

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Silence S35071

f24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/15/12

[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.]

State of Maryland St. Mary's County to wit

On this ninth day of April 1818 before me the Subscriber one of the Associate Judges of the first Judicial District of Maryland composed of the Counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince Georges personally appeared William Silence now a resident of St. Mary's County and State aforesaid aged about sixty-five years who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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; That he said William Silence enlisted in August 1775 in the company commanded by Captain Richard Parker whilst Dunmore left Williamsburg and retreated to Norfolk in Virginia and believes the Regiment to which the said company was attached was called the 2nd Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Woodford [William Woodford] & Weedon [George Weedon] and Major Alexander Spotswood. That in the year and month of August 1776 the said William Silence reenlisted for three years in the aforesaid Regiment and that he continued to serve in the Army of the United States until he was discharged from service at Ram a Pore by General Woodford (his former Colonel) near the City of New York – on 30th of August 1779 – That he was in the battles of Long Bridge [also called the Battle of Great Bridge, December 9, 1775] in Virginia previous to Dunmore's retreat to his shipping also Randy Wine [Brandywine, September 11, 1777], and German Town [Germantown, October 4, 1777] – And that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said Services.

Sworn to and declared before me the day and year aforesaid –

S/ J. R. Plater

[f p. 23]

State of Virginia

I do certify (having the Original enlistment now in my possession, that William Silence aged about sixty-six) enlisted with Captain Richard Parker on the 3rd of September 1775 for one-year and that at the expiration of that time enlisted with many for three years and marched with me and joined the Northern Army, where I left him in the year 1778 or 9 to join the Southern Army, he at that time being transferred from the Infantry Service to the Artillery.

Given under my hand this 25th day of February 1819

S/ A. Parker Majr. Genl. [Alexander Parker Major General]
4th Division Virga Mil?

State of Virginia

I do certify (having the original enlistment now in my possession, that William Silence aged about sixty six) enlisted with Capt. Richard Parker on the 20th Sep. 1775 for one year and that at the expiration of that time enlisted with me for three years and marched with me and joined the Northern Army, where I lost him in the year 1778 or 9. so join the Southern Army. he at that time being transferred from the Infantry Service to the Artillery.

Given under my hand this 25th day of February 1819.

Patrick McGehee
 Lt. Division Virginia Militia

State of Maryland first Judicial District

On this twentieth day of November 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record having original Jurisdiction with a power to fine and commit for the first judicial District aforesaid William Silence aged about sixty-eight years and a resident of St. Mary's County and State of Maryland; who being duly sworn according to law on his oath declares as follows. That he enlisted as a private the 20th of August 1775 when Dunmore retreated from Williamsburg in Virginia to Norfolk in the company commanded by Captain Richard Parker of the 2nd Virginia Regiment then commanded by Colonel Woodford at the end of the year he reenlisted with Captain Alexander Parker for three years in the same company and Regiment and was discharged at Ramma Pore near Hackensack on the 30th of August 1779. That he was in the battles of Long Bridge in Virginia, Brandywine and Germantown. That on the 9th of April 1818 he made his 1st application for a pension and that the number of his Certificate is 9677 – 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 whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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. –

Schedule of property	
one piece of land 114 acres valued at \$1.25	\$142.00
this land was purchased for \$1.33 per acre – house is nearly down	
3 cows & 4 yearlings	30.00
hogs & shoats	15.00
8 sheep	12.00

1 old cart & plow & harrow		5.00
1 old table, old pot, some broken plates &c &c		10.00
That he is indebted for the hire of a Negro woman to attend to him in his family – his wife being very old and a cripple and himself unable to work that he owes William Armstrong	\$20.00	
to Nathaniel Combs	8.00	
to Peter U. Thomson	4.37	
	<u>8.24 2/3</u>	
	\$40.61 2/3	
Amount of property valued as per schedule		\$214.00
Amount of debts he owes		<u>40.61 2/3</u>
		\$173.38 1/3

That he is old and very infirm and unable to pursue any occupation – that he has but one child a daughter who is a widow with 5 helpless children which he is obliged to take care of between the ages of 3 years and 13 years all of whom are incapable of supporting themselves.

Sworn to and declared in open Court at Leonard Town [Leonardtwn] in St. Mary's County in the State of Maryland this 20th day of November in the year 1820 before me one of the Judges presiding.

S/ J. R. Plater

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 9th, 1818, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]