

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Michael Sailors S21463

fn16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, White County Court of pleas and quarter Sessions July Session A.D. 1834

On this 17th day of July 1834, personally appeared in open Court before the worshipful court of pleas and quarter sessions for said County now sitting Thomas Eastland, David Snodgrass, John Jett presiding and holding said court according to law, Michael Sailors a resident citizen of the County of Jackson in the State of Tennessee aged 78 years who being first duly sworn, according to laws of the land 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 in the war of the revolution.

First he states he was drafted for a tour of one month in Burke County North Carolina for the purpose of guarding the frontiers Joined a company commanded by William Davidson, Ensign William Wood, Lieutenant not recollected, marched to do a Fort on the frontier and remained there until his term of service expired and was then discharged. He was in no battle – returned home. This was the last part of winter – first of Spring.

Second tour, He states he was drafted for three months in said County of Burke and joined a company commanded by Captain Smith – Lieutenant Shockley, the company to which he belonged marched to and joined the Army at a place called the Six Mile house under command of General Davidson. He cannot recollect the Colonel's name. The Main Army marched to a place called the Cheraw Hills. He with some others was sent under the command of a Sergeant called Morris [last named illegible, MIGHT be “Stougter”] to Sallisberry [Salisbury]. They made a stockade and guarded some Tories who were prisoners, remained there for some weeks and until his tour of three months expired. The company consisted of about 12 men. This was just about the time General Davidson was killed at Beaty's Ford [sic, Cowan's Ford]¹ on the Catawba River. Orders came to their Sergeant to discharge the men under his command, and he got a discharge from him. He refers to the fact of General Davidson's death for the date of his service.

Third tour of service volunteered for a tour of ten months in the same County of Burke and joined a company commanded by Captain Adams, Ensign Daniel Killian marched to the Junction of two streams, the main one called Congaree [River], Joined the main Army under command of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], the Regiment to which he belonged, [was] commanded by Colonel Middleton. The Army had recently before that time taken a considerable number of the Negroes, whom he is understood belonged to Tories. The British forces was expected to attack them. The Army marched to Camlin [sic, Camden?]. The company to which he belonged took charge of the Negroes

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/cowansfd.htm> . This engagement occurred on February 1, 1781.

[Indecipherable words interlined, could be "horses & British"] and left the Army, while there General Wayne as he learned, with his forces contemplated to attack the British at Ninety Six but the British got a reinforcement, and the attack was declined, and the Army under the command of General Wayne, left the vicinity of Ninety Six. While at Camden (for that was the place he was stationed) there were three deserters hung within about three miles of Camden. We remained at Camden about five weeks, marched to a point below on the Congaree River, several companies under command of Colonel Middleton crossed at McChord's Ferry [sic, McCord's Ferry]², and lay on the River for several weeks.

He set out on march -- in a few days he with many others took sick supposed to arise from their lying in the river bottom, & he was placed in a Hospital at Taylor's place and he with other sick soldiers lay there for about two months, inclined to the [indecipherable word] over that time. After they were sufficiently improved to be able to march, about four [?] of them marched to Orangeburg -- and there joined the Main Army. He became sick from the fatigue and was again put in the hospital at that place and remained in it for about three weeks. Being again improved he was put to waggoning and hauling grain to General Sumter's Mill. There was about 40 engaged in this business. He continued at this service until his tour of 10 months was expired. He set out as he now recollects and believes from in May and was discharged in February or March. The Sergeant who commanded them while waggoning was by the name of Neal. He received orders to discharged them, which he accordingly done and gave him a discharge or certificate of service -- cannot say more of dates than that this tour of duty commenced next May after the death of General Davidson as he now recollects and believes true.

This ended his service as a soldier of the revolution, which consisted of 14 months faithful service to his country. He does not know any living witness by whom he can prove his service except one in the State of North Carolina (if alive) but who lives too remote to procure this evidence.

He states he has no documentary evidence of his service having lost his discharges. His reasons for making his declaration in this County are: It is much more convenient, the counties join and he lives considerably nearer to the seat of justice of White County than that of Jackson. The road to the court house of this County is good, to that of Jackson very bad, he now lives and has for many years lived near the line & his neighbors, clergyman live in White County or just on the line. Those reasons he hopes will be deemed sufficient for his choice.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to an annuity or pension whatever except the present nor is his name on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

This applicant would make this further statement, soon after the passage of the act of Congress aforesaid, he procured a declaration to be drawn, and forwarded for allowance which was sent back for some objections. He moved to the remote part of the State of Missouri and gave himself no further trouble on the subject. Becoming dissatisfied with that Country, he returned and settled again in Jackson County during the last spring -- within about two miles of his former residence. Has never seen his first declaration and second.

S/ Michael Sailors, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 17 July 1834

S/ J. Adams, Clerk

By S/ N. Oldham, D. C.

I was born in Pennsylvania, removed from there when a child, have no record of my age, that from the information I have always received I am past 78 years of age.

I was called into service in Burke County North Carolina -- I moved from North Carolina after the revolution to Georgia, from there to Blount County Tennessee, from Blount to Jackson County, where I have resided ever since with the exception of the time I was in Missouri as before stated.

I was drafted for two tours one for one month, the other for 3 months and volunteered for the

² <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/mccordsfy.htm>

third.

I can say little more of officers & the circumstances attending my service than I have already said. I saw General Greene at Orangeburg, General Wayne at Camden, My recollection by reason of old age is very defective, and I cannot give the names.

I lost my discharges – I never took any special care of them and therefore cannot say how lost,

I believe my neighbors will generally testify to my character for veracity and belief of my service as a soldier of the revolution. I would say Samuel Brown, Jesse England, John Crook.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court 17 July 1834.

S/ Michael Sailors, X his mark

S/ J. Adams, Clerk

By S/ N. Oldham, D.C.

[John Fryer and Jesse Steward, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavits.]

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