

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Mors (Morse) [Mars] S38240

f22VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/21/13

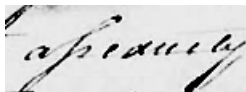
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 Shelby County: SS

On this 5th day of February 1834 personally appeared before me – William Shanks a Justice of the peace in and for Shelby County and one of the Judges of the County Courts for said County of Shelby Alexander Morse aged 83 years on the 22nd day of last February 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 the 7th of June 1832.

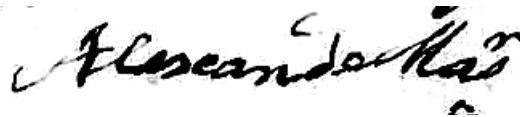
This declarant states that he was residing in Montgomery County State of Virginia when he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated – that in the month of August in the year of 1777 he entered the service of the United States as a Lieutenant in Captain Henry Patton's Company and under the command of Captain Patton and Colonel James Robertson – he states that he rendezvoused in Culverson's bottom on the banks of New River and by his said officer was marched on the frontiers of Virginia against the Shawnee tribe of Indians who were committing many outrages upon the frontier settlers frequently killing the settlers on the frontiers and at other times stealing and plundering; during this campaign; he states that the that Captain Patton's Company were employed in spying the frontiers in every direction and using every exertion to drive the savages out of reach of the settlements; he states that during this campaign whilst scouting and spying that the Indians fell on a scouting party and killed one of the Spies by the name of William Shockley; after having remained one month on the frontiers and seemingly to over awe the Indians he states that by order of Colonel Robertson they were discharged and returned home having been about six weeks from home –. This declarant further states that in the month of July 1778 a draft was ordered in said County of Montgomery for a tour of three weeks when he again entered the service of the United States as a Lieutenant and was under the command of Captain James Montgomery and Colonel Arthur Campbell: he states that they were ordered to rendezvous at the Middle Moravian Town in North Carolina which order he states he obeyed after they had rendezvoused at said Moravian Towns – he states that the Regiment under the command of Colonel Arthur Campbell was marched across the Yadkin River at the Shallow Ford in pursuit of Tories who were constantly annoying the Whig settlers in Carolina: he states that the Tories during their march gave back to their regiments and dispersed in such a manner that they were never able to overtake them except in one instance when some of the men – under his command – as Lieutenant took one which they severely whipped without bringing him to camp: he states they pursued their course up to deep River and finding that the Tories had disbursed – they then returned to the Middle Moravian Town where he states he remained until his said three months were out – when Colonel Campbell discharged the

Regiment in the month of October 1778. He further states that from his fidelity, asseduetly [?]¹ and Patriotism that he was upon his return from the Moravian towns promoted to the Captaincy of a company commissioned and sworn in as a Captain – he further states that it was understood that the Tories and Indians had embodied for the purpose of taking possession of Chisels lead mines [Chiswell's Lead Mines] from which the Army in that Quarter were supplied with lead. He states that Colonel Daniel Trigg of Montgomery County directed an order to him to take his company and march to said lead mines and guard and protect said mines accordingly he the said declarant did with his company in the latter end of the month of October 1778 marched to said lead mines where he stationed his men as directed by Colonel Trigg and was at all times ready to defend said mines after remaining there for one month and finding that no attack was likely to be made he discharged his company and returned home – he further states that in the month of December 1778 that the Cherokee tribe of Indians committing some acts of violence upon the frontiers when Colonel Christy [William Christian] issued an order for volunteers for the express purpose of marching against that tribe of Indians. When the said declarant (although commanding as a Captain) did volunteer for this expedition as a private and marched with Colonel Christy from said County of Montgomery through the Indian Country in pursuit of the Savages: he states that when they arrived at Tennessee River the Indians were embodied upon the West side of said River: he states that the volunteers under Colonel Christy amounted in number to two thousand: here he states that they met with difficulty in crossing said River after some time the Spies found a Shallow place in the River the Army then proceeded to cross the River and expected an engagement, but the Indians had retreated: he states that they then proceeded to the Cherokee Towns found them deserted, their corn they had cribbed and potatoes they had put away were used by the Army – he states that as the Indians had disbursed that Colonel Christy discharged a part of the Army and that he was discharged by Colonel Christy after having served forty-seven days and that he then returned home. This declarant further states that in the month of June 1779 that the Tories had assembled and were troublesome to the Whigs; Colonel Trigg issued an order calling upon him to take his company and go in pursuit and search for said Tories, accordingly he the said declarant, did notify his men; they met agreeable to notice; when he and his company did go down New River searching the cliffs and scout places in the Knobs – during his search he states that he and his Company did take about ten Tories and carried them in where a court martial was held for the trial of said Tories and some of them was by the court martial found guilty and was sent to Stauntown Jail he states that during this expedition he was employed twenty days. He further states that in the month of October 1779 Colonel Trigg sent him an order directing him to take his company and marched to a place called the Blue Stone to defend the Country against the Shawnee tribe of Indians accordingly he gave notice to his men, they met for the campaign and marched to said place on arriving at the place above named he states that they were encamped and during their stay at this encampment he states that he frequently sent his men in parties scouting and spying until he ascertained that the Indians had left the country when he marched his men back to Montgomery County where he discharged them having been in the service thirty-five days. He further states that in the year of 1780 that the Shawnee tribe of Indians returned to New River and were very troublesome sometimes murdering the inhabitants and at other times stealing and carrying away their horses and cattle he states that he received an order from Major Henry Patton directing him to warn in his company

¹ 

for a campaign against the said Indians accordingly he the said declarant did notify the men belonging to his company to meet him in the month of August 1780 at John Davidson's, accordingly they met said declarant and then he states they marched to the New River Cliffs and stationed his company at the Blue Stone where he had encamped the year preceding during their stay at Blue Stone he states that he sent his men in parties to scout and spy finding the frontiers [indecipherable word] by the Indians leaving that Quarter he states that he marched his men back to Montgomery County where he discharged his men having been in the service 20 days – he states that now he has no documentary evidence of his service that about 18 months since he applied to George P Miller Esquire to prepare his declaration which he did and he the said declarant did qualify to said declaration as prepared by said Miller he states that he then had in his possession an order from the commandants of the regiments calling upon him as Captain to warn his men and meet at the place of rendezvous which order he states that he gave to the said Miller and that, with his declaration was started to the war Department, whether it was by mail miscarried or whether all of the papers relating to his claim was kept in the department he does not know but states that he has never seen or heard of his papers since he states that shortly after Mister Miller had prepared his papers that said Miller was taken sick and died he states that he knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said service he states that from old age & bodily infirmity that he cannot appear in open court to make his declaration 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 or territory.
Sworn to and subscribed this year and date aforesaid.

S/ Alexander Ma^rs



S/ William Shanks, JP

Ques. Put by the Magistrate

Ques. Where and in what year were you born

Ans. I was born in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1756

Ques. Have you any record of your age

Ans. I have as taken from my father's register

Ques. Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live

Ans. When I entered the service I was living in Montgomery County State of Virginia where I lived until the year of 1817 I then moved to Shelby County Kentucky where I now live.

Ques. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Ans. When I first entered the service I was ordered out by Colonel Robertson for one month, but was out about from 6 weeks the 2nd tour I was drafted for 3 months the 3rd time he states that he was ordered to the lead mines by Colonel Trigg where he stayed for one month. I was now promoted to the rank of Captain. The 4th time I volunteered and went as a private against the Cherokee Indians and was in the service 47 days the 5th time I was ordered out by Colonel Trigg and was 20 days in the service the 6th time I was ordered out by Colonel Trigg and was 35 days in the service, the 7th time I was ordered out by Henry Patton – who had been promoted to the rank of Major and was 20 days in the service.

Ques. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served and such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect

Ans. There were no regular officers where I served during my service there were Colonels Trigg, Christy, Cloyd and Coln. Robertson I was once under Major Patton

Ques. Did you ever receive a commission and by whom was it signed

Ans. I did receive 2 commissions during my service one for Lieutenant and one for Captain and was qualified to both and acted under both commissions – these commissions were brought by Colonel Trigg to me but from the great length of time I do not remember by whom they were signed these commissions I have lost, not thinking that there would ever be an old soldier President to reward us for our service I was not careful to keep them.

Ques. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your service as a soldier of the revolution

Ans. I will name John Dale Clergyman and Major Samuel W White and Martin S Christian

[John Dale, clergyman, Samuel W White and Martin S Christian gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months & 2 days in the Virginia service.]