

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Williams¹ S3577

fn24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/22/11

[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 Tennessee Morgan County: SS

On this 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared in Open Court, before John M Davis, Thomas Jack, & Thomas S Lea Justices of the Court of pleas and quarter sessions for said County & now sitting it being a court of record, John Williams aged seventy-one years a resident citizen of the County of Morgan aforesaid and State of Tennessee who being first duly sworn, according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born the 30th of June 1761 in Cumberland County, State of Virginia. That he lived in Cumberland County State of Virginia and was drafted and called into service 10th day of January in 1781 and entered the service of the United States under the following named officers to wit Captain Cade Haskins [Creed Haskins], Major Edmonds & Colonel Dolman [possibly Raleigh Downman or Christian Charles de Klauman], rendezvoused at Smithfield marched to McKee's Mill [probably Mackey's Mill south of Smithfield] was detached & sent off as a light infantry man under the command of the his aforesaid officers who were under the command of Colonel Parker, was then marched to the Great bridge at the head of Elizabeth River eighteen miles from Norfolk, Stationed there about six weeks, then marched through North Carolina to Babs old field [Babb's old field] at headquarters under General Muhlenberg & was there discharged the 10th day of April 1781 having served three months, he was again Drafted & Called into service Between the first & last of August 1781 for [indecipherable word²] Campaign & entered the service of the United States under Captain Haskins the Major's name not now recollected Colonel Skipwith [Henry Skipwith] then marched and rendezvoused at Swans Point on James River opposite to old James Town then marched to York Town [Yorktown] by way of old Williams Burg [Williamsburg], was in the siege at York was detached from the Virginia line & detached to the Maryland line to manage the Artillery: was under the command of Lieutenant Leagraft [Leegraft, Leecraft?] who commanded the Artillery whose Christian name is not now recollected, he continued to manage the Artillery until the Town was surrendered by Lord Cornwallis he then served in Guarding the prisoners from York to old Williamsburg & then marched from Williamsburg to Richmond & there deposited his public Arms and was there honorably but verbally discharged by Major Waller, on or about the first of November 1781 having served in the two Campaigns about six months the precise day of discharge not recollected this applicant may be mistaken as to dates but well recollects his services by him

¹ BLWt26145-160-55

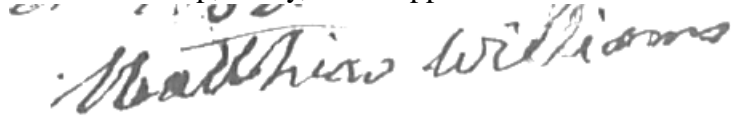
² *ambassadors*

rendered & cannot be mistaken as to the same, he has no public Documentary evidence by which he can prove his services nor has he any written record of his age: he lived in Virginia Cumberland County for fifteen years after the War he then moved to Campbell [?] County Virginia lived there about fourteen years then moved to Tennessee Anderson County two years & then to Roane County Tennessee now Morgan County where he now resides.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this 15th of October 1832
Attest S/ John Brown, DC S/ John Williams



[Mathias Williams a resident of Morgan County Tennessee gave testimony that he knows of his own personal knowledge that the applicant served in the revolution and was at the siege of York. His relationship, if any, to the applicant is not stated.



]

[John M Davis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

This applicant John Williams 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 & subscribed in open court this 15th of October 1832
S/ John Williams

State of Tennessee Morgan County

On this 15 day of April 1833 personally appeared in open court before Daniel Lavender [?], John Williams & John M Davis Justices of the Court of pleas & quarter sessions for said County now sitting John Williams the applicant named in the foregoing declaration for a pension who being first duly sworn according to law deposes and says that the services by him rendered was that of a private that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory that he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served a period not less than that to entitle him to pay for six months Service and for such service he claims a pension.

And he further says that at the time of making the original declaration it was out of his power to procure the attendance of a clergyman and is still at this time out of his power to procure the attendance of a clergyman as there is no clergyman residing in his neighborhood –

And further says that the following persons residing in his Neighborhood can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of him as a soldier of the revolution to wit Mathias Williams, John M Davis, Thomas Butlar [Butler?], Samuel Gailbeath & William Butlar [Butler?] Sen.

Sworn to & subscribed in Open court 15th of April 1833
S/ Thomas S Lea, D. Clk. S/ John Williams

[Note: Veteran was still alive and living in Anderson County Tennessee when, on March 28, 1855, he filed for his bounty land entitlement as a veteran of the revolutionary war. At that time he stated his age as 92 years. This document was signed with his mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]