

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McCandless S2777

f13NC

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. 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 'indcipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Tennessee Maury County: SS

On this 16th day of September in the year of our Lord 1835 personally appeared before John Mack, Alexander Johnston and Robert Wortham Esquires Justices holding the said court in open Court John McCandless a resident Citizen of said County of Maury 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he volunteered and served under Capt. James Harris in the Snow Campaign<sup>1</sup> in 1775, entered the service at this time between the first and 10th of October 1775 and served two months. The field officers were Major James White Colonels Thomas Polk and Col. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] were both in this campaign and Col. Polk's son William Polk was wounded in the shoulder at Aburns Creek [Rabun's or Rayborn's Creek?], declarant does not know which of the Colonels Polk or Rutherford was highest in command. The troops were all placed under General Richardson [Richard Richardson]. Declarant lived in the County of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina at the time he entered the service as above stated. The troops were marched through York district in South Carolina.

Declarant states that he again entered the service as a Volunteer in the year 1778 in the spring of the year the day and month not recollected in Mecklenburg County North Carolina under Capt. James Harris, the same Capt. under whom he served in 1775, James White was Major and Col. Rutherford was the commanding officer. The troops rendezvoused in Salisbury & marched towards Hillsboro declarant states that he was out this tour two months, he believes said it was something more than two months but states it at that not recollecting how much more and, knowing that it was not long, declarant cannot state the particular day or month that he entered or quit the Service this tour further than that it was in the spring and that the said tour lasted declarant can safely and positively state two months. Declarant lived at the time he entered the service for this tour in the same County and State above stated as his residence.

Declarant states that he again entered the service in the spring of the year 1779, the day of the month not remembered as a Volunteer under Capt. Charles Polk & Lieut. William Ramsey as a mounted horseman. Declarant still resided in Mecklenburg North Carolina when he entered the service this said time under Capt. Charles Polk marched from Mecklenburg to Fayette [sic, Fayetteville?] and from there to Brunswick. The British attacked our encampment at Brunswick

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_snow\\_campaign.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_snow_campaign.html)

early in the morning and drove the troops under Capt. Polk, Capt. Polk's horse company was stationed above Brunswick to guard between the British troops & the American land troops. The British did not drive the land forces at the time they drove Capt. Polk's Company from their stationed. The land forces there were under Col. Thomas Polk father of Col. William Polk. Declarant states that this last tour he served three months he states that having no written memorandum or discharges to assist his memory (or if he ever had the same are lost) he cannot state the precise time when any of his tours commenced he knows though that this last tour commenced in the spring of 1779 and Declarant very [sic, verily] believes that it lasted longer than the time stated above but he can and does distinctly say that it lasted three months and that he was in service the length of time stated that each of the times mentioned above that is to say two months the first tour, two months the second tour & three months the third tour making seven months in all. Declarant states that he was also in 1776 employed and did serve about six months as a Waggoner under Nicholas Long the principal wagon master. Declarant states that he was born in Ireland in the County Down he states that he has no memorandum of his age that he sailed from Wry [?] in Ireland in the 5th day of June 1772 and landed in Newcastle the 26th day of August the same year. Resided in Baltimore Maryland a few months removed to Mecklenburg County North Carolina in 1773, resided there until 1799. Declarant then moved to Blount County Tennessee resided there two years then moved to Knox County Tennessee and resided there until the year 1808 then moved to Rhea County Tennessee resided in Rhea until 1834 when declarant moved to Maury County Tennessee where he now resides. Declarant states that the reason for his not sooner applying for a pension is that he applied to counsel and was informed that he could not get a pension unless he had been one of the regular troops and declarant knew no better until recently and this is the first time that declarant has been able to get to Court since he knew he was entitled to a pension and have any persons to certify for him. Declarant states that he has no documentary proof of his services, nor does he know of any witness now living, by whom he can prove the same. He states that he could prove, a part of his services by Col. William Polk<sup>2</sup> of North Carolina but is now or has been lately informed that he is dead. Declarant states that he may be inaccurate as to the dates when he performed the tours as he has no written memorandum upon the subject and has to trust to his memory entirely. Declarant does 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John McCandless, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court this 16th day of September A.D. 1835

S/ Thos. J. Porter, Clerk

[Hugh Shaw, a clergyman, Hugh King and William McCluer gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>2</sup> [William Polk S3706](#)