

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Bowden S2388

fn9NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/22/10

[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 Maury County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions June Term A.D. 1833

Be it remembered that on this 17th day of June in the year of our Lord 1833, William Bowden a citizen of the County and State aforesaid, aged ninety-one years, personally appeared in said Court (which is now in Session), who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement or declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That he volunteered as a soldier in the Army of the United States in the year 1776, and went into the service under the following named officers (to wit) Captain John Nelson, Sergeant Robert Martin, Colonel James Martin, & General __ Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] whom he served under during this tour – applicant at this time lived in Guilford County North Carolina – the company rendezvoused within one mile of Guilford court house – and from thence marched to the Pleasant Garden, where they united with, or joined the Mecklenburg and Rowan Companies, and were all placed under the command of General __ Rutherford – from thence they marched on the first day of September 1776 through the Mountains crossing Little & big Swannanoa rivers, also French Broad River – they proceeded on into the Indian Nation & in passing through the same, they destroyed the following named Towns (to wit) Serve, Watagah & Allafoy, all of which were situated on the little Tennessee River – they also destroyed many other Indian Towns during their march, the names of which is not recollected – they also destroyed a great deal of corn, & in fact almost everything they met with belonging to the Indians – during this march through the Nation they fought no battles, but applicant believes they would have met with an engagement had not Colonel Williamson [Andrew Williamson] who commanded the southern Army, got ahead of them, and routed the Indians who were lying in wait for them – After doing all the damage they could do in the Indian Nation, they set out for home, and marched on immediately to Cathey's Fort on the Catawba River in North Carolina, where they were dismissed from service. This tour lasted for thirteen weeks, and he got no regular discharge from service. Applicant further states that he again entered the service of the United States Army, as a soldier, in the year 1781, but he cannot recollect whether he was drafted or not, though he distinctly recollects that the Companies were all classed, & the company he was attached to was called out into service. Applicant went out and served this tour under the following (to wit) – Captain John Bostick, Major Joseph Vincent – Adjutant James Armstrong & General __ Pikins [sic, Andrew Pickens?]

– Applicant lived at this time in Surry County North Carolina – they commenced to march about the last of January down to Haw River, when they joined the regular Army, that was commanded by General ___ Pikins – they kept ranging about through the Country with a view of keeping the British from furnishing their regular Army with provisions, (who were then stationed in Hillsboro), they acted during this tour as mounted horseman, and had a very warm engagement with the British at Whitsells mills [sic, Wetzel's Mill] on Haw River, at which battle Major Lewis was killed, together with several other men whose names are not recollected – the Army Ranging about for some short time after this battle, and then marched on to Guilford courthouse, where they arrived about the time that General Greene retreated from the enemy – where they kept ranging from place to place until dismissed, (applicant procured no dismissal) – this tour lasted eight weeks or two months – Applicant further states that he again entered the service of the United States, as a soldier, in the fall of the year 1781, but do not recollect whether he was drafted, when he was called into service. He went out and served under the following named officers (to wit) Captain Edward Lovell, adjutant Patrick Magilenny [?] and Col. Isaacks, they marched in November from Surry County North Carolina where he still lived, on to the Moravian Town, which is now called Salem, where the General Assembly was in session – and Governor Martin retained their company to guard and protect the General Assembly from the enemy for some 3 or 4 weeks, and after the adjournment of the Legislator [sic, Legislature] they marched on to Deep River, where they joined the Army that was commanded by Colonel ___ Isaacks, & then ranged about the County for a short time, and was dismissed without being engaged in any battle – this tour lasted for ten weeks. Applicant got a discharge from Colonel Isaacks which he some years after the war was over, and after he left Carolina, sent it back there by one John Morgan to draw his pay, & was afterwards informed by said Morgan, that he had lost or misplaced the same, & applicant has neither seen or heard of it since. Applicant left the State of North Carolina in the year 1784, and removed to the State of Georgia, where he lived until the year 1818, when he removed to the State of Tennessee, where he has lived ever since – Applicant has no documentary evidence showing that he has discharged the duty of a soldier as above stated, he knows of no man living by whom he can prove his actual service. Applicant further states that there is no clergyman living in his neighborhood to join in the certificate of his reputed service – but Saml. Cunningham & James Holland two of his near neighbors who are man of respectability and will certify to his reputed service as a soldier of the revolution in his neighborhood & his age &c. Applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ Wm Bowden

Sworn to and subscribed before me in open court this 17th day of June 1833

S/ Thos. J. Porter, Clk

[Samuel Cunningham & James Holland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.21 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 5 months and 11 days service