

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Fitzgerald S30411

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky

Oldham County Sct.

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 1842 Personally appeared in open Court before the county Court of said county William Fitzgerald a resident of said county and state aged eighty four years on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1842 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of an Act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 that he enlisted in the army of the united states in the year 1780 with [blank] and served in Col'n. Thomas Anderson regiment of the Virginia state line – that Brit Stovall [sic: Bret Stovall] was his lieutenant and Hayman Crite [sic: Haman Critz] his ensign. Captain – Gains his captain Col'n Anderson his Colonel and General [Horatio] Gates his first commander. That he entered the service in Henry County Virginia and enlisted for the term of three years. [See endnote.] That his first active service was in the Campaign under the command of Genl. Gates to South Carolina That he was at the Battle of Camden [16 Aug 1780] and after that when Genl Green had succeeded to the command of the Southern army [sic: Nathanael Greene, 3 Dec 1780] he was in the Battle of Gilford C. H. in North Carolina [sic: Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] was at the seige of Yorke town [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and was marched from thence after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to Winchester Virginia, that while at Winchester he was employed in guarding prisoners and remained there until the termination of the revolutionary war when he was discharged he served upwards of two years the precise time he does not now remember, but that it was a very short time before his term of service would have expired, that he served until the close of the war, that at Winchester he received a written discharge, which discharge from his commanding officer he left in the possession of his brother Harvey Fitzgerald [pension application W7278] then residing in Patrick County Virginia when he left that country which was about forty years ago. That he has resided in the neighbourhood in which he now lives for about forty years.

He hereby relinquishing every claim whatever to a pension or an 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 first aforesaid

William hisXmark Fitzgerald

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This affiant states upon his corporal oath, that it is true as is stated and set forth in his declaration made & proven before the Oldham County court which is of even date herewith that he was a souldier of the Revolutionary War in manner and form as is in said declaration contained. And that the reason why he has not before made application for a pension is that he had been informed that it was necessary for him to prove by some living witness that he performed the services which would entitle him to such pension, and that soon after the passage of the Act of Congress of June 1832 he being poor and anxious to avail himself of the benefit of said act and at the advice of some of his friends went to Shelby Co Ky to procure the tistimony of one John Blackburn, (he thinks his name was John or George) who was a messmate of his in the army, and served with him in the same company that it so happened that Blackburn died a few days before he arrived at his house, and that since that time he has been unable to find anyone who knew him personally whilst he was a souldier as afs'd. Affiant further states that he did not know that his name could be found on rolls of the army in the war department else he should have made his statement before this & have relied on his recollection Affiant wishes here to qualify the statement in said declaration respecting his age. he has no record of age and has relied on a frail recollection, but he thinks that he is

either 84 or 89 on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Oct. last and that the family Bible containing his age he left in Virginia Given under his hand this the 21<sup>st</sup> of November in the year AD 1842. William hisXmark Fitzgerald

NOTE:

There was no Col. Thomas Anderson of the Virginia State Line, and Haman Critz and Bret Stovall were militia officers. It therefore appears more likely that Fitzgerald served a number of three-month militia tours rather than a single three-year term in the Virginia line.

On 4 Feb 1843 Andrew G. Fitzgerald, deposed as follows: "William Fitzgerald is my father I have known him ever since my earliest recollection and am about forty six years of age – back to my first memory he resided in Patrick County in the State of Virginia where he remained until I was about ten years old when he removed to the State of Kentucky which was as well as I remember in the year 1806 I do not know the exact age of my father but can safely say that he is eighty years old and perhaps older he has resided near this place ever since he removed to Kentucky so far as my knowledge extends, and I have been living in this or Shelby County ever since I left Virginia and have seen him frequently during my residence in Ky."

A Treasury-Department document states that the administrator of the estate of William Fitzgerald received the final pension payment up to the date of his death on 20 Sep 1850.