

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Steel (Steele) S40516

f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 4/18/12& 1/21/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 4]

To the Honourable the Secretary of the Department of War of the U. States  
State of Pennsylvania; County of Allegheny.

The Declaration under oath of Capt. David Steele [sic] late of the Revolutionary army  
and now an applicant for a pension in virtue of the Act entitled "An act to provide for certain  
persons engaged in the land and Naval Service of the U.S. during the Revolutionary war."

Respectfully Sheweth

That he is a Resident citizen of the U. States; an inhabitant of the township of St. Clair in  
the County of Allegheny, and served against the common enemy in the Revolutionary army.

That on the Sixth day of December AD 1776 he was appointed a Captain of Infantry in  
the 13<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regt. Commanded by Col. William Russell and that his original commission for  
the same accompanies this Declaration.

In the same winter he raised his company, and in the Spring of '77 was ordered to the  
Ohio about 60 miles below Pittsburgh.

He afterwards marched to Philadelphia about the first of July, and was placed under the  
command of Genl. Nash [Abner Nash] of North Carolina as a guard for Congress then at  
Philadelphia.

He afterwards received orders to join Genl. Washington who was there on his march to  
the head of Elk. And served in all the actions of that campaign, in Muhlenberg's [Peter  
Muhlenberg's] Brigade and in Gen. N. Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] division.

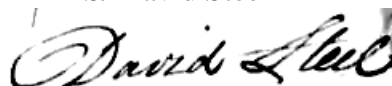
He was in the action at Germantown [October 4, 1777] and when Major Campbell  
[Richard Campbell] was wounded, he commanded the left of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regt. during the remainder  
of the engagement.

In the spring of '78 he was at Pittsburgh under General McIntosh [Lachlan McIntosh]. In  
that campaign he assisted in building a number of forts with Col. De Chambree [sic, Chevalier de  
Cambray Digny] as an Engineer.

After Col. Broadhead [Daniel Brodhead] received a command in the Western department,  
my further services as an officer not being required, he gave leave to this applicant to quit the  
army and return to private life.

He receives no pension from the U.S.

S/ David Steel



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Allegheny County

Before me President of the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Pennsylvania personally came the aforesaid Applicant and being duly sworn saith that the facts above stated are true to the best of his remembrance, and that from his reduced circumstances, he needs the assistance of his Country for his support. In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature, in order that this declaration may be transmitted to the Secretary of the Department of war. Sworn & Subscribed Before me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1818.

S/ David Steel

S/ Sam Roberts

[p 8]

State of Pennsylvania; County of Allegheny

Be it known that before me an alderman in this the City of Pittsburgh and ex-officio a Justice of the Peace in the said County, personally appeared Elizabeth Montgomery (widow of William Montgomery) and about seventy years; who being duly cautioned and then sworn in due form of law, states that she is the only daughter of David Steele who was a Captain in the Revolutionary Army, who died on the fourth day of February AD 1819, and that her mother (whose maiden name was June Welsh) died on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1820. They were married, as she always understood, in Philadelphia, but in what year she cannot say. They moved to this county in or about the year 1787, where they remained until they died. She furthermore saith that the names of the other children of her father were, David, who died unmarried, and Thomas who died (his wife is also dead) leaving issue, Jane married to Samuel Nixon, Adeline married to Ralph Shirley; Elizabeth, married to George Eckard; Mary Anne, married to John Eyman; and Thomas Wesley Steele, all of whom reside in this County. I do hereby constitute, appoint, fully empower and authorize irrevocably with power of substitution F. E. Hassler of Washington, D. C. as my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name and stead to examine into, prosecute demand and receive from the U. S. Government and State officers my rights in all and & in any manner of claim for arrears of pay, half pay, or commutation pay, for pension, increase of arrears of Pension or Land that are or may be due me as a daughter and heir of the said Captain David Steele deceased, as in right of law I may be entitled; and I furthermore revoke all and any power of attorney heretofore executed in favor of any person or persons.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August A. D. 1854.

Sealed & delivered in presence of

S/ Elizabeth Montgomery, X her mark {seal}

S/ Thos. Steele

S/ A. W. Foster

[Facts in the file: Veteran died February 4, 1819; his widow, Jane Welsh Steel (or Steele) died May 10, 1820, both in Allegheny County, Pa.]

[p 30: the following is what remains of the Captain's commission granted to the veteran by the Continental Congress]

C O N G R E S S

STATES of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Bay,  
Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia,  
TO

*Wm. C. C. Moore*

Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity.

do hereby create and appoint you to be *Captain of a Company*

*of the Continental Line, commanded by*

*of American Liberty, and for repelling every*

carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of *Captain*

of Things therunto belonging. And we do strictly

per your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as

serve and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to

the Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress,

Chief for the Time being of the Army of the United States,

the Rules and Discipline of War, in Pursuance of the

which shall be in Force until revoked by this or a future Congress

*Wm. C. C. Moore* PRESIDENT.

hostile Invasion by doing ar  
charge and requisite all  
Time, as you shall re  
for that Purpose app  
or any other your  
Trust reposed in  
DATED at  
ATTEST. *Wm. C. C. Moore*  
*Wm. C. C. Moore*

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per month commencing April 27, 1818, for service as a Captain in the Virginia Continental line.]

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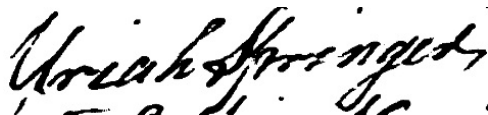
Addendum to David Steel (Steele) S40516

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 20 Jan 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I Certify that David Steele served as a Capt'n. in the 13<sup>th</sup> Virgi'a Regiment from sometime in Dec'r 1776 until Sept'r or Oct'r 1779 at which time he being recommended to Gen'l McIntosh, who Commanded in the western department, as a Mathametician, he s'd Steele was appointed by that Gen'l to act in the Engineer department, in which service he continued some time, but I do not know at what time he Resign'd his Commission in the line

David Steele resides near                    Uriah Springer [R10017]  
Pittsburgh in Alleg'a                      late Capt. in Virg'a line  
County Pennsylv'a U.S    28<sup>th</sup> Sept'r 1806



State of Pennsylvania }                    This day before me Nathaniel Breading one of the Associate Judges in  
Fayette County towit }                    and for sad County in the Court of Common ples and in the fifth Circuit  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania aforesaid Personally came Isaac Israel [VAS1353] who made oath that he said Israel was a Captain in the Eighth Regiment of the Virginia line in the army of the united States of America in the war between the said States and Great Brittian and that he said Isreal hath been long acquainet with David Steele formerly of Yohogania County in Virginia now Alleganey County in Pennsylvania who was also a Captain in said army in the said war and in the virginia Line & in the 13<sup>th</sup> virginia Regiment and the deponent further saith that after the said war had terminated that he the deponent met with the said Steele in the Town of Greensburg in Pennsylvania afs'd and to the Best of the deponents belief about the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1784 where the said Steele Inclosed some papers and Put into the Hand of the deponent, to a Mr Robert Rutherford then of Berkely [sic: Berkeley] County in Virginia one of which Papers contained a Certificate signed by General Laughlin McIntosh [sic: Lachlan McIntosh BLWt1549-850] who had been commander of the western army or Department stating the time the said Steele had served under him the said General approbating his said Steels conduct while under his Command &c but as to the Particular expressions in said writing or Certificate the deponent does not now Perfectly recollect which Papers the deponent at the Request of said Steele forwarded to the said Rutherford In order to obtain the Land warrants due from Virginia unto said Steele for his said services as the deponent Believes. but the Deponent recollects nothing more about the said Business after handing the said Papers to the said Rutherford. which he did so some time in the same year. The deponent further Recolects that he saw said Steele in the said service of the united States in the year 1780. But at what particular time the said Steele entered into the said service or at what time he the said Steele went out of said service after the deponent saw him in 1780, he the deponent does not Recolect or know as the said Steele and the Deponent Belonged to different Regiments. and the deponent further saith not.

Sworn & subscribed to                      Cpt. Isaac Israel  
this 1<sup>st</sup> day of Octr 1806



At the application, and request of Mr. John Stokely of Wood county in the state of Virginia for a certificate said to be given under the hand of General McIntosh to send in behalf of Capt'n David Steele, stating that the said Steele searved under him as a captain and an Indianeer [sic] &c. Which said paper is said to have been delivered to Mr. Robert Rutherford in his life time by a Mr. Isaac Isreal. I do hereby certify that I have frequently looked through a number of Mr. Rutherford papers, & have this day searched through such parts of them as appeared to be most likely to find it among. And that to the best of my

recollection I have never seen such paper notwithstanding it may be among some of them, as their are a number of Mr. Rutherfords paper yet in a very confused state Given under my hand this seventh day of October Eightteen hundred and Five [signed] Jas Brown

This Certifies that the above named James Brown married the youngest daughter of the above named Robert Rutherford dec'd, and has had the papers of the said Rutherford long in his possession, & having lived with & Transacted business for the said Rutherford for some years before his death and that the Books & papers being still in his possession he has [part missing] the acting Executor for the Estate of the said Rutherford but have no recollection of having ever seen a paper of the discription of that alluded to in the above certificate signed by the said James Brown nor do I know that there is any such paper amongst those of Mr. Rutherford dec'd. John Morrow/ Oct'r 7<sup>th</sup> 1806