

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James McBride S4192

f28NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/27/09: rev'd 7/29/16

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 5]

State of Tennessee Lincoln County

On this 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared before Elijah Bayley, Asa Holland, G. W. McBride & David McGahey Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County James McBride a resident of said County of Lincoln about Eighty-two years of age 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 although he has no record of his age he well remembers his father's tradition respecting it, and agreeably thereto he was born in August 1750 in the County of Down Ireland, that shortly thereafter he emigrated to Lancaster County Pennsylvania and thence in 1771 or 1772 to Guilford County North Carolina in which County about the close of the year 1775 he enlisted for six months in the first Regiment of the North Carolina line commanded by Col. Francis Nash. I will here remark that although Nash commanded the Regiment to which I belonged I never saw him until we were marched to Charleston South Carolina Capt. George Davidson's Company, in which I served, being placed under the command of Col. Alexander Martin who marched us first to Fayetteville thence by water to Wilmington thence by Brunswick & Long Bay to Wachama River [Waccamaw River] where we took shipping & sailed to Georgetown & thence by land to Charleston where we lay until the attack on Sullivan's Island when we were sailed across the Bay to Haddrell's Point & kept during the action by the firing of the ship *Action* [sic, HMS *Active* or HMS *Actaeon*, both of which were involved in the action against Fort Moultrie on June 28, 1776].¹

We were taken to the Island and remained until the expiration of the term of our service, when we were sailed back to Charleston and discharged.

In Charleston I saw General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney and on Sullivan's Island, Col. Moultrie.

On my return home I joined a volunteer company commanded by Capt. Arthur Forbis, this company with three others, commanded by Captains Moore, Whitsill & Gillespie in the Regiment of Col. John Paisley, was employed principally against the Tories, under Fields and Willesley [could be "Willisby"].

I performed sundry tours in this service, but the number, and period of each, or either of them, I am unable now to designate with one exception, which was for three months.

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_ft_moultrie_1.html

We ranged through Randolph, Chatham, Moore, Anson, Montgomery & Rowan Counties.

In the fall of 1778 three regiments were raised by draft, to go to South Carolina Commanded by Colonels Paisley, Locke [Francis Locke] & Sanders the whole commanded by Brig. General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] I was taken in this service in the Company of Capt. John Donnell, Lieut. William Wiley & Ensign George Parks, Paisley's Regiment -- we were marched to Purrysburg on the Savannah River where we lay until nearly spring. Here I first saw General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. I was here detached and placed under the command of Col. Archibald Lytle & Major John Nelson who marched us first to the Black Swamp, thence to Augusta, where we lay a few weeks, then crossed Savannah River and marched about 60 miles to Briar Creek, near which place we were joined by General Samuel Ash [sic, John Ashe] with about 700 men. Here on the 3rd March 1779 we were surprised by the British under General Prevost & Col. Campbell, & myself & about 170 others were made prisoners [Battle of briar Creek, March 3, 1777]² -- General Elbert [Samuel Elbert] of Georgia of the number. I was kept until the last of August when myself and two others, effected our escape, and returned home, after an absence of about ten months. I was again engaged as I had previously been under Capt. Forbis Tory hunting, but the periods of the different tours I performed I cannot recollect -- I served one campaign in Col. Isaacs' Regiment, Capt. Robert Paisley's company of three months but whether it was before or after the period of which I now write 1780 I am unable to say -- the country through which we passed was the same as before enumerated under Paisley -- shortly before the defeat of Gates at Camden [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] I volunteered under Capt. Whitesell [Henry Whitesell, Weitzel] to go to Suffolk in Virginia for arms and ammunition. We were marched direct to Halifax North Carolina where we lay some weeks by order of Col. Long, who was, I believe, Quarter master General. We proceeded thence to Winton on Chowan River to Suffolk where we received two wagon loads of arms and lead and returned by the same route, stopping again at Halifax for the purpose, I believe, of branding the arms. I have also forgotten the period of this service but I believe it was between two and three months.

The Tories about this time began to assume a bold appearance, they were commanded by Col. Fanning [David Fanning] who was considered an active officer, and a considerable force was again employed against them. I was again in Capt. Paisley's company engaged for three months. The Regiment commanded by Col. Paisley. We scoured the country as far south as Pedee River. I served a number of other short campaigns, as the occasion required against the Tories, from this period to the peace, none however exceeding a few weeks at a time, but the number or the period of either of them, I have forgotten.

I received a discharge from Col. Nash for my first campaign, and certificates for the others -- excepting when a prisoner, but not believing them of any account I took no care of them, consequently I cannot state with precision how long I served, but I believe I was between two and one half and three years. After the war I continued to live in Guilford County until 1800 when I came to Tennessee and lived principally in Williamson County until 1806 when I returned again to Guilford & remained until the spring of 1812 when I removed to the neighborhood where I now live. I am known to my neighbors generally, I presume, some of whom I expect it will appear in Court and testify of me.

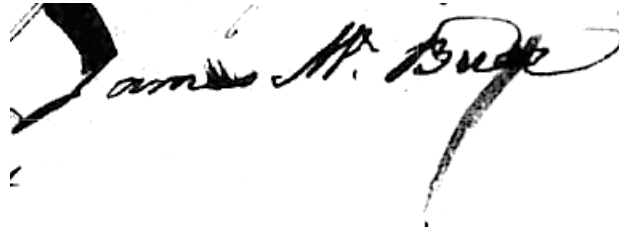
And I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Elisha Bayley, JP

² <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

S/ James McBride



S/ Asa Holland, JP


S/ G. W. McBride, JP

S/ David McGahey, JP

I, William Shaw,³ residing in Lincoln County in the State of Tennessee do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with James McBride who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that I was with him in the war of the revolution sundry campaigns, one in 1775 though in different regiments, another under Col. Isaacs against the Tories, one to Suffolk in Virginia for arms & ammunition & another under Col. Paisley, and some other short campaigns against the Tories, the whole amounting to 15 months or thereabouts, that although I was not with him during the whole of the war yet I entertain no doubt that he served as he states.

Sworn to and subscribed before us the day and year above written.

S/ William Shaw



[Jesse McClean and Samuel Job gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Tennessee Lincoln County

On this 22nd day of May 1833 personally appeared before the Elisha Bayley, Asa Holland & David McGahey Justices of the peace for said County James McBride an applicant for a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832 who being duly sworn according to law makes the following statements explanatory of his foregoing declaration.

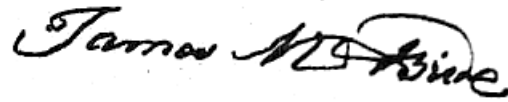
In answer to the 7th interrogatory prescribed by the war department he states that he is acquainted with Jesse McClean, Samuel Job, Rev. Thomas Willis & James Brown. And as a reason for not giving a more definite answer to the interrogatory in his original declaration he states, that at the time of making it, he believed it was necessary for such of his witnesses as could travel to be examined in Court, and that he was ignorant who of his neighbors would be there.

As a reason for not producing the certificate of a Clergyman, he states that he had obtained the promise of one to meet him at Court, but that in attempting to get there himself he failed and procured the attendance of Justices of the peace before he made his declaration, and sent it, together with the certificates of Elizabeth Shaw & four others, which he had previously taken, my friend to Court, who informed him on his return that the Clergyman had not attended, and that he, relying on the proof made had sent on my papers to the war department. He also informed me that the examination was continued before the Justices before whom I made my declaration, and not in Court as I had believed was indispensable. Sworn to and subscribed before us the day and year above written.

³ [William Shaw W127](#)

S/ Elisha Bagley, JP

S/ James McBride

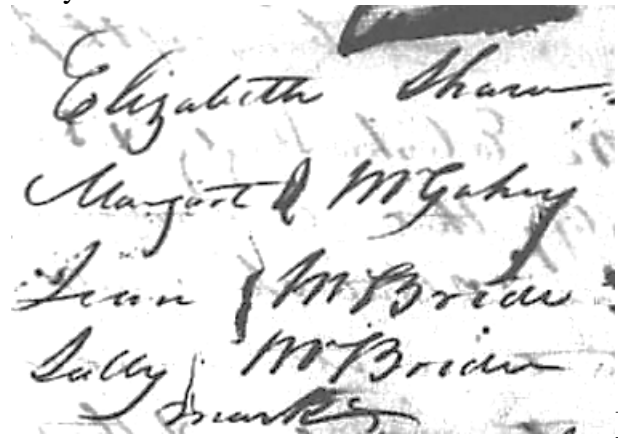


S/ Asa Holland, JP

S/ David McGahey, JP

[Thomas Willis, a clergyman, and James Brown gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 23: Elizabeth Shaw, 80, Margaret McGahey, 75, Jean McBride, 70, & Sally McBride, 67, all gave testimony saying they knew James McBride during the war and were aware of his being away in service various times.



Elizabeth Shaw
Margaret McGahey
Jean McBride
Sally McBride

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