

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

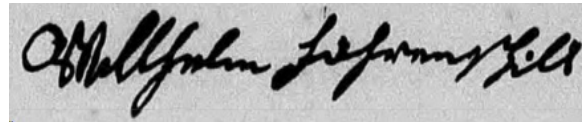
Pension Application of William Farnshild (Farnshield) S34838
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

PA

York County; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania S.s.

Be it remembered that on the tenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen before me, George Barnitz one of the Judges of the Court of common pleas in and for the County of York in the State of Pennsylvania personally appeared William Farnshild, now residing in the Borough of Marietta, Lancaster County, but formerly of this Borough of York, a resident Citizen of the United States, who being duly sworn according to law, doth and did declare and say, that in or about the Month of February in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six [sic: see endnote], he entered into the Army of the United Colonies, raised for the defence of American Liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof as private soldier in a company of Light horse, under the Command of Captain J Betjen [probably Henry Bedkin] Colonel Michael Cobatch [sic: Michael Kovatz; Michael De Kowats] in the Corps of General County C Bolesky [sic: Kazimierz Pulaski], that he served in said Army and in the said Corps as light horse man untill the Month of March in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine, when he was honorably discharged, but since which time has lost or mislaid his written discharge, and he doth further declare and say that he is now old and poor and much needeth the assistance of his Country, and that he hath no pension heretofore allowed him by the Laws of the United States, to his knowledge, and if any such exists, he doth hereby fully and entirely release the same to the United States

[signed in German Willhelm Fahrenshilt]



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Lancaster County, ss.

ON this twenty first day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court of Common Pleas of said county, William Farnshield aged sixty eight years, resident in the Borough of Marietta in Lancaster county, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows: In the year 1776 he enlisted under Capt. Boetgen in the light horse where he served three years and upwards, and was regularly discharged by General Pulaski [who died on 11 Oct 1779].

That his original declaration was made on the tenth day of November 1818 on which was granted a Pension-certificate, dated seventh of May 1819 numbered 10,324 And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. I am a Barber by trade, am lame with the Rheumatism, and unable to earn my living, my wife Eve aged about sixty two is lame, and unable to earn a living have no other family but my grand children, whose mother is dead, the one aged eight years the other seventeen months.

William Farnshield (In german)

Sworn, declared, and subscribed August 21st 1820 in open Court.

A SCHEDULE of the property of William Farnshield a Soldier in the Revolutionary War, taken August 21st 1820.

One house and lot in Marietta worth \$400.00

incumbered with judgments amounting to	<u>1500.00</u>
	\$1100
Household and Kitchen furniture worth	<u>14</u>
Amount he is in debt	\$1086.00

[Farnshild's pension was suspended because he was deemed to own too much property. On 23 Oct 1822 he submitted an application similar to the above except for a revised schedule of property, as follows.]

One Stove about	\$6.00
Two Chairs Do	<u>1.00</u>
	\$7.00

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Lancaster County, ss.

ON this eighth day of March 1823 personally appeared in open Court of Common Pleas of said County, William Farenshild aged seventy years, resident in the Counties of Chester and Lancaster, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows: That after doing several tours of Militia duty he enlisted in the year 1776 in Capt Boetgin Troop of Horse Col. — Reg't. Count Poleskies Legion where he served Three years when he was regularly discharged That during his service he was in the Battles at savannah & Charlestown [sic: see endnote]

That his original declaration was made on the tenth day of November 1818 on which was granted a Pension-certificate, dated seventh of May 1819 numbered 10.324 [Oath similar to the above follows.] That his family consists of himself & his wife Eave who is about sixty five years old That she is decriped with the Rhumatism That we are unable to earn our living by labor we have several children living but not near to us

William Farenshild

A SCHEDULE of the property of William Farenshild a Soldier in the Revolutionary War, taken 18th March 1823 has no property whatsoever all was sold from him by the sheriff of Lancaster County within the last three years

NOTES:

Congress did not authorize Pulaski's Legion until 28 March 1778, Henry Bedkin did not become a Captain until 4 April 1778, and Michael Kowats did not become a Colonel until 18 April 1778.

The name of William Farnshild (or variant spelling) is not found on muster or payrolls for Capt. Henry Bedkin's troop, but it is on a payroll of the troop commanded by Capt. Jan Zielinski in Pulaski's Legion. This payroll, dated 19 March 1779, shows that Private "Wm. Farnshild" was paid for 11 months and 13 days of service at 1/3 dollar per month, commencing on 18 March (1778). Farnshild apparently was not paid for about 18 days, possibly because of a furlough. His name does not appear on a payroll for Zielinski's troop covering the period August through November 1779.

If Farnshild was discharged in March 1779, as he stated, then he served about one year rather than three years. The discrepancy would not have affected the amount of his pension. However, Farnshild could not have fought at the "Battles of savannah & Charlestown," as he claimed in 1823. The only engagement at Savannah where Pulaski's Legion was involved was the siege from 24 Sep until 19 Oct 1779. Not only was this after Farnshild said he was discharged, but Pulaski died during the siege and therefore could not have signed his discharge afterward. The earliest engagement near Charleston involving Pulaski's Legion was a skirmish at the Old Race Track on 11 May 1779, which was also after Farnshild stated he was discharged.

On 16 June 1837 William Farnshild applied to have his pension transferred to Maryland, having moved to Baltimore for the following reason: "he is now very old infirm, as also is his wife, and having no other family, came to the City of Baltimore for the purpose of living with a son of his who resided in the said City of Baltimore."