

S/ Anthony Perkins, X his mark

S/ Samuel Perkins, X his mark

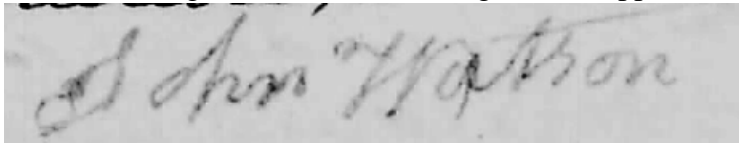
[fn p. 6]

State of Indiana Posey County: SS

On this 27 day of May 1841 before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the said County of Posey personally appeared William Watson, who on his oath declares that he is the same person who formerly was a Lieutenant in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War – that in consequence of his very great age his recollection is indistinct as to the officers, under whom he served. He served in Virginia very early in the war – His impression is that his Captain part of the time was by the name of Smith – that he was also attached to Captain Cowden's Company. That Major Holcomb & Major Duval were also officers. He is the same person named in the pension certificate numbered 7429 dated 10 April 1833, signed Lewis Cass Secretary of War. That his name was placed on the Pension roll of the State of Kentucky – that he removed from Kentucky, the County of Madison, to the County of Posey aforesaid in 1833 in the winter of that year – or very late in the year 1832: that he now resides in the County of Posey aforesaid, where he intends to reside & remained & wishes his pension to be there payable in the future. The following are his reasons for removing from Kentucky to Indiana – His wife was dead & he lived with his son John Watson – his son removed to Indiana and he removed with him & has ever since resided with him. Affiant formerly wrote his name but his eyesight has failed him so much that he cannot now write –

S/ William Watson, X his mark

[John Watson gave an affidavit stating that the applicant is his father



[Facts in file: the soldier died September 2, 1846; reference is made in the file to the soldiers son William H Watson and Francis M Watson in addition to John Watson who gave the above affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$160 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one-year service as a Lieutenant in the Virginia service.]