

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas McQueen S33080

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/16/13

[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.]

Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –
State of Indiana Bartholomew County:

On this 12th day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable J F Morris President of the Bartholomew Circuit Court and David Hagan and Jesse Springer his Associates, now sitting Thomas McQueen, a resident of Bartholomew County and State of Indiana, aged seventy years, who first being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in a company commanded by Colonel Williamson in the Virginia State line in the year __ and served about 16 days and was at the burning of the Indian towns on the Muskingum River at which time about 90 Indians were killed. Has no witness to this Service, except his brother Joshua McQueen who lives in the State of Kentucky, and whose evidence is here with transmitted. A short time previous to said service he served about 30 days as a volunteer in Captain Hoglan's Company, as a Ranger on the banks of the Ohio River. In __ he volunteered in Captain Charles Belderback's Company, Lieutenant Colonel Williamson [David Williamson], and Colonel Crawford [William Crawford]¹ marched forthwith to the upper Sandusky; was in the battle at that place in which Colonel Crawford was killed, our Army defeated, about 147 killed and missing and himself taken prisoner by the Indians, after being by them detained about a year they took him to Detroit and in three days he made his escape to the British troops, was detained by them as a prisoner nearly six months when he made his escape from them, and when about one hundred twenty miles on his way home was retaken by the Indians, carried back to Detroit, and by them sold to the British, when he was put in irons, and thus kept about three months, but was offered his liberty if he would enlist in the British Army, which was rejected. At the close of the War he returned home under a pass from Major Depastur [?] after an absence of two years, wanting one day. That he is known to the Reverend Megian Boaz [??] and Hon. David Hagan who well attest to his veracity. At the time of entering the service lived in Virginia between Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and Wheeling and has since lived in the States of Kentucky Missouri & Indiana where he now lives. That he has no documentary evidence of 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 pension roll of the Agency of any State or territory. In answer to question asked him by the Court he further states that he was born in Baltimore County, State of Maryland in December 1761 but have no record of the same was living in Virginia a few miles above Wheeling when called into service, and was a volunteer. In addition

¹ Crawford's expedition against the Indians culminated in an extended battle ending on June 6, 1782.

to the officers above stated, he was well known to Doctors Knight, Singeon [?], and Capt. Thomas Rankin, and Captain George Brown who is sensed deceased. He never received a discharge being a prisoner at Detroit at the close of the War. He further states that his memory is so frail that he cannot designate the particular year he entered the service, but knows about the time.

S/ Thomas McQueen

Sworn to and subscribed by Thomas McQueen the date and year aforesaid.

S./ Joseph McKinney, Clerk

[Mignan Boaz, a clergyman, and David Hagan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Also personally appeared in open Court Mrs. Elizabeth McQueen wife of Joshua McQueen who being duly sworn maketh oath that she is the daughter of the aforementioned Captain George Brown deceased, and in his lifetime frequently heard him relate that he and the said Thomas McQueen were it in Crawford's defeat and the suffering they endured, and that said McQueen was taken prisoner by the Indians and was absent about 2 years.

S/ Elizabeth McQueen, X her Mark

Sworn and subscribed in open Court the 12th day of September 1832

S/ J McKinney, Clerk

September the 19th 1832

After being duly sworn Thomas West stated that Thomas McQueen served in Crawford's campaign under Captain Jacob Bellman for the space of 2 years and one day was gone from home which was in the year 1782.

S/ Thomas West, X his mark

The additional declaration of Thomas McQueen before me George E Tingle a Justice of the Peace of Bartholomew County in the State of Indiana in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. The said Thomas McQueen by me being duly sworn upon his oath states That in the month of May in the year 1782 and he thinks on the 18th day of said month he volunteered as a private soldier in Captain Charles Belderbacks Company Lieutenant Colonel Williamson in Colonel Crawford's Regiment in the Virginia State line this Affiant then living in what is now Ohio County in the State of Virginia. And on the 25th of the same month rendezvoused in the Mingo bottom – After remaining there a few days marched and about the 29th arrived at the Moravian towns which had been destroyed a short time before, And thence proceeded on their march to the Upper Sandusky and after several days march the command was halted and owing to a disposition manifested by some of the men a Council was held by the Officers as to the propriety of returning home having as yet encountered no enemy – The Council determined to march forward another day and if no enemy should appear, to return home. About the time the Council broke up a horseman rode up and gave information that the enemy was close by, when we were immediately formed in Order of battle and pressed forward to meet the enemy. And about 12 o'clock they came in contact with the enemy and in engagement was commenced which lasted until the dusk of the evening. On the next morning the battle was again renewed and continued during the day and that evening. It was determined by the Officers to retreat owing to the continual reinforcements received by the enemy. Accordingly a retreat was commenced and this Affiant on the second day after he left the battleground was taken prisoner by a party of Indians and treated as is stated in his Original

declaration – having been kept a Prisoner for the period of two years lacking one day and returned as is stated in his former declaration. This Affiant further states that owing to his infirmity of memory hearing and sight being nearly blind he could not in his former statement make dates but has obtained them from history and other publications but that the facts stated in his former declaration are true and the services rendered previous to those mentioned in this additional declaration are true, but he cannot remember dates – And his whole period of service was more than two years and three months.

In answer to questions put to him by the Justice

States that he has no record of his age –

Then he was drafted several times and volunteered in the last service under Colonel Crawford

When called into service he was living in the State of Virginia near the Mingo bottom on the Ohio River.

That he never received a discharge because he was a prisoner and his commanding officer was killed.

That he is so blind, occasioned as he believes by the beating he received from the Indians in running the gauntlet whilst he was a prisoner, that he is unable to go in pursuit of testimony.

S/ Thomas McQueen, X his mark

[Attested November 21, 1833 in Bartholomew County Indiana]

Personally appeared before me on this 19th day of November 1833 Sarah McQueen who being duly sworn states that she first became acquainted with Thomas McQueen in the year 1784 – that she heard from Captain Rankin who was on the explanation spoken of in the annexed declaration and from many others that the said Thomas McQueen served as therein stated – She has no personal knowledge of his services, but that it was a matter of general notoriety in the year 1784 in her neighborhood in the Country where she lived being near the residence of the said McQueen.

S/ Sarah McQueen, X her Mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia service.]