

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Beard S2981

f35SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/22/10 & 5/22/18

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Lincoln County

On the Sixth day of April 1846, personally appeared in open court before the county court now sitting William Beard, a resident of said County and State aged Eighty Six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832:

Ans. 1: I was born in Carlisle town in the State of Pennsylvania in the month of July in the year 1860 [sic, 1760][.] I have forgotten on what day of the month.

Ans. 2: I have no record of my age here. I had a record in the state of Alabama, but my wife died there, and I came off and left everything [.] [T]he last time I heard of it, it was in possession of my brother but he is now dead, and I cannot tell what has become of it.

Ans. 3: When I entered the service, I was living about four miles form the town of '96 in district of 96 in the State of South Carolina. Since the Revolutionary War I have lived at a great many places: first at home near 96 in South Carolina, I then removed to Tiger [sic, Tyger] River in the same State, from thence I went to Georgia, from thence back to South Carolina, form thence to Blount Alabama, and from thence to Lincoln County, State of Tennessee where I have lived for the last six years—I cannot recollect how long I lived at each place.

Ans. 4: I volunteered to serve under Captain John Irwin (my mother's brother) [.]

Ans. 5: I served under Captain John Irwin as a Guard at Whitehall and went from thence to '96 guarding a parcel of Tories. I saw Lieutenant Earls a regular officer at the block house in Whitehall. I knew Lt. Earls very well. I then went home and shortly afterwards volunteered with our whole company under Captain Irwin a second time and went to Whitehall, at which place half of Captain Irwin and half of Captain Logan's company were joined together and made one company. I fell to Logan and went Florida under him and remained there from three to five months (I can not recollect the precise time) and fought the Brittish [sic, British], Tories and Indians between St. John's and St. Mary's Rivers; we lost a great many men (one thousand I think). We were commanded by Generals Williamson [Andrew Williamson] and Pickens [Andrew Pickens], Col. Brandon [Thomas Brandon] and Major Purbas [possibly, John Purvis]:-- Major Purbas never showed himself. Williamson was highest in Command but Col. Brandon had the honor of the battle. The enemy were [sic, was] under Colonel Brown[,] I think. After the battle at St. John's [River] I returned to 96 and got under my old Captain (Irwin) again and started to Georgia after the Indians and Tories along with Major Cunningham—we caught up with them and got back all the property, but they had killed a great many of the people.

Cunningham and his company stayed in Georgia and we returned to the 96. I left that place and went to Tiger [sic, Tyger] River and was at the battle of Blackstocks where Sumpter fought Tarleton, I was not under any officer there, but fell in and fought it out. Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] fought Tarleton. I was not under any officer there, but fell in and fought it out. Sumpter whipt and run Tarleton three quarters of a mile but our powder ran out. I then returned to 96 and under my old Captain (Irwin), I fought the battle at that place. General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], General Pickins and Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] were at that battle. I did not like General Greene but Colonel Lee was a regular officer and I liked him very much. After the battle at 96 we all dispersed and Rowden [sic, Rawdon] came and burnt the place and carried his men off to Charleston[.] [A]fter that we had nobody to fight but Indians until peace was made at the battle at Little York. I cannot recollect the country marched over[.] I went to a great many places. I know of no person now living by whom I can prove my services. I could prove by my brothers (Robert who lives in Giles County and Francis who lives in this county both in Tennessee) that I went out but they don't know anything about the fighting—I proved enough to satisfy them all in Columbia, South Carolina but my old companies are gone.

Ans. 6: I never acquired a discharge, our Captain paraded us and said boys you are dismissed!

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares tat his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state except that of state of South Carolina.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court.

S/ William Beard, x his mark

[Attested by] S/ Henry Kelso, Clerk

[David Smith, Daniel Farrar, John Robinson, Wormley K. Bruce, Constant Smith & Stephen M. Emmons gave the standard supporting affidavits

Amended declaration of William Beard in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for Lincoln County State of Tennessee William Beard who being duly Sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grade: For five years and six months or more and I served as a private all the time and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ William Beard, X his mark

Subscribed & Sworn to before me this 6th day of April 1846.

S/ Woodroof Parkes

Justice of the Peace for Lincoln County

[fn p. 7: James A. Beard, son of William Beard, deceased, filed a claim in Lumpkin County Georgia claiming that his father did not receive as large a pension as he was entitled to for his services as a revolutionary soldier. He states that his father drew a pension of \$53.22 per annum from March 4, 1831 to June 4, 1847 (being the date of his father's death) and that his father was entitled to a pension of at least \$80 per annum and he seeks the difference. The claimant states that his father died leaving no widow and no children surviving him other than the claimant. This claim was made January 25, 1851.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two years service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to William Beard AA12
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 385

[p 4]

[Book] I [No.] 587 25 Decr. 1784

Mr. William Beard his Account of 82 Days Duty as Private on Foot in militia from July 1779 to May 1783 per Captain John Irwin's Pay Bill performed alternately at 10/

Amounting to [old South Carolina] Currency	41
Stg. [Sterling]	£5.17.1 ½

[p 5]

State So. Carolina

Dr. [deliver] to William Beard

for 62 Days Duty as a Private in the Militia

per Captain John Irwin's Pay Bill Commencing

July 16th 1779 & Ending 12th May 1780 at 10/ £31

20 Days Duty as Do. Do

Per Do commencing May 1780 & ending

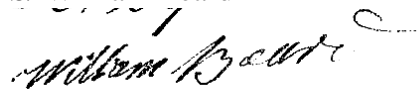
May 1783 at 10/ £10

Currency £41

Stg. £5.17.1 1/2

Received 30th December 1784, for Satisfaction for the Above in an Indent No. 589 Book J

S/ William Beard



¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>.