

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Matthew McClurkin (McCluskin) S32403

f29SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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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Pleas held at the Court House of Union County in the Sixth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana on the first Monday of September in the year of our Lord 1833 Before the Honorable Charles H Test president Judge of said Circuit & Robert Swann & David Ogden Esquires his Associates, Judges of said Union Circuit Court.

Be it remembered that on this day to wit the Seventh Judicial day of said Term & the ninth day of September in the year aforesaid Matthew McClurkin comes personally into open Court and makes and files the following declaration to wit:

State of Indiana Union County

On this 9th Day of September 1833 personally appeared in open Court Before Robert Swann and Daniel Ogden Associate Judges of the Union Circuit Court now sitting, Matthew McClurkin of Union Township Union County and State of Indiana, aged Seventy-two 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 General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], Col. Weere [sic ?], Col. Lacey [Edward Lacey], Col. Middleton, Major Crawford [Robert Crawford] and Adjutant Miller were the names of the officers during the time this claimant was in the service of the United States, That he was under the Command of Lieut. Houston, the only officer that commanded the Company in which this applicant served. That in the spring of the year 1780 he entered into the service of the United States as a volunteer soldier and was engaged as such during the time he was in the service, and that he was not engaged in any civil pursuit, the time he left the service he does not recollect That at the time he left the service he does not recollect That at the time he entered the service he resided in the County of Chester State of South Carolina, That he entered the service as a volunteer under Lieut. Houston at Indian lands near Catawba River, whether in North or South Carolina, he cannot tell, but then it was near the line between the two States, At the Indian lands a small company was formed, Commanded by Lieut. Houston and of which company this applicant was one, and the forces and company at this place were commanded by Col. Sumter, that the volunteers were under the Command of Col. Sumter marched from the Indian lands to a place called the hanging rock near the Catawba River, and at the hanging rock near the Catawba River early in the morning they attacked a company of Tories who were commanded as this applicant understood by one Col. Bryan [Samuel Bryan], that this applicant was engaged in this attack

[Hanging Rock, August 6, 1780],¹ that the Tories were defeated, the British soldiers being encamped about half a mile from the place where the Tories were attacked by the volunteers as aforesaid, That a short time after the defeat of the Tories the British made an attack upon the volunteers, the volunteers maintained their ground until evening, that this applicant was in this engagement That in the evening the volunteers left the place called the hanging rock and marched to Bigger's ferry² on the Catawba River. At this place the volunteers were attacked by the British forces and the applicant was severely wounded on the head, and that the scar of the wound is plainly to be seen at this time, and that he was taken prisoner by the British troops, This applicant with other prisoners was taken to Charlotte in North Carolina, and confined in jail and from Charlotte was sent to Camden in South Carolina and there confined in a prison -- This Applicant thinks he was confined as a prisoner about 10 weeks, from Camden he was sent to Charleston to be put aboard a prison ship, as this applicant understood, and on the way about 16 miles from Camden, he and the other prisoners overpowered the guard and made their escape -- That about two weeks after his escape as aforesaid he again entered the service as a volunteer under Col. Sumter, the time and place this applicant is unable to state, but a short time after he entered the service a second time under Col. Sumter, the volunteers under Col. Sumter took a British Garrison at Col. Thompson's [sic, Thomson's Plantation, February 22, 1781]³ about 3 miles South of the Congaree River that he continued in the service some time with Col. Sumter, the length of time he is unable to state and in the South part of South Carolina he was again taken prisoner by the British and was sent to Camden and confined as a prisoner how long he remained a prisoner he is unable to state, he obtained a parole from the British and returned to Chester and a short time after he returned home peace was declared between the United States & the British government, That he received from the United States about \$60 for his services, sometime after peace was declared, but the time he is unable to state. This applicant says he was in the service not less than six months, and that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise time of his service, but thinks he served about ten months and is very confident he served not less than six months. He has no documentary evidence of his services and that he knows of no witnesses 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 agency of any pension roll of the agency of any State, And the following questions were propounded to him by the Court and the following answers received, where and in what year were you born? He was born in Ireland the time he cannot exactly recollect, but thinks it was in the year 1761. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? He has no record of his age. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live? He lived in Chester South Carolina when called into service, and that since the revolution he lived in South Carolina a number of years, then he removed to Tennessee and from Tennessee to Indiana where he has resided for 20 years, and that he now resides in Union County in the said State of Indiana. How were you called into service -- were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? He entered the service as a volunteer. 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? Col. Sumter, Col. Weere and Adjutant Miller and Lieut. Houston were the names of some of the officers under

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

² September 26, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_biggers_ferry.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thomsons_plantation.html

whom this applicant served. That Lieut. Houston commanded the Company in which this applicant served, that the Circumstances of his services are stated in the body of his declaration above recited. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? That he never received a written discharge. 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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution? That he is known by David Bonner & Thomas Wright who are residents in his neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution and that no clergyman lives in his vicinity with whom he is acquainted.

S/ Matthew McClurkin⁴

S/ Edghill Burnside, Clerk

[David Bonner and Thomas Wright gave the standard supporting affidavit. David Bonner states that the applicant, when he lived in South Carolina, enjoyed the reputation of having been a soldier of the revolution.]

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

⁴ Not actually signed by veteran as the above is copy of the court record, not the original application.