

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William McDowell S30580

f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/24/13: rev'd 2/12/17

[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.]

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State of Kentucky Gallatin County: Sct.

On this 15 day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Gallatin County Court now sitting William McDowell a resident of the said County of Gallatin and State of Kentucky aged 72 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated that is to say being a resident of Loudon [Loudoun] County Virginia he did on the ___ day of April in the year 1780 as well as he remembers entered the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier upon a tour of three months in the Company of Captain Beavers¹ – that he rendezvoused at Leesburg in the said County of Loudoun Virginia and his said Company then came under the command of Major Quarles – That he was marched from his said place of Rendezvous to Williamsburg Virginia and from there to York and from thence to Petersburg and from thence to Richmond Virginia and was kept actively engaged in the service until the full expiration of his said term of service and he was discharged and returned home. He states that he does not recollect to have been under any officer of higher grade than Major Quarles during this tour and that no incident worthy of special notice took place as far as he at present remembers –

He further states and declares that on the ___ day of July 1781 as well as he remembers he again entered the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier upon a tour of three months in the Company of Captain Lewis² – that he again rendezvoused with his said company at Leesburg in the said County of Loudoun where he still continued to reside – that he was attached to a Regiment under the command of Colonel ___. He states that he was kept at Leesburg for some time and was then marched to Fredericksburg and came under the command of General Weeden [George Weedon] – that he was marched from thence and the troops with which he was joined General Washington at or near Charlottesville Virginia and he was then marched down towards York and finally to Gloucester and the Siege of York was then

¹ Ray Mann, a descendant of Capt. William Beavers of Loudoun County militia, suggests that this reference probably is to his ancestor. He notes that William Beavers had a brother named James Beavers. James may be the same man as listed by Gwathmey as having been recommended for a lieutenancy in the Loudoun militia.

² There are 3 captains with the last named Lewis listed as having served from Loudoun County those being John Lewis, Joseph Lewis and Thomas Lewis.

commenced and this declarant was there and assisted in its progress under his said officers and witnessed the surrender of the British troops [October 19, 1781]. He states that soon after the surrender of the British he was marched as a part of the guard to a large number of Prisoners to Leesburg and from thence to Noland's ferry on the Potomac River and the prisoners were then carried over into Maryland and he this declarant was discharged and returned home having fully and faithfully performed his said term of service –

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William McDowell, X his mark

Interrogatories put to the above named applicant by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in the State of Maryland in the year 1761

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. The record of my age has been lost & I now have none

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I lived in Loudoun County Virginia when I entered the service and soon after the termination of the war I moved to Fairfax County Virginia where I lived some years and then moved back to Loudoun County where I continued to live till 1809 and I then moved to Fayette County Kentucky where I lived till 1826 & then moved to where I now live in Gallatin County Kentucky and have continued to live on the same place ever since.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I volunteered & was drafted

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I recollect Generals Washington, Lafayette, Wayne [Anthony Wayne] and Weedon and Colonels ____ . In my first tour I was engaged in endeavoring to protect the country from the incursions of the British. I was principally between James & York rivers and was at Richmond Virginia Williamsburg York and other places – Upon my 2nd tour I joined General Washington at or near Charlottesville Virginia and went down to the siege of York and was during the siege on the Gloucester side under the command of General Weedon. After the capture of the British Army I was marched as part of the guard to a parcel of the prisoners to Leesburg and from thence to Noland's ferry on the Potomac River and the prisoners being conveyed into Maryland I was discharged and returned home.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I received a discharge from each of my tours signed by my officers which I have lost.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. I will name John L Violeth & Elijah Dement.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Will McDowell, X his mark

[John L Violett, a clergyman, and Elijah Demint gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]