

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Matthew (Mathew) Wood S39135

fn79NC¹

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/27/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 76]

State of Tennessee Williamson County Court January Term 1823

This day Matthew Wood appeared in Open Court and filed his Declaration for the purpose of obtaining a pension with a Schedule of his estate thereto annexed which were subscribed and sworn to in Open Court which declaration and Schedule are in the words and figures following, To wit, State of Tennessee Williamson County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions January Term 1823 of said Court on this eighth day of January in the year 1823 being a Court of record for said County of Williamson made so by Act of the General Assembly of said State of Tennessee and possessing jurisdiction unlimited in amount Matthew Wood aged sixty-one years a resident of Giles County in said State of Tennessee who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in Order to obtain the pension allowed by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1820 [sic, 18th of March 1818] and the 1st May 1820 To wit, that the said Matthew Wood was born in Dinwiddie County in Virginia as he is informed that he resides at this time in Giles County in the said State of Tennessee about nine miles West of the Town of Pulaski on the waters of dry Creek that he was Commissioned Lieutenant on the 16th day of April in the year 1776 and his Commission was signed by John Hancock president and Charles Thompson Secretary and that he entered the Service of the State of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain John Gray in the third North Carolina Regiment commanded by Colonel Jethro Sumner William Alston Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Lockart [sic, Samuel Lockhart] Major in the Continental establishment that he continued to serve in said Corps until he was discharged from said service in the State of North Carolina and during the time that he was in service which was nearly three years he was in the following engagements to wit immediately after he entered the service he was marched from Halifax Town where he lived to Charles Town [sic, Charleston] and was in the battle on Sullivan's Island from which place he marched to Philadelphia and on the 11th day of September 1777 was in the Battle of Brandywine on the 4th day of October following he was in the Battle of Germantown when in a Street firing General Nash [Frances Nash] was shot down and died Captain Turner whose

¹ At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

Company said Matthew Wood afterwards commanded by right of Seniority and Commanded the same during his stay in the United States Service that about Christmas 1777 he went into Winter Quarters at Valley Forge and in the Spring following on the 27th of June 1778 said Wood fought in the Battle of Monmouth from whence he went under General Orders on the recruiting Service into North Carolina that after remaining in that State about twelve months he resigned to Colonel Lamb of the 6th Regiment of the North Carolina Continental line having remained in service about three years one-year of which time as Lieutenant the balance as Captain as aforesaid and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said Service except the Deposition of Clement Hall² hereto annexed. Schedule of all the property of the Matthew Wood, one cow & calf one horse one sow and pigs said Wood declares he has eight children two of whom are over twenty-one years of age and acting for themselves the remainder of three years up to fourteen years of age said Wood says that his occupation is a Stone Cutter but that old age has now disabled him from earning by it bread for himself and a numerous Young and helpless family.

S/ Matt Wood

Subscribed and sworn to in Open court 8th January 1823.

S/ Tho. Hardeman, Clk

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

S Matt Wood

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court 8th January 1823

S/ Thos. Hardeman, Clk

Attached to which declaration and Schedule was a Deposition in the words and figures following to wit

State of Tennessee Williamson County Court January 1823. This day appeared Clement Hall in Open Court and made oath that he was late a Captain in the 2nd North Carolina Continental Regiment and that in the year 1776 he was personally acquainted with Matthew Wood (who makes this application to the War Department) in South Carolina at the siege of Charlestown as a Commissioned Officer in the 3rd Carolina Continental Regiment and that said Regiment was commanded by Colonel Jethro Sumner and that in the year 1777 he was also personally acquainted with the said Matthew Would in the State of Pennsylvania and saw him the said Matthew in said State while attached as a Commissioned Officer to the 3rd North Carolina Continental Regiment and that he the said Clement Hall attaches full faith and credit to the several allegations and the statements in the declaration of the said Matthew Would contained.

S/ Clement Hall, late Captain 2nd North Carolina Continental Regiment

[fn p. 138: veteran filed another application, this one in Giles County during the August term of 1823. This application is almost word for word identical to the one he filed earlier in Williamson County except as follows:

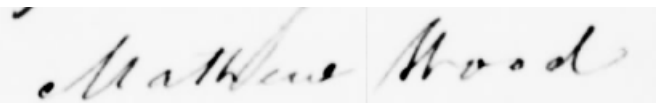
"... That he has no other evidence now in his Power to produce of his said Service except the

² FPA S38790

deposition of Clement Hall bearing date 8th of January 1823 a true copy of which is hereto annexed taken in open Court in the County of Williamson and State of Tennessee aforesaid it being also a Court of record as appears by a Copy of Deposition annexed to said Wood's Declaration heretofore sent on to War Department and returned as appears from a letter dated 12th June 1823 War Department by J L Edwards Stating that his papers were returned 9th ult. to Thomas Hardeman Esquire Franklin County because the Schedule of his property was not exhibited before a Court of record as the Act of 1st of May 1820 requires,

...[Standard form oath of citizenship etc.]

Schedule of all of the property of Matthew Wood now in his possession as belonging to him to which, two sows and pigs worth \$4 each, one pot \$3.50, one other pot \$1.50, one oven \$2.50, one other oven \$2, one Plow and gears \$3.50, two axes \$1.50 each & three old hoes \$1. Said Matthew Wood declares that he has eight children two of home are over twenty-one years of age and acting for themselves the remainder from 3 years old up to 15 years of age Pleasant M Wood fifteen years old, Charles W Wood thirteen years old, Delilah Wood eleven years old, Polly Wood nine years, William P Wood seven years Sinia Wood two years and upwards he further declares that he is by Occupation a Stone Cutter but that old age & infirmity has disabled him now from earning by it bread for himself and his numerous young and helpless family as his age will be about 63 years 24th of February, 1824.

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

Subscribed and sworn to in Open Court 11th of August 1823

S/ Henry Hagan, Clerk

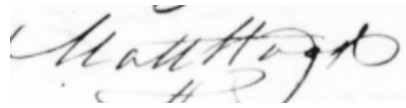
[James L Hendry and John D Riddle gave testimony that they live near the veteran and that he has no child living with him over the age of 21.]

For the purpose of obtaining the Relief of an act Entitled an act For the Benefit of certain Surviving officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution Approved on the 15th of May 1828 – I Matthew Wood in the County of Giles and State of Tennessee, do hereby declare That I was an officer of the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution; and served as such till the end of the war. – At which period I was a Captain, in the 3rd Regiment of the North Carolina line. – And also I declare that I afterwards was entitled to receive a certificate commonly called a commutation certificate, for a sum equal to the amount of five years full pay which sum was offered by the Resolve of Congress of the 22nd of March 1783 Instead of the half pay for life to which I was entitled under the resolve of the 21st of October 1780. – But having received a furlough from General M. D. Lafayette, to disperse, (as did many of the officers & Soldiers at the close of the war) without any particular Restriction when to return. (For this measure was adopted as a kind of set off against the murmurings of the Army, who was not likely to receive from the government their pay in the Regular way, as they Expected.) – And having Returned home, became engaged about my domestic concerns, and was lulled to a kind of indifferent carelessness as to my pay, which prevented me from making application, in the Regular way for the certificate, to which I now know I was entitled. –

And I do Further declare that I have Received of the United States as a pensioner Since the 3rd day of March 1826, the sum of \$480 paid to made by the agent for paying pensions in the State of Tennessee. –

Witness my hand this 10th day of January – In the year – 1829.

S/ Matt Wood



[fn p. 445]

State of Tennessee Giles County: This day personally appeared before me Robert Lard an acting Justice of the aforesaid County Henry Goodknight [sic, Henry Goodnight³] aged about us 73 years and a resident of said County who being 1st duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God Deposeth & saith that Captain Matthew Wood of said County of Giles shortly after the battle of Monmouth was ordered to the South on the recruiting service the deponent believes that the said Matthew Wood was at that time a Captain in the 3rd North Carolina Regiment commanded by Colonel Jethro Sumner in the Army of the Revolution. The deponent further says that he believes that the said Matthew Wood served as a Captain as aforesaid during the Revolutionary War. The deponent was well acquainted with the said Matthew Wood for some time while the said Matthew Wood was in the Army. The deponent being at that time a private soldier in Captain Martin Fifer's [sic, Martin Phifer's or Pfifer's] horse company attached most generally to Colonel Lee's Regiment of horse.

S/ Henry Goodknight, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me Robert Reid a justice as above by Sen. Henry Goodknight on this the 7th day of September 1829

[fn p. 671]

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State, in the Revolutionary War, that Matthew Wood a Lieutenant in the 3rd Regiment entered the service on the 24th day of July 1776 in Captain Turner's Company that he was a Captain on the 22nd November 1777, and omitted in June 1778.

Given under my hand at office this 28th day of October 1855

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[fn p. 246: On April 2, 1855, in Giles County Tennessee William P Wood, 39, filed an affidavit stating that he is the son of Matthew and Rebecca Wood; that his mother's name prior to her marriage was Rebecca Young; that his father died October 28, 1832⁴; that his mother remained a widow until she died in Giles County on July 19th, 1847 leaving surviving her the following children, William S Wood, Elizabeth Faught [?], Charles W Wood, Delilah Parker [?], Polly McCampbell [Polly McConnell ?], Sina Wood all of whom are now living. He filed this document as an application for the pension due his father under the 1832 back and the pension due his mother under the 1838 act.



³ [Henry Goodnight S38743](#)

⁴ Other documents in the file indicate that the veteran died on October 26, 1831

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per month commencing August 15, 1823 for two-year service as a Captain in the North Carolina Continental line.]