

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William (or Alpheus) Sutton S31400

f21VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/28/12

[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.]

State of Illinois County of Gallatin: SS

On this 5th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Thomas C. Browne Judge of the Circuit Court of the County of Gallatin aforesaid now sitting Alpheus Sutton, now called William Sutton – a resident of the said County and State aged sixty-eight 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 in the latter part of September 1781 he volunteered into the United States Service to go with many of his neighbors to the Siege of York he was then in the 18th year of his age and volunteered under Captain John Jackson in the Virginia Militia his march was from Bath Berkeley County Virginia where he volunteered to Martinsburg 35 miles where they rendezvoused, crossed James River at the falls of Rappahannock one mile above Fredericksburg – thence to Williamsburg 12 miles from York and the next day he joined the main Army at York. There being no vacancy for Captain Jackson his men were transferred into other companies – he has forgot and him Captain's name under whom he was placed but recollects that he was in Colonel Merryweather's [probably Thomas Meriwether] Regiment of Virginia Militia when Cornwallis surrendered his Army on the 19th October 1781 the next day the British troops marched out of York, and stacked their arms and returned back to town and staid until next day when we marched the prisoners within four miles of Williamsburg where we camped the first night thence through Williamsburg and Fredericksburg and across James River at the falls of Rappahannock. Thence to the forks of the road where the troops were divided one half to Winchester Barracks the other half to Fredericks Town Barracks in Maryland and this applicant marched with and guarded the prisoners to Harper's ferry, where he was discharged after being in the service of the United States for the space of two months – he then went home to Bath in Berkeley County and stayed about two weeks and then volunteered again and went to Winchester Barracks 45 miles from Bath and there guarded the prisoners six months under Captain Eaton and Colonel Holmes till the prisoners were exchanged. In 1785 he came to Kentucky where he settled and remained till 1810 and his father having died in the meantime he took his name of William by which he has been known ever since. In 1810 he removed to Gallatin County Illinois where he has resided ever since and still resides. This applicant states that he served eight months in all two months at Little York and six months at Winchester Barracks in Virginia. He states was in the Battle of Little York but in no other. The regiments he served in were Colonel Merryweather's (to which he belonged) and Colonel Dark's. He has no documentary evidence of his [service] and he knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure by whom he can prove his services.

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.

This applicant further states that he had two written discharges but they are both lost by time or accident he not having thought them of any use to preserve – he states that he has no record of his age – but believes that he was in his 18th year when he entered the service – one of his discharges was given by Captain Eaton at Winchester and the other was granted at Harpers Ferry by his Captain whose name he has forgotten after the prisoners were marched to that place after the Battle of Little York.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Leon'd White, Clk

S/ Wm Sutton

[Wilson Henderson, a clergyman, and Michael Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: Veteran died August 15, 1839; the file contains no family data.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the Virginia militia.]