

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McQueen (McQuin) S30577

f129NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 2/27/09 & 4/28/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p. 7 et seq.]

State of Kentucky, Estill County

On this 17th day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, personally appeared before the undersigned Probate Judge of Estill County, John McQueen, sometimes called McQuin, a resident of said county and aged 93 years, and being first sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated. That he volunteered to serve 12 months under Col Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] and Capt. North and he states he served part of his time under Col. Cleveland and part of his time under General John Sevier ^{but the most of his time under Genl. Sevier} and Capt. Robison. That he entered the service about Christmas 1779 or a few days after Christmas which that would make it perhaps in the beginning of 1780. That he was actually in the service performing military duty 13 months. That he was when he entered the service a resident of what was then called (about that time) Squabble State,¹ ^{North Carolina}, and that part of territory embraced between Henderson's and Dixon's line, that he don't recollect the county. That after he first entered the service he was detached by Col Cleveland together with others to occupy and defend the old Fort, or Block House, afterwards called Fort Selby [sic, Fort Shelby?] and that he remained there until the news reached that General Gates [Horatio Gates] had been defeated at Camden [Battle of Camden] and he thinks that battle was fought in August previous to the battle of King's Mountain and the news was alas that strong preparations were being made by the British to push their operations farther South and it was upon the receipt of this news that both old and young was called into the service. That he took his place in his company under General Sevier for the express object of meeting Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] somewhere. That he was in the battle of King's Mountain which was fought in October 1780 and as well as he now recollects the commanding officers present upon the part of the Americans were Col. Cleveland, Capt. Larkin Cleveland, General Sevier, Capt. North, General Selby or Shelby [sic, Isaac Shelby], Col. Martin, Capt. Elliot and Capt. Lewis, while Ferguson commanded the British forces and was totally defeated. That there was a woman who Ferguson had been keeping who had left the British army and had come with news to Capt. Lewis and she told him that Ferguson could be known by him using his sword in his left hand as he had been wounded previously in the right and Capt. Lewis communicated this to Col Cleveland and after the battle commenced, he pointed out Ferguson and selected 8 or 9 of his best riflemen and told them he had to fall, and there was 6

¹ http://www.historicsullivan.com/archives_manuscripts_0062_box002_item002.htm

or 7 bullet holes through him after the battle, and after the battle Col. Cleveland commenced hanging and killing the Tories, but by the intervention of the other officers such a course was stopped. That he went out of the service as a soldier 3 or 4 weeks after this battle or he did not render no service of this kind afterwards, but he was again ordered back to the fort for the purpose of defending it and those in it from the enemy and he remained there off and on until November or about the first of December 1783, and as peace was then finally ratified he was discharged or dismissed. That he don't know whether he was discharged finally from the army after the battle or not but he was to receive pay for his services while on the fort, but he states he did not get all he was entitled to, that is for the time he remained in the fort the last time but got a portion of it. He can't say whether he ever had a written discharge or not. That there was in the fort the following families: Eakins, Brashers [sic, probably Bradshears or Bradshaw], Lambs, Hackens, Mullins and Fields &c. That his name is as handed down to him, is McQuin instead of McQueen and never was it changed or spelled McQueen until he came to Kentucky and he found in Kentucky the McQueens and Quinns, and he states that if his name is found on the Pay Register or Muster Rolls at Raleigh, NC, it will be found McQuin. That he always has been a hunter, at least for a great many years after peace was made being pretty much from the woods and therefore has had little chance to know anything about pensions until of late years, although it has often been mentioned to him and has had several promises by Agents, but they most generally failed as he always lived much out of the way. That he don't know of no person now living that he could prove his service by. If Samuel Brashers,² John Fields,³ or John Burgey⁴ were living, he could prove it but they are all dead, or by John Haskins of Perry in Ky. in part. That he had a record of his age and family but it was destroyed or mislaid, and that he married to Polly Allendell and had by her 13 children, and she is dead. That he came to Ky. 1794 and has remained here ever since and born the 22 August 1761. That relies on the muster rolls or the Pay Register at Raleigh, NC to establish his services.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State except that of the Agency of the State of North Carolina.

S/ John McQueen, X his mark

Estill County, State of Kentucky

This 18th day of September 1854, John McQuin or McQueen ^{personally appeared in open court} and a previous term of this court had papers prepared for a pension under the act of June the 7th 1832 upon motion of his counsel he has underwent a full and complete investigation in every particular relating to his services as stated in his declaration heretofore filed, and the court has put the following interrogatories:

[Q:] Where were you born and what year? [A:] I was born on the 22nd August 1761 and in the State of Virginia.

[Q:] Have you any record of your age? [A:] Have had it, but it is now misplaced or lost.

[Q:] Where were you living when you was called into the Service and where have you lived since the Revolutionary War? [A:] When I entered the service, I lived not far from Jonesborough, Tennessee, or where it now stands. It was then North Carolina, and don't recollect

² [Samuel Brashears \(Brasher, Brashear\) W9370](#)

³ [John Fields R3529](#)

⁴ [John Amburgey \(Burgey\) R174](#)

the county about that time it was called Squabble State, and I have lived since 1794 in Kentucky, some of my time in Clay County, Madison, Laurel, Owsley, and Estill.

[Q:] State the names of the officers either of the regular or militia services. [A:] I had but little chance to know much about the regular services, but he was acquainted with Mike Harrison, Col. of the Dragoons. I volunteered under Col. Cleveland, served under Capt. North, Robison and afterwards under General Sevier and I was well acquainted with Col. Lacy [sic, Edward Lacey] of South Carolina, Campbell [William Campbell], Cleveland, Shelby, Sevier, Williams [James Williams], Brandy [sic, probably Thomas Brandon], Capt. Lewis, Vinciens, Larkin Cleveland, North, Col. Martin Elliot. That he was mostly confined to the fort for its defense but was in the battle of King's Mountain and sole General Ferguson after he was killed, and the battle was over. All the officers I have mentioned was in the battle of Kings Mountain

[Q] Why have you not applied sooner for a pension. [A] For a great many years after I came to Kentucky I engaged in hunting, hunting in the winter season, and in the summer I dug ginseng, there was a small quantity of Buffalo and some elk when I first came. I loved this kind of life, and in this way I got my living, living pretty generally in the backwoods, and until of late years heard but little said about pensions, but since I have been made acquainted with the pension laws, I have made repeated applications to Agents to attend to my claim, but always failed, and always have been poor, and sometimes very poor. [Q] Did you ever get a discharge, and if so what has become of it. [A] If I ever received a discharge I don't now recollect the year, and if I did I could not read it. I was dismissed, or verbally discharged and was paid 2 or 3 times, however it might of been more, but in specie, as the Continental money towards the close of the war proved to be worthless.

[p. 5]

Personally appeared before the undersigned Justice of the peace of Estill County William McQueen and after being duly sworn according to law [indecipherable word] that his father John McQuin or McQueen of this County was an applicant for a pension under the act 7th of June 1832 died in this County on the 14th Feb. 1855 and left the following children only to wit, Eda McQueen, Dicy McQueen, Thomas McQueen, Samuel McQueen, Ebbee McQueen, Nancy McQueen, Hannah McQueen, William McQueen, John McQueen, Polly McQueen, Sally McQueen, Betsey McQueen and Hannah McQueen. That they are all over 21 years of age and that he William McQueen has been appointed the administrator of his father John by the request of the remaining pairs.

This 19th Feb. 1855. That his father left no widow.

S/ William McQueen, X his mark

[p. 100]

State of Kentucky Perry County

Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace John Hacker who being first sworn according to law states upon his oath that he is a resident of this County and aged 87 years. That he was not in the revolutionary war, that is, he was not engaged as a soldier. He states he was raised in the State of North Carolina and during the year 1780 was a good sizable boy. That the families of Hackers, Brashears, Eakins, Combs, Mullins and Fields were forted in the old Block House afterwards or about that time called Fort Selby or Shelby.

That the most of the families in that day and region of country were in places of defense and that previous to the battle of King's Mountain those families entered the Fort for defense.

That he was well acquainted with Samuel Brashears who was the husband of Margaret Breshears of this County who is now drawing a pension and that Samuel was then called Lieut. Brashears. That he was well acquainted with John Fields who died in this County in 1852 and who was an applicant for a pension. That said Fields was out frequently before the battle of King's Mountain and afterwards and that he was employed by the Government as he always understood to watch the savages and to defend the neighborhoods and settlements. That he recollects Fields was out off and on, from 1780 until peace was finally made that is from the time he first knew him. That he was also well acquainted with John McQuin who now lives in Estill County Kentucky (as he is informed) but he formerly lived in Clay County Kentucky and who he understands is an applicant for a pension. That said McQuin was one of the soldiers or man who was left to defend the Fort and he is now very certain that McQuin left the Fort under General Sevier to meet Ferguson and he afterwards returned to the Fort, and remained a long time off and on he thinks until peace was made. That the way he became acquainted and to have means of this knowledge was because Fort Selby or Shelby was the great place of organization and of station. He states that he had the chance to know all about McQuin's service as he was taken to the Fort some time before King's Mountain with his father's family and remained there until peace was made that McQuin before the battle came to the Fort (Fort Shelby) as a soldier and left with Col. Sevier for King's Mountain. This Fort was not far from where Jonesborough now stands. He states he has no interest whatsoever description in the claim of McQuin or Fields and that he is no relation to either.

S/ John Hacker, X his mark