

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Michael McMasters S36093

f9VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/10/13

[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.]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Spencer County: SS

On this 8th day of December 1828 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the County of Spencer in the State of Kentucky Michael McMasters resident in said County aged seventy-eight years who being first sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and first of May 1820; that he the said Michael McMasters enlisted as a private soldier for the term of three years in the spring of the year 1777 (the month or day of the month not recollected) in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain John McGuire, who was succeeded in the command by Captain Thomas Bell, in the 16th Regiment commanded by Colonel Grayson in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in said Corps until the Spring of the year 1780 being three years, when he was discharged from the service in Frederick Town in the State of Maryland; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the Roll of any State except Kentucky; and that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension, that he is old infirm and in very indigent circumstances, being entirely ignorant of the matter necessary to make application himself, and living in a retired part of the Country and remote from any person who could inform him how, or the manner in which he should apply. –

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, 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; I have no property of any description my necessary wearing apparel excepted. I declare that my occupation is that of a weaver but I am unable from bodily infirmity and old age to pursue it, in consequence of which I have for many years been supported by public charity as a "pauper" under the Laws of the State of Kentucky, I am a single man having no family or relations in the State of Kentucky, and reside now with a Gentleman who is not connected to me in any way, and who is paid a small pittance by the County in which I reside for supporting me; – That since the 18th of March 1818 there has been no changes of any kind whatever been made in my property.

S/ Michael McMasters, X his mark

[Note: In a letter dated December 9, 1828 sent by the attorney for the applicant, the attorney states that the old veteran told him he was in several battles including the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777.]]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing December 9, 1828, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

[Note: the Library of Virginia's file only contains a certified copy of the above application for a federal pension as certified by J. L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pension.]