

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Wells S32581
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn84NC
6/27/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 10]

State of Kentucky Gallatin County: Sct

On this 15th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the accounts of the County Court now sitting John Wells a resident of the said County and State aged 69 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 the County of Surry in the State of North Carolina he entered the service of the United States on the __day of November 1780 as a drafted militia man and private soldier in the company of Captain Jones -- that he rendezvoused with his company at the Courthouse in the said County and was immediately detached by his Colonel under the commissary for the Regiment whose name was Gabriel Jones to assist in pressing provisions of all descriptions for the Army which was then in the State of North Carolina under General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. He states that his tour of duty under his said draft was for six months and that he continued during the whole of his said tour under & by virtue of the order of his Colonel engaged in aiding and assisting the said commissary to procure & press beef & corn & other articles for the use of the Army -- that he was aiding in these matters and during his term of service he recollects that the battle of the Cowpens, Guilford & Ramsay's Mills were fought. He states and declares that at the termination of his said tour of duty in the month of May 1781 having fully and faithfully served out the same he was discharged and returned home. He states and declares that his tour was for six months and that he actually served out the same fully and faithfully.

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 roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Wells, 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 Williamsburgh Virginia in the year 1764

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

Answer I have at home.

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 Surry County North Carolina when I was called into service, and there remained 417 or 18 years after the war and then moved to Grayson County Virginia where I remained for about 7 years and then removed to Adair County Kentucky and from thence I moved to Lincoln County Kentucky and from thence to Mercer County Kentucky and from thence to Nelson County Kentucky and from thence about 3 years ago to Gallatin County Kentucky where I have continued to live 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 was drafted.

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

Answer. I recollect Generals Greene, Caswell and Morgan and Colonels Clarke and Martin and Major McDowell. I was drafted and as soon as I rendezvoused with my company I was detailed to assist in pressing provisions for the Army and continued in that employ in that service during the term for which I was drafted.

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 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 Andrew McDowell & Henry Vance

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Wells, X his mark

[Henry M. Vance and Matthew McDowell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 18: on August the 11, 1842 in Clinton County Indiana, John Wells filed for a transfer of his pension benefit to that state's agency giving as his reason for moving from Kentucky to Indiana "that he thought being new country, was the best country for a poor man, and that he could get land, land being cheap."]

[Facts in file: in October 1834, veteran moved from Kentucky to a place near Thorntown, Boone County, Indiana where he resided in March 1835 and in 1839 he resided in Clinton County Indiana; there is referenced made to the soldier's daughter but no children are named and his wife is not named. In a letter from the war department the statement is made "it was stated further that he [veteran] served as private in Captain Andrew Hampton's company, Colonel Absalom Bostick's Regiment and in Captain Henry Hampton's company, Colonel Joseph Winston's Regiment, dates and details of these services not stated" -- I did not find any sworn statement containing assertion of these services.]

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