

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Williams S3592

Transcribed by Will Graves

f17NC

rev'd 7/10/17

[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.]

State of Tennessee, Bedford County: August Sessions 1832 of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On this 10th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Bedford now in Session being a court of Record John Williams a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 70 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 provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was drafted on the ___ day of ___ for a tour of three months in Randolph County North Carolina to serve in the Army of the United States during the revolutionary War. At the period he was drafted there was a regulation that drafted men might furnish a horse, join the light horse and serve two months in lieu of the three they were drafted for. He did furnish his own horse and joined a light horse company commanded by Captain Brittain Fuller who took sick and in a short time went home when he was commanded by Captain Jacob Williams. He was employed in ranging along the British lines through Rowan & Mecklenburg counties and into Charlotte. The British had been to Charlotte but had left that place and went to South Carolina a short time before the American troops got there. This applicant was in no regular battle or skirmish they had some firing at the Tories and thinks killed some few of them. Applicant was discharged by General Morgan [presumably Daniel Morgan] whom he knew at the expiration of the two months or he thinks some five or six days before owing to his taking sick. Some four or five months after he was discharged the Tories became troublesome and he volunteered his services again and joined a company commanded by Captain John Knight of horsemen. He does not recollect whether he volunteered for any distinct period but they marched through Randolph, Chatham and Guilford counties to protect the inhabitants. He was sent with a detachment to guard the members of the Assembly to Hillsborough, but he was in no engagement or battle and nothing done except some firing at the Tories during this tour he thinks his Captain received a wound but while he was with the detachment guarding the members of Assembly to Hillsboro after being in service upwards of two months he was verbally discharged by his Captain.

Soon afterwards other men were drafted from Randolph County to serve a tour of three months this applicant took the place of James Latham as a substitute who had been drafted and entered as before in a company of light horse commanded by said Captain John Knight. They ranged as before through Randolph, Chatham & Guilford counties guarding the inhabitants against the Tories. He thinks he was sent again on a detachment to guard the members of Assembly to Hillsboro. He has a recollection of being twice in that service but cannot be certain in which tour of service he went on that duty after serving two months out he was verbally discharged by his Captain John Knight.

This applicant has lost his discharge given him by General Morgan and he has no

documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service than the proof contained in the affidavit of Mrs. Mary Ham accompanying this declaration.

His memory is very frail from age and infirmity and he cannot state either the month day or year he entered the service either of the terms of duty he performed. He thinks he did not enter the service until after the battle of Camden nor can he recollect the day month or year of either of the times he was discharged but he recollects the war ceased soon after he was discharged the last time, and he served in all the three different tours he has described a little upwards of six months.

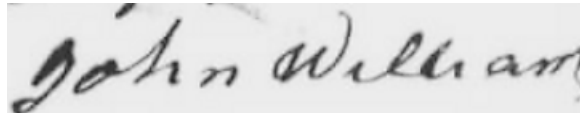
He was born in Randolph County North Carolina on the 16th of April 1762 according to the account given by his mother but he has not himself any register of his age and does not know whether it is now in existence. He resided in Randolph County from his birth to the revolutionary War he lived in that County during and after the War until October 1795 when he removed to Blount County East Tennessee he resided in Blount County of about 11 years. He then removed to Bedford County West Tennessee where he lived about five years, he then removed to Lincoln an adjoining County where he lived about 10 years after which he removed back to Bedford County where he has resided ever since.

This applicant knew Colonels Washington [William Washington] and Lee [Henry [”Light Horse Harry”] Lee] was with them and under their command during a part of his service. He also recollects there was a Colonel Williamson in service at the time he was but thinks he commanded a Regiment of Militia.

This applicant is known to Andrew Reed, Benjamin Cunningham, Robert Hastings, Elijah Williams, Edmund Green and many others in his neighborhood who he believes can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services.

Sworn to & subscribed 10 August 1832.

S/ John Williams

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Williams". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

S/ Jas. McKisick, Clk

[Mary Ham, 66, gave testimony saying she was raised in Randolph County in the same neighborhood as John Williams and was well acquainted with him and knew that he served in the revolutionary war. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Jeremiah Cunningham and Andrew Reed gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The said 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 whatever.

Sworn to & subscribed this 10th of August 1832.

S/ John Williams

S/ Jas. McKisick, Clk.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$25 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the militia, all in the cavalry.]