

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Walker S3444

f21MD

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/12/15

[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 Bedford County: County Court August Term 1832

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before Samuel Phillips, John B Armstrong & George L Neill Esquires, Justices of said court, now sitting, Robert Walker, a resident of the County of Bedford and State of Tennessee aged Seventy-five years one month & thirteen days, 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States about two and a half years before the close of the war, but cannot remember the year, he remembers however that it was in the month of May. He enlisted under man by the name of Stack, whose given name he does not remember, or what commission he bore, but he knows he was a recruiting officer in the regular service. He served in the 16 Regiment of the Maryland line, under the following named officers. He was a private Soldier in Capt. Ezekiel Read's company according to the best of his recollection for he cannot be perfectly certain as to the given name of his Capt.<sup>1</sup> – The said 16<sup>th</sup> Regiment in which he served, was commanded by Col. Jones, his given name he cannot remember. He recollects Major Lytle of said Regiment, and he thinks there was also a Major Cannon belonging to, and commanding the same Regiment, but his memory does not sufficiently serve him to enable him to speak with certainty about Maj. Cannon. He does not remember the names of any of the other officers of his Regiment except the Lieut. of the company to with [which] he belonged, whose name was Daniel Casey,<sup>2</sup> who was killed at York, and his Ensign, whose name was Howel. Declarant lived in Dorset County upon the Eastern Shore in Maryland, at the time he enlisted in the service of the United States; and he rendezvoused at the town of Cambridge, the then Seat of Justice in said Dorset County, and was then mustered into the service. Col. Jones was then present at the time, and at the same time Capt. Read took command of the company to which he was attached. The Regiment to which declarant belonged crossed over the Chesapeake Bay and marched up past Baltimore and joined as speedily as they could the Army under the immediate command of General Washington; but he cannot remember at what point they joined the main Army as above stated, or the course which they marched, and the country through [which] they passed, after they left Baltimore, before joining the main Army. After joining the main body of the Army, the whole moved on as well as declarant recollects towards Brandywine; and in their

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<sup>1</sup> Veteran MAY have been attempting to identify Capt. Philip Reed of the Maryland Continental line, but Reed appears to have only served in the 1st Maryland Regiment.

<sup>2</sup> I could find no such officer listed among the Continental officers MD

march in that direction they had a smart engagement at a place which he thinks was called Fair Hill. As to the Fair in the name of the place, he cannot be certain, but is very confident the balance of the name of the place was Hill. In this engagement, the American troops were compelled to give ground; but there was nothing like a general defeat of our Army. There were a considerable number of the Americans killed in this engagement and the next day after the engagement or perhaps the same evening Gen. Washington sent a flag into the British commander for permission to bury our dead, and the permission was granted, they were accordingly buried by us the next day. After this engagement declarant remembers that there were several small skirmishes, before our troops reached Brandywine, but there was no one of them of much consequence; nor can he undertake to state the number of them, but they were frequent. At Stony Point, he was in a small engagement and assisted in taking a Fort in which there was as he thinks five or six hundred Hessians, all of whom were taken prisoners.<sup>3</sup> In taking the Fort declarant received a slight wound in his right leg. The time of taking this Fort, he does not know that he remembers with accuracy; but upon reflection, and from the best calculation he can make from his frail memory, he believes it was before the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777]. Declarant was in the battle of Brandywine, where the American troops were successful. After this engagement he marched with the Army in pursuit of the British troops and remembers that he was in several skirmishes with them, they occasionally making a stand a [sic, and] firing a few rounds, but declarant cannot undertake to state any of the particulars of those skirmishes; nor can he state with a certain knowledge, the course which the British troops took or our troops followed in the pursuit. At this distance of time when the memory of declarant has greatly failed him, he cannot well remember anything more than prominent facts which occurred during his term of service.

The next, and the last important transaction in which this declarant was engaged, was at Little York when & where Lord Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781]. He bore an active part as a private soldier in that engagement. He was upon the ground at that place, he thinks two or three weeks before the surrender, during which time there was a firing kept up by the artillery on the two opposing armies, more or less every day. He learned when the troops to which he belonged reached there that previous to their arrival Generals Greene<sup>4</sup> & Lafayette had been engaged in a warmly contested battle with the enemy, but after his arrival there the firing was entirely with the artillery, and there was no engagement with small arms. After the surrender of Cornwallis declarant together with all his Regiment was furloughed and permitted to return home, until they should be again called on to enter into active service, which was expressed in the written furloughs they received. He cannot state from whom he directly received his furlough; but he well remembers the name of General Washington was to it. Declarant never was called on after this time to enter into service, and therefore never received any regular discharge from the service; or any other dismissal [sic] except the furlough as already stated. The furlough which he received has been lost many years since, or destroyed; for he did not suppose it would ever be of any service to him and was not as careful of it as he might and would have been had he anticipated that it could be ever of any service to him as herein set forth in which declarant was concerned & bore a part, he cannot say, as stated precisely in the order in which they took place, for he cannot pretend that he correctly remembers. Never having supposed it would be material for him to give a history of his services, he has not through the

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<sup>3</sup> Veteran appears to be describing what he recalls of the Battle of Stony Point, July 16, 1779. If so, his recollection of the sequence of engagements in which he was involved is not correct.

<sup>4</sup> General Nathanael Greene was not present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown

course of a tolerably long life endeavored to keep fresh in his remembrance the incidents of his military services.

The time declarant served in the Army as above stated was about 2 ½ years, and he was never out of active service from the time he entered into it, until he was furloughed as above stated.

Since the termination of the war, declarant has resided in Maryland, North Carolina & Tennessee. He resided about a year and a half at his former residence after he left the Army, when he removed to Rockingham him County North Carolina where he resided about thirty years, when he removed to Bedford County Tennessee where he has ever since resided. Declarant has no documentary evidence, and he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ James McKisick, Clerk

S/ Robert Walker, X his mark

[William Lemons and John Warner gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Land Office, Annapolis November 6, 1832

I Certify that it appears by the Muster Rolls remaining in the Office, that Robert Walker enlisted as a private in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maryland Regiment, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 1777 and was present on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 1780;

S/ George G Brewer

Register Land Office, W. S. Md.

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Land Office, Annapolis November 6, 1832

I Certify, that it appears by a Pay Roll remaining in the Office, that Robert Walker, a private received of John Hamilton, Agent of the Maryland line, \$80 arrears of pay from the 1<sup>st</sup> August 1780, to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1782 – also \$80 pay from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1782 to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1783 – also \$43.30 from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1783, to the 15<sup>th</sup> of November, 1783. Gratuity, \$80. Total received, \$283.30.

S/ George G Brewer

Register Land Office, W. S. Md.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 2 ½ years in the Maryland line and militia.]