

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Wills (Wells) S31484

fn18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/30/11

[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 Kentucky Montgomery County: SS

On this 8th day of November 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the Montgomery County court now sitting William Wills a resident of said County & State aged 67 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the US under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He states that he was born in the State of Virginia on the 16th day of April 1765 in the County of Albemarle. And further states that his father entered the service of the US in the year 1779 sometime in the summer of that year but cannot say with certainty what month. I was very young. I am also unable to say what were the names of the officers but I well remember of having to convey to my Father some money soon after he commenced his march. I recollect I overtook the Army somewhere near Richmond and my Father offered me if I would take his place he would give may a Negro girl. I declined having been so young not exceeding 14 years. My father however told me that I should stay and perform the duty assigned him. But my father's conducting me to Major Muchelwain [? McIlwaine?] and asking him if he would accept of me in the room of my father for the term for which he was drafted which I think was under a draft for 18 months. The Major immediately observed he would. That he would not give me for two of him. I was then taken by the Major as his cook & I so continued sometimes cooking for him and at other times for General Washington until the Term had expired for which my father was drafted. I then continued with the Army marching through Virginia and Pennsylvania. He states he well remembers the time the American Army lay siege at York that he then was a cook for the same Major which took place in 1781 sometime in the fall. I then stayed at the Barracks for two months and was discharged by my Major But have lost it. He states he has no record of his age but that his father had one and he well remembers his age from his record. He states that Harry Karnell [sic, Harry Darnell] and Samuel W[illegible, sic, Samuel L. Williams] knows me and well testify for me agreeably to the directions of the War Department. He states he has no documentary evidence and knows of no living witnesses by whom he can prove it. He states he moved to Kentucky some 40 years since to Montgomery County and now resides there. He hereby relinquishes all and every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ M. Harrison, Clerk

S/ William Wells [sic], X his mark

[Harry Darnell, a clergyman, and Samuel L Williams gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: veteran died August 9, 1834, place not stated; there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 18 months service as a private in the Virginia service.]