

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Medearis <sup>1</sup> S2823

f84NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/25/09 rev'd 5/4/14

[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.]

Before the Purpose of Obtaining the Benefit of an Act entitled an act for the relief of Certain Surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution Approved on the 15th Day of May 1828 I John Medearis a Capt. of the Continental Line in the County of Bedford & State of Tennessee do hereby Declare that I was an officer in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution and served as such to the End of the War to the time when the of the Army provided by the Resolve of Congress of the 3rd & 21st of October 1780 was carried into effect & was reduced under that act which Period I was a Capt. in the 5th Regiment of the North Carolina Line & I also declare that I afterwards Received a Certificate commonly called Commutation Certificate for a sum equal to the amount of five years full pay which some was offered by the Resolve of the Congress of the 21st of March 1783 instead of the Half Pay for life to which I was entitled under the Resolves of the 21st of October 1780. --

And I further declare that I have received of the United States as Pensioner since the 3rd day of March 1826 no money nor at any other Time to the Present Date. Given under my hand & seal this 19th of September 1828.

S/ John Medearis, M his mark

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Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department,  
12 November 1828

John Meaderis of \_\_ in the County of Bedford in the State of Tennessee has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that was an officer in the Continental line, and served as such until reduced under the resolves of the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 21 October 1780, at which period he was a Captain in the fifth regiment of the North Carolina line; and that he received commutation certificates for the five years full pay granted by the resolve of 22 March, 1783; and, further, that he has received <sup>1</sup> as a pensioner since the 3rd of March 1826, nothing dollars, paid to him by the agent in the State of \_\_

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt1466-300 Capt. Issued May 16, 1797 to John Porter; name recorded as Medeasis: No papers

S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,  
Third Auditor's Office,  
November 13 1828

It does not appear by the records of this office, that final settlement certificates had been issued for the commutation of five years full pay to John Meaderis a Captain in the North Carolina line, ~~amounting to \_\_\_ dollars.~~

It further appears that John Meaderis is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has not been so since the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1826 ~~at the rate of \_\_\_ per month.~~

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

[pp 5-6]

Family Record

Births

John Medearis was born February the 22nd 1744 in Essex County VA -- son of John Medearis & Rachel his wife between Rappahannock & the Dragon the said Rachel wife of the said John Medearis name was Rachel Davis

Washington Davis Medearis first born son of John & Sarah his wife was born the 20th of September 1783

Elizabeth S. Medearis wife of W D Medearis was born the 5th of February 1793

Rachel Davis Medearis first born of [illegible] Medearis the 10th of March 1811

Sarah H. Medearis 2nd Daughter the 24th of December 1813

Margaret B. Medearis the 10th of February 1816

Polly Medearis the 23rd of May 1818

Christian L. Medearis the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 1820

George Washington Medearis [illegible] son the 5th of March 1823

William Green Medearis 2nd son the 10th of August 1824

George Thomas Medearis 3rd son the 5th of April 1828

Elizabeth S. Medearis 2nd June 1830

Martha Frances Medearis the 16th October 1832

Wily W. Medearis born March the 28<sup>th</sup> 1836

John Medearis was Mared [married] to Sarah Bell Widow of Thos. Bell the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 1780

Washington D. Medearis & first Born & Son of John & Sarah his Wife was Married to Elizabeth Woodward Daughter of Thos. Woodward the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1809 of Va

W. R. Yowell and Mary Medearis was married the 26 of January 1839

Rachel Davis Medearis Daughter & first Born of W. D. & E. S. Medearis was Married to David Young Son of Thos & Sarah Young of Georgia Oglethorpe County the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 1829

James D. Loyd and Sarah H. Medearis was married the 15<sup>th</sup> of Augst. 1835

Henry S. Blakeman and Margaret R. Medearis was married the 6<sup>th</sup> of Augst 1835

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

BIRTHS.

John Medearis Was Born  
February the 22<sup>nd</sup> 1744  
Essex County Vt. —  
Son of J<sup>r</sup>. Medearis &  
Rachel his Wife Between  
Rappahannock & the Dragon  
the said Rachel Wife of  
the said John J<sup>r</sup>'s Maiden  
Name Was Rachel Davis

Washington Davis Medearis  
first Born Son of John  
& Sarah his Wife Was Born  
the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 1788

Elizabeth S. Medearis Wife  
of M<sup>r</sup>. D. Medearis Was Born  
the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 1793

Charles Medearis  
1<sup>st</sup> born of M<sup>r</sup>. D. Medearis  
the 10<sup>th</sup> of March  
1811

Sarah H. Medearis 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Daughter the 24<sup>th</sup> of December  
1813

Marion B. Medearis  
the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 1816

Polly Medearis the 23<sup>rd</sup>  
of May 1818

Christian L. Medearis  
the 8<sup>th</sup> of September  
1820

George Washington Medearis  
his Son the 5<sup>th</sup> of March  
1823

M<sup>r</sup>. Green Medearis second  
son the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 1825

John Thos Medearis third  
son the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1828

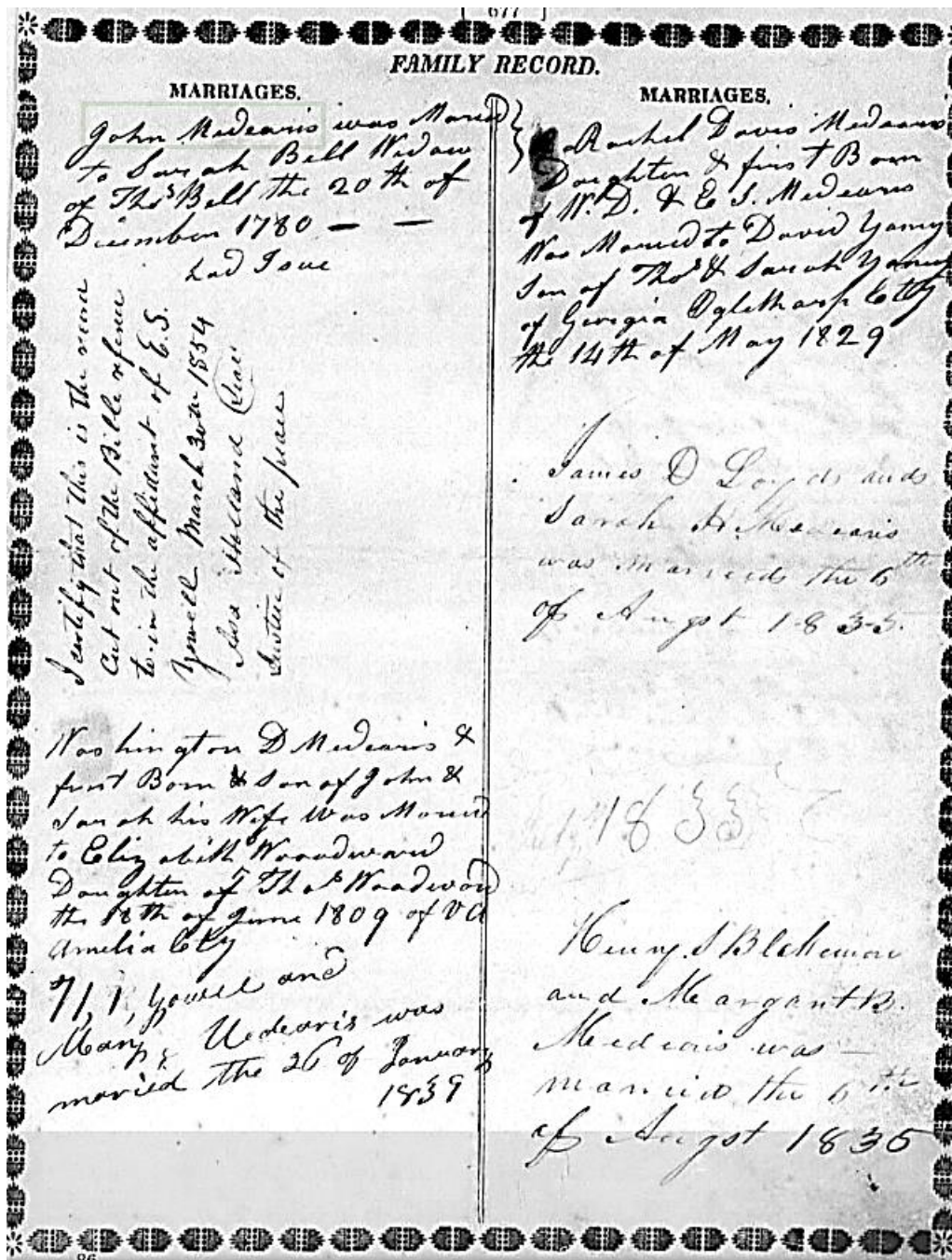
Elizabeth S. Medearis 2<sup>nd</sup>  
son 1830

Martha Francis Medearis  
the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1832

Wiley W. Medearis born  
March the 28<sup>th</sup> 1836

~~Elizabeth C. S.~~

of Jefferson Wis. 20  
1845



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To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina

The Petition of John Medearis an Assistant Deputy Quarter Master, to Nicolas Long Deputy Quarter Master General, of the State of North Carolina, in the late War between Great Britain & the United States,

Sheweth to your honorable Body, that he was appointed by the aforesaid Nicholas Long as his Assistant on or about the first of November in the year of our Lord 1778, pursuant to the regulations then in force for the Government of the Quarter Master Generals department and for that He continued to act as such until the Regulations last adopted, for the Government of the said department, and their regulations of Congress respecting the same, bearing date July the

15th 1780, Entitled a plan for conducting the Quarter Master Generals Department agreed to in said Congress, on the said last mentioned date when the aforesaid Nicholas continued your petitioner in his department -- under the said regulations until the [indecipherable]<sup>2</sup> August 1783 as will appear by the account hereunto annexed. Under the hand of the said Nicholas which account was settled by your Petitioner and the said Nicholas agreeable to the power then vested in him by a clause contained in the last mentioned Plan.

And your Petitioner further represents that he confided in receiving the amount of the annexed account from the said Nicholas presuming that he would have comprehended the same in his own settlement But finding that it was not the case presented the same to Commissioners appointed by the State which Rejected the same on a supposition it was of a Continental Nature & payable by the United States your petitioner thus situated & in circumstances which require he should possess such pay and Emmuments as he may be justly entitled to having performed an arduous & severe service and the Department aforesaid under the faith of the regulations of the year government Respecting the same & the account hereunto annexed being agreeable to the [word obliterated] of the Dated the Quarter Master and by him Duly authenticated Pray your Honorable Body will be pleased to direct that the balance due thereon of --- twenty-three hundred forty-four dollars and thirty-five cents be paid him in such manner and with such interest as will place your Petitioner in a similar situation with those of the same Department & relying on the Justice of your honorable body.

Your petitioner remains in fervent hope you will (if you do not) Judge the Payment to be so immediately on this State as to justify your Honorable Body to make such report after mature Deliberation as your Wisdom shall dictate on the account of \$2345.34 & direct such pavement on the £738-18-6 ½ as will place him in as firm Justice as if he had been dealing with a Private individuals & your Petitioner is in Duty Bound will ever Pray.

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State of Tennessee Bedford County: SS

Be it known that on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord 1853 personally appeared before the Subscriber an Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid – D. M. Smith and being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration. That he is the administrator of the Estate of the late Captain John Meaderis [sic] – who was a Captain in the Revolutionary War – and was placed on the United States Pension Roll Under Act of Congress passed May 15<sup>th</sup> 1828 – at the rate of four hundred eighty dollars per annum for services in \_\_ Regiment, North Carolina line. That the said John Meaderis should have been placed on the pension roll at the rate of six hundred dollars per annum – for he acted as Quarter Master more than two years – under appointment – and served as such in the Revolution as will appear by the papers accompanying this declaration – which are the Revolutionary papers of the said Captain John Meaderis above stated and from them it will show that he served in the Capacity of Captain and Quarter master – and I now as Administrator of his estate file these papers in support of the amount Claimed – which he John Meaderis never [indecipherable word]<sup>3</sup> and is due his said Estate – of one hundred twenty dollars per annum in

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order that he may receive the amount [indecipherable word]<sup>4</sup> by the Act of Congress under which he was pensioned – in order that he or his estate may receive the full amount granted to captains of Cavalry – Quartermasters and other officers of like rank – he having never received the same nor has his heirs or administrator – Affiant would further declare that said Captain John Meaderis died on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March A.D. 1834 and he makes this application in order to procure the arrearages of pension due said Estate – from 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1826 – up to the day of the death of Captain John Meaderis above stated under Acts of Congress above referred to – and he makes the accompanying papers marked \_\_\_ a part of this declaration and to be filed as proof of the above facts – and in support of said claim

S/ D. M. Smith

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(No. 1)

Capt. Jno. Medearis

Halifax, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1781

Sir,

Enclosed is a Letter from Colonel Carrington which I received yesterday, directing a Post to be established at Colonel Moore's in Caswell County &c – of which you will observe the Contents, & immediately proceed to the Execution thereof. Mr. Birdsong will remain at Harrisburg under your Superintendency & Mr. Rutherford will go with, & assist you in furnishing the Post at Colonel Moore's agreeable to enclosed directions of Colonel Carrington: & went settled, Mr. Rutherford will take charge of & conduct the same –

I have also enclosed Colonel Carrington's Order for a ton of Iron, should be glad you would procure a good Team & send for it; and I have put almost every Carriage into Action here about – I think, a few mention a party by which you intend to force your Way in & about the Neighborhood of Hillsboro; while on that expedition it may be well to proceed in Search of Wagons as I am informed that many were secreted about the Time our Stores were moving from that Place; and told that either Mr. Thomas or Mr. Rutherford about this Time had a List of a Dozen or more, that could not be had, perhaps had not done as much Public Duty as others –

Therefore I think it is but Just, that this affected Parties & such as have taken Protection (who pretend they cannot be active) should in some Major contribute to the [paper damaged and text missing] Public Support – you will accordingly make Seizure [paper damaged and text missing] Horses, Wagons, Tools, or any other requisite Supplies, in [paper damaged and text missing] of the Public, from such Delinquents; at the same Time not totally to exempt Others, but require such Articles as they may part with without being greatly destroyed.

If you should not think proper to take Andrew Ross a prisoner, I desire you may take all his Tools and send them to Colonel Moore's, as Smith's Work will be immediately required there – & you wrote me you had engaged Smith's Tools at Harrisburg –

You mentioned that a set of Ross's Tools were carried off by the Enemy, which I have reason to believe is a Falsity in him, as he told Mr. Potts at Hillsboro the enemy took away only a few of the smallest implements, such as Files, &c – I understand that he had two Setts Tools of his own, in Conjunction with John Allison & the third Sett, Ross had borrowed of a certain Widow Pratt near Hillsboro; & if not now in his possession it's like they are there –

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*Pratt*

Should any Wagons arrive with you from Head Quarters, I beg you may not detained them – (I mean such as were sent from this Quarter) but send them here as soon as possible –

I have been informed that, for a year or two past, there has been in Monroe's Corner Store at Hillsborough a plant Box near as large as a Chest, enclosed all round with Nails; it was very weighty & was wrote on in large Letters – 200 Gun Locks; which perhaps have been there ever since and Armory was to have been erected near Hillsboro. If you find them, should be glad you send them here. I have

[the above is all of this document posted online]

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At Halifax November the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1778

I by and at the request of Colonel Long and General Sumner [presumably Jethro Sumner] engaged in the Quarter Masters Department for want of command in the Line I was sent Immediately with the troops to Kingston [Kinston], where Mr. Thomas Crague, Clothier Delivered me 3600 yards of canvas for the use of making Tents, without Cordage, twine kneedles, Wax, Boards or anything appertaining to the Business but an appointment under him to purchase the necessary Articles without cash if I could: –

From thence we marched to Charleston where General B. Lincoln gave me orders to purchase agreeable to my Appointment and pursued the making the Tents for the Troops, I did so at Charleston I was also ordered to purchase 600 pairs of shoes and 22 blankets after the Defeat at Briar Creek [March 3, 1779], so that on my return I found my Account in the Clothier's department to be £738.18.6 ½ Virginia money the General Assembly then sitting at Halifax, I offered my Account who referred me to Thomas Crague, –

Unfortunately for me I had procured some Scetches [?] of Accounts which caused the Assembly to order me to Charleston, I immediately to get and bring forward such Accounts as should Completely Detect a fraud that had made its appearance against this State –

In which time Mr. Crague came up offered His Accounts and Settled them and resigned –

The General Assembly also had Risen, I still pursued my Business in the Quarter Masters Line thinking some Day there was no doubt but that I should get it settled – But at Hillsboro Did Colonel Long General Ramsey and myself get together and I endeavored to get it settled But to no Purpose alleging that Thomas Crague ought to settle notwithstanding he had resigned I sent the papers to Thomas Crague & after laying in his hands 2 or 3 years I sent to know what was done.

He sent me some of my papers back I sent again for the Balance he then informed me that he had at that Hour nothing at all to do with the Business and that there were all the Papers that he knew anything about. –

In this time Pursuing the Q. M. W. M & Foraging Business Agreeable to the rules said [sic, set] Down by Congress I found my account of Expenditures to amount to 10,099 Dollars together with \$3000 to purchase 500 Barrels of Corn at Whitmill Hill which Dollars I now have worth nothing though worth as much now as when I received them so that I concluded if I could get my pay I would try to do without them.

But to be Barred of both is shocking and miserable Hard for as I now stand there is 14 year of my Time totally lost. I have since the Death of Colonel Long had reference to Congress who report that the act of limitation have barred me from a recovery of my right without disputing my claim but add that no doubt but that that is just.

They well knowing the Regulations said [sic, set] Down for that Department which if I can be are in these words

"That the quartermasters have Liberty with the approbation of the Commander in Chief or Commander of a separate Army to take such and so many officers from the Of the Army to serve in this Department as he may find necessary and as are willing to engage in the business, – "that the pay of the Assistant Deputy quartermaster be settled by the Deputy Quartermaster under whom they respectfully serve according to the Duties they have to perform and the expense they will be at in executing the same so as the Pay of no assistant Deputy Quartermaster exceed \$75 per month without Provision or forage always having regard to the marriage of Service of the Persons appointed, – ["

Having performed this Duty agreeable to the Account hereunto annexed which Colonel Long, signature will show and it being the most Laborious duty I ever went through in my life and I believe I may say that I performed it to General Satisfaction at the time of Master and Country, – And as I sunk my all in the service of my Country I hope to be paid at least my Daily Wages

(Perhaps there will need some Explanation to my saying this Duty were Laborious but you will find that I did not perform the Duty of quartermaster alone but the Wagon and Forage Masters Duty as also the Clothiers, and commissaries, together with the business of the States agent at times.)

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State of Tennessee Bedford County October the 2<sup>nd</sup> 1828

Richard Rush, Secretary of Treasury

Sir, I transmit to you for examination a Letter from the Honorable N. Mason Dated the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 95 also refer you to the following as a Proof of my Services when examining for the correctness of which you weld other evidences of my service to the United States in other Official Duties.

In the House of representatives of the United States February the 12<sup>th</sup> 1798

The above report being received & the Question taken thereupon to wit that the house do agree with the Committee of Claims in their said report it passed in the affirmative True extract from the Journal

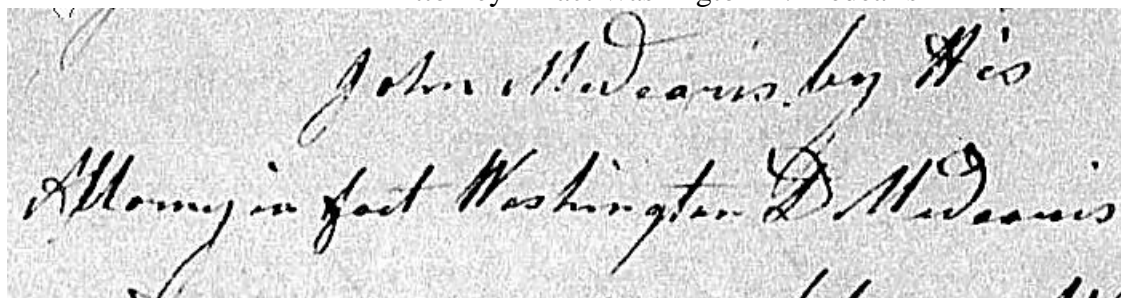
S/ Jonathan W Candy, Clerk

I not Having my commission send you the above with the enclosed. If the Papers were not burnt nor mislaid you will no doubt find my name & testimony of my services from 76 to the close of the War. I now have in my possession orders from Colonel Long & Baron De Kalb but think it useless to pack the mail with them when you have sufficient testimony before you –

If any money the coming it will be most convenient to draw all my money at the Branch Bank of the United States in Nashville Tennessee, Davidson County. Directly Answer to this application to Shelbyville Post Office Bedford County Tennessee

S/ John Medearis by his

Attorney in fact Washington D. Medearis



John Medearis by his  
Attorney in fact Washington D. Medearis



NB The above mentioned John was born February 44 says He & the record W. D. M.  
[p 36: On March 30, 1854 then Marshall County Tennessee, Elizabeth S. Yowell, 61, gave testimony that she was well acquainted with John and Sarah Meaderis; that they lived together as husband and wife; that she is also well acquainted with Polly Smith, the only surviving child of John and Sarah Meaderis; that the affiant is for me with the family record of the said John Meaderis which Bible has been in the affiants possession since the death of John Meaderis. She signed her affidavit with her mark. She does not state her relationship, if any with the veteran and/or his widow. It is not clear why the family Bible record was in her possession. In attesting this affidavit, the justice of the peace noted that he witnessed the affiant cut the family record from the Bible in his presence.]

[Veteran's heirs received the pension due him at the rate of \$600 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831 and ending March 31, 1834.]