

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William McAdams S33083

Transcribed by Will Graves

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rev'd 7/26/16

[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.]

[p 5]

State of Illinois, Madison County: SS

On this fourth day of September in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court before their Honors the Judges of the County Commissioners Court for Madison County, now sitting, William McAdams, a resident of Madison County and State of Illinois, aged 72 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he the said William McAdams entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he volunteered at Hawsfields [sic, Hawfields] Orange County in the State of North Carolina in the spring of 1779, and was commanded by Captain John Carrington [James Carrington] (the other officers names not recollected) in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Armstrong, Brigade by General Butler [John Butler], that he marched from Hillsboro Orange County North Carolina for Georgia and joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] at Stono on the Savannah River, and was in the battle [Battle of Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779]¹ at that place in June of the same year and was in the service three months and received a discharge from General Butler, and returned home, the discharge was lost long since.

And he further declares that he Volunteered again at the same place soon after his return and was commanded by Captains William Duglass [sic, William Douglas or Douglass] and Nathaniel Christmas and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel William O'Neale [William O'Neal]. That he was in the battle at Haw River when Col. Piles [sic, Dr. John Pyle] the Tory was defeated the Continental Troops were commanded by Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] in the engagement.² He was also in the pursuit and defeat of Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] the Tory, and in many other skirmishes with the Tories and British at different places but the particulars are not recollected.

He declares that he served from the time he volunteered till the war was closed in North and South Carolina (except about six months after the first campaign) and that he served more than two years in the war of the Revolution, and was in the actual service of the United States.

He declares that he was born in the State of Pennsylvania in York County in the year 1760 but the month or the day of the month are unknown as there is no record of his birth that he knows of, but his parents moved to Orange County North Carolina while he was but a Child.

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

² February 25, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_haw_river.html

That he lived in that County till the year 1788 or 1789 when he moved to Goliton [sic, ?]³ County Tennessee where he lived till the year 1819 and then came to Madison County Illinois where he has lived ever since.

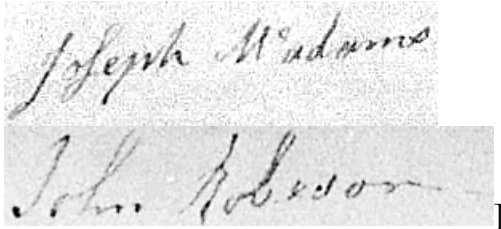
He has no documents by which to prove his services as he never received but two discharges and they were lost long since, and he knows of but two persons by whom he can prove his services , they are John Robinson⁴ of Madison County and Joseph McAdams⁵ of Bond County Illinois who served with him a part or most of the time he was in the 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.

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William McAdams, X his mark

[John Robeson and Joseph McAdams gave affidavits supporting (without giving any details) applicant's claim to have served in the Revolution.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature reads "Joseph McAdams" and the bottom signature reads "John Robeson". Both signatures are enclosed in a large right-facing square bracket on the right side.

State of Illinois, Madison County

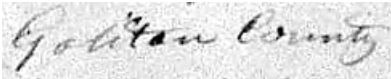
Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace within and for the County of Madison and State aforesaid, William McAdams, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively, as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the period mentioned below and in the following grade – for two years and three or four months I was a private and for such service I claim a pension and this deponent further deposes and saith that he performed the aforesaid services in the years of 1779, 1780, 1781 and 1782 but the exact parts of the above named years this deponent cannot positively swear And further this deponent Swareth not.

S/ William McAdams, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of May A.D. 1833

S/ William E. Starr, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia.]

³ 

[Did he intend to say "Gallatin County, Illinois?]

⁴ [John Robeson S32488](#)

⁵ [Joseph McAdams S33081](#)