

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Walker S32573

f55NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/7/10 & 8/12/14

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Hardin County: Circuit Ct. November Term 1832

Be it remembered that on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable William B. Turly Judge of the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, now sitting for the County of said Hardin, William Walker a resident of the County of Hardin and State of Tennessee aged 72 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to attain the benefit of the [act] of Congress passed July [sic, June] 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, viz.:

He was born in Mecklenburg County North Carolina in the year of 1760, he has seen a register of his age in his father's Bible but does not know where it is now. He entered the service of the United States in the year of 1780 [sic, the events he describes occurred in 1779] in the North Carolina line in Rutherford County under Captain Benjamin Harden in the spring of the year, and was marched from Rutherford to Mecklenburg County there we joined General Butler [John Butler]. From thence we marched to the Savannah River where we joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] at a place on the Cherokee Point in South Carolina. Thence he moved down to a place called Baker's bridge [sic, Bacon's Bridge?] near Dorchester there we remained for some time – we were accompanied with Count Pulaski and his Regiment of horse men. Shortly after Pulaski left us and went on towards Savannah. He, the said Walker, went from thence to Stono ferry and was in the battle at that place [20, 1779]. Colonel McDowell [Charles McDowell] was then Commandant of the Regiment when he marched from Rutherford but he believes on the way to the Battle at Stono he was commanded by Colonel Euger [Isaac Huger] of Charleston – he served in this tour three months as a minute man and was discharged at Stono shortly after the battle but have long since lost his discharge – after he returned home he remained about ten months. He then volunteered to keep down the Tories and entered the service under Captain Rankin for ten months, he, this affiant, was elected and served as Lieutenant under Captain Rankin, Colonel Singleton was then commander. The first engagement he was in after he entered on this tour was at the head of Cain [sic, Cane] Creek, where Captain Dunlap a British officer overtook us as we were retreating toward the Watauga [River]. The enemy proved too hard for us and we were compelled to continue our retreat after we crossed the Yellow Mountain we recruited & Col. Sevier [John Sevier] & Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] joined us and we went back to fight Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] & the Tories before we met Ferguson we were joined by Colonels Campbell [William Campbell and Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland]]. From the top of Yellow Mountain until we got to King's Mountain he placed out the picket guard every night he was in the battle of King's Mountain [October 7, 1780] and in the advanced guard that brought on the battle. Before he retreated over the Yellow Mountain he was at the taking of Pat Moore's Fort on Thicketty in Spartanburg County South Carolina.

From King's Mountain he returned home the Tories were numerous he took his mother who

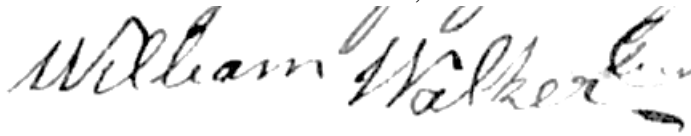
they had retained as a prisoner for the purpose of putting her in his father's Seller [cellar] to keep the Whigs from burning down the House Major Ferguson before the battle had made his head quarters in my father's house-- he carried his mother over the Yellow Mountain for refuge from the Tories. He then raised a company of militia who volunteered to go to Ninety Six to assist General Green [Nathanael Greene] – this affiant was the Captain of said Company he marched to Ninety Six and joined Greene's Army, was not there long before General Greene retreated. This affiant and his Company being well acquainted with the Country acted as pilot to General Greene's Army for eighteen miles – he served two months in this campaign as a Captain – he then returned home. He was in the battle of Pacolet River and was a lieutenant in that campaign he does not recollect what time was out in this term or how long he turned out for he followed the British from Pacolet River to Prince's Fort on Tiger [Tyger] River – there we were compelled to retreat he believes he served in the tour two months.

He on the first day of March 1782 again entered the service of the United States under the command of Col Joseph McDowell and Singleton as a volunteer to fight the Cherokee Indians. He was appointed adjutant and acted as such during the whole tour which was two months – in this expedition we destroyed two towns of the Indians called Little Chota & Big Chota – we killed some and took a good many prisoners. My brother Felix Walker was a lieutenant in the Continental line he had another brother by the name of John Walker who was in the Continental line and died in Charleston.

Joseph Ballew<sup>1</sup> of Shelby County and William Robertson<sup>2</sup> of Hardeman County are acquainted with me & know of my serving my country I have procured their affidavits and here append them to accompany my statement. Thomas Gray & James Robinson of Hardin County are also acquainted with me and has known me for some time and can testify as to the belief of my service and character for veracity. He has no discharge to produce. He has a certificate signed by Col Joseph McDowell and others which he also attaches to his Statement.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State. Sworn to in open court.

S/ William Walker, Sen.



Sworn to in open Court

S/ Orville Harrison, clerk

[Thomas Gray and James Robinson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And the said William Walker states that he never had a regular Commissioned as a Lieutenant or Captain, That he was elected to the aforesaid officers by the volunteer companies which he commanded, but it was not customary for the volunteer offices to have their Commissions made out.

He remained in Rutherford County North Carolina until about the year 1810 when he moved to Tennessee and has resided in Hardin County Tennessee the last 8 years

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court November 17 1832

S/ William Walker

[p 25]

State of Tennessee Hardeman County: This day appeared William Robertson a resident citizen of said County and credible witness before me William L. Duncan an acting justice of the peace of said County and authorized to administer oaths, and made oath that he is acquainted with William Walker now a citizen of Hardin County Tennessee that he has known him for fifty-two years and more and that

---

1 [Joseph Ballew S31541](#)

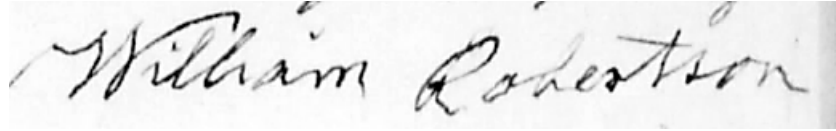
2 [William Robertson S4790](#)

he this affiant has seen the said Walker in the service of the United States during the revolutionary War, and that he belonged to the North Carolina Militia and he this affiant saw the said Walker in the battle of King's Mountain also at the taking of Patrick Moore's Fort in Spartanburg County South Carolina.

Sworn to & subscribed before me on the first of October 1832

S/ William Hill Duncan, JP

S/ William Robertson



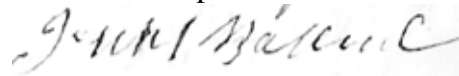
[p 27]

State of Tennessee Hardeman County: This day personally appeared Joseph Ballew before me a credible witness and a reputable Citizen and made oath that he has been acquainted with William Walker for about sixty years in the year 1780 Major Ferguson of the British Army took possession of Colonel John Walker's house the father of said William Walker and made it his head quarters and drove Colonel John Walker and his family out of said house and took the said William Walker's mother prisoner and confined her in the Cellar to keep the Whigs from burning the house. I saw said William Walker at the Battle of King's Mountain. I also saw him at the battle of Pacolet River at Ned Hampton's plantation, under the command of Colonel Charles McDowell -- the said William Walker was a Lieutenant under Captain Rankin at the Battle of Kings Mountain he also held that commission at the Battle of Pacolet River his brother Felix Walker was a member of Congress from North Carolina was a Lieutenant in the Continental line. I was also with the said William Walker in a campaign against the Cherokee Indians in the year 1782 when we marched to the big Chota & little Chota on the Tennessee River the said Walker then held a commission I believe as adjutant from the time I first saw the said William Walker in the Army of the North Carolina militia until he left the same was about three years he was pretty constantly engaged in the Army during the whole time I understood he was in the Battle at Stono ferry before I saw him in the Army.

Sworn to & subscribed before me 1<sup>st</sup> October 1832

S/ William L. Duncan, JP

S/ Joseph Ballew



[p 21]

State of Tennessee Hardin County: Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions March Term 1833

The Supplemental declaration of William Walker to a declaration made by him in the Circuit Court of Hardin County at the November term aforesaid Circuit Court in the year while Lord 1832 in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed July 7th 1832 [sic]

Be it remembered that on the 19th day of March in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions the same being a Court of record, William Walker aged about 72 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in addition to the one heretofore made in the Circuit Court of this County at November term 1833 in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of July 1832 [sic] --

William Walker states in addition to what he has heretofore stated that he never received any commission for any of the offices he held during the revolutionary War: that he was elected by the companies to which he belonged Lieutenant and Captain, that he never applied or obtained a commission, neither does he believe it was at that time customary to do so. That the election took place about the time he was called into service and there was no time to obtain a commission. He believes in such cases the usual to report such election to the commander of the Regiment and there the matter ended unless the officer of elected would make further application for his commission. He this affiant never did apply for any commission the reason why was that he had not time to do so immediately after

elected and before it was convenient to apply or obtained one the time for which he had entered the service would have expired. In the expedition against the Cherokee Indians this affiant was appointed adjutant by Colonel Singleton who with Colonel McDowell commanded the Regiment to fill the place of \_\_\_ Balden who had taken sick and went home. This affiant states that he did not receive any commission or statement in writing of his appointment. It was not customary in those days for gentlemen to reduce their communications to writing. He this affiant has served whole campaigns without seeing a sheet of paper.

This affiant in his other declaration stated in his certificate that he never had received a commission for either Lieutenant or Captain but he supposes that statement was not [indecipherable word, possibly "found"] by the officers of the war department, as the certificate is made to itself below the declaration and as Mr J E Edwards in his Letter to the Honorable A H Sevier says that I should reduce my commissions or show what has become of them, it is presumed by this affiant that this would not be required when the Applicant states that he never received a commission. This affiant states that he never received any other discharge than the one named in his first declaration neither as an officer or private.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court March 19th 1833

S/ John Houston, Clerk

S/ William Walker

[p 14]

Application for a Transfer  
County of DeKalb

On this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 1838 before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for the said County of DeKalb personally appeared William Walker, Senior, who on his oath declares that he is the same person who formerly belonged to the company commanded by captains Rankin & Balden [?] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel ~~Isaac Shelby~~ in the service of the United States. That his name was placed on the pension roll of the state of Tennessee, from whence he has lately removed and that he now resides in the State of Alabama where he intends to remain; and wishes his pension to be there payable, in future. The following are his reasons for removing from Tennessee to Alabama. That the major part of his children had removed to that State & that he wishes to be near to them that they might attend him in his declining Years.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Walker

S/ George W. Walker, an Acting Justice of the Peace

[p 9: On February 21, 1842 in DeKalb County Alabama, George W. Walker, made oath that he is the Administrator of the estate of William Walker who was a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution, formerly a resident of Hardin County Tennessee. He states that the veteran died in DeKalb County Alabama where he had lived for about three years prior to his death. The date of the veteran's death is not set forth in this document.]

[p 11: on February 28, 1842, the clerk of court of DeKalb County Alabama made findings that William Walker, the pensioner, died in DeKalb County Alabama on July 3, 1841 leaving no widow and that George W. Walker has been duly qualified as administrator of the estate.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$126.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 3 months service as a private; 8 months service as a Lieutenant and 2 months service as adjutant in the revolution.]