

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Marshall S38162

f25VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/6/13

[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.]

State of Kentucky County of Lawrence: SS

On this 10th day of February 1834 personally appeared before the Justices of the Peace composing the County Court in the County of Lawrence and State of Kentucky John Marshall resident in the County of Lawrence and State of Kentucky aged 73 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 act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated.

That he enlisted for six months in the County of Fauquier County, Virginia, as a private in the Revolution on the 21st day of March 1778 in the State establishment as a common Soldier – from this place he marched to Williamsburg Virginia his Colonel was Colonel Thomas Allen, Captain William Jennings, he remained in Williamsburg until the first of June 1778 in a kind of barracks for the use of the Soldiers, from this place he was marched to Winchester barracks, there were some prisoners and Tories at this place – he remained here until August 1778, from this place he marched to Petersburg in the State of Virginia, he was in no battles during this six months tour. At Petersburg he remained until his tour expired in September 1778. The American Army under General Washington was in Pennsylvania, and there was no fighting [and] Virginia this summer where Applicant served. There was several Continental regiments & officers which however was not in the same troops with which he served. There was some militia Companies and officers that served with the troops, their number, he has entirely forgotten. Colonel Johnson's militia Regiment, Colonel Mays, Colonel Brown's or Major Brown, Lieutenant Southgate, Major Scott, Colonel Carrington, Colonel Lawson, Colonel Burke, Ensign Mason, Colonel Benjamin S Clopton were militia. The General circumstances of his service in this, he in 1778, as a drafted man, enlisted for six months in Fauquier County in the State of Virginia. He marched to Petersburg he was in Winchester and Williamsburg and marched near Richmond but was not in the town. He was in no battles and the whole Country was in arms for fear British would land on the bay and seacoast he received his discharge from Captain Jennings and returned home – he does not know what has become of his discharge as he is a man illiterate and never took any care of his papers. Next Spring 1779, he moved to New River in Weston Virginia in what was then the County of Montgomery. Immediately after getting there the Indians made an attack on the settlement. The whole settlement fortified at a place called Snyders Fort, the Hatfields, John and Richard Chapman's family, Thomas Burkes &c Colonel John Preston sent men to relieve the Fort, and the Indians fled – in June 1779 he enlisted as a spy for one year under Captain George Paris Colonel John Preston (for one year) in Montgomery County Virginia. The Indians had went down on Clinch River and was there besieging the inhabitants – he does not recollect the precise date in June 1779 that he entered. James Darby was Ensign and

Bob Robinson was Lieutenant he with the Company was to scout and spy on Blue Stone, the families had all gone to Walker's Creek and also to go down on the Tug Fork of Big Sandy River and from there across to Guyandotte River, he marched in June aforesaid to Blue Stone, he scouted and spied on Blue Stone until the middle of August 1779, he then was marched to the head of Sandy River and remained on Sandy River and its waters until the middle of December 1779, the Indians done much damage, this year they killed a great many persons chiefly women and children and one of the spies Ellison his Christian name he has forgotten in December he was marched to Walker's Creek and stayed in a kind of Fort for two months scouting everyday a few miles from the Fort, he then was marched down to Walker's Creek to the mouth of it which empties into New River, and then to the mouth of Stony Creek – this was in January 1780, the winter was very mild and in a few days the company started to Cole River the (Marches of Cole), they arrived here about the 2nd day of March 1780 and struck a camp and the Company divided into 4 squads and scouted here till the first of April or thereabouts, they broke up camp and marched to the Clem fork of Guyan known by the name also of Guyandotte River, after remaining here some few days Indian signs the tracks of Indians and they also found here broken arrows and a box of paint, from there the company hastened to the Fort and arrived there in May 1780 and all the settlement gathered into the Fort. He scouted several miles each day until late in June 1780, his time expired and other spies provided, he received his discharge or a certificate and which now he forgets from Captain Paris, he was in no battles with the Indians that was not intended of the spies. He saw no Indian this whole year himself the Indians did not attacked the Fort or the settlements. The circumstances of his services, as aforesaid were as he has detailed. He knew no Continental officer unless Colonel Preston and Colonel Cloyd and Captain Magavock [?] and he served with no Continental officer or militia ones or companies during the preceding year's service mentioned.

About this time the Tories were getting down on Holston River below Washington County Virginia and men was mustering to go to Carolina against them – he did not go, but had to fight the Indians or go to Carolina. The Shawnee Indians broke out in August 1780 upon the Clinch River settlements and a call for spies was made upon Montgomery County: he enlisted at Blackmore's Fort in Washington County for one year under Captain Snody [Snoddy], Colonel H Smith, Lieutenant Henry Dickenson Sergeant Darby, this was in August the 9th 1780, the [they] marched to [A] place called Hunters Ford and from there to Cowan's Fort being reinforced – he [went] from this place to Cumberland mountain from Cumberland mountain he went down it for 25 miles and there struck up camp, the company was informed that the Indians were coming up the head of the Kentucky River and the company changed their quarters and marched up to Castle Woods and their scouted until January 1781. The company more than once followed the Indians over the mountain, he followed down the Sandy River and the company killed for Indians this was in September when the Indians were killed in October afterwards the Indians murdered Mr. Music and Richard Ellium and tomahawked them the company burned them about this period (January 1781) he was placed under a different Captain and scouted under him. He states that the winter of 1780 was amazingly cold and spies were unable to do anything until the middle of March 1780, he remained in the Fort and in the neighborhood from January until March without scouting any. The Indians had chiefly gone to the nation, indeed it was in the summer time, the [they] always done most of their mischief – in April he was discharged as the Indians had entirely left the settlements and all them that could be raised had go [gone] against Cornwallis who was in Virginia and was about to take Richmond as he heard – he was in no battles, he did not serve out this year for as it is well known the spies were all engaged for one

year unless sooner discharged, the Country in which he served was in what was then Washington County, but now Russell County and mostly in Scott, he never was down during his service in Powell's Valley there was a company down there also. There was no Continental Officers or militia officers that served during his aforesaid service, nor was there any Continental or militia regiments, it was then a wilderness country and very sparsely settled and the inhabitants were a long time subject to the yearly aggressions, murders of the Indians ever since the early settlement of that country in 1788 – he moved to Licking River in Kentucky in the same County it was not then established was Mason County, he thinks he has lived here within 100 miles of the spot where he rendered the service. What day in April he was discharged he does not know. He received a discharge from service at the aforesaid period (April 1781) he sent his discharge to Captain John Preston the old Colonel's son John) to get his claim he never returned it he has therefore no documentary evidence in support of his claim, but there is many living respectable witnesses who can establish his service by of his services as set forth against the Indians his former service, he knows of no living witness that he can establish his claim by that is his services in old Virginia, Fauquier County as first detailed for the 6 months Tour –

He 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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Marshall

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Marshall". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, connected style.

[Edward B Miller, a clergyman, and Benjamin Fugate gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Kentucky County of Floyd

This day Richard Wells aged 73 years states that in the year 1780 he thinks (that was the year) he served with John Marshall in the State troops of Virginia, said Marshall served as an Indian spy, that he served between twelve and fifteen months as a spy, that he has known him ever since he was only a private soldier during the revolutionary war aforesaid.

Floyd County

Richard Wells made oath to the above statement, and I certify he is a credible witness.

Given from under my hand, this __ day of February 1834

S/ Samuel Clark

[Facts in file: The veteran died September 28, 1840 and it is said that his wife died the following day and that they left no children or grandchildren.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]