

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David McMahan S4199

Transcribed by Will Graves

f15NC

rev'd 1/29/17

[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' 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.]

State of Tennessee, Williamson County

On this 29th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before one Thomas Stuart, Judge now sitting for the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court of Law and Equity for the State of Tennessee, Daniel McMahan, aged 81 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 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated: That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers: that he entered the service of the United States in October 1779. He was at that time living in North Carolina, Orange County. He was in his 28th year of age. He was drafted in the militia service. The company to which he belonged was commanded by Captain William Jameson [William Jamieson]. This company was attached to Colonel Saunders' [James Saunders'] Regiment, which was attached to the brigade commanded by General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], and this to General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] division. He was first marched with the company commanded by Jameson to Purysburg. However, he had not marched more than 30 miles on this route when it was ascertained that Captain Jameson had forgot his commission at his own house and this applicant, being tolerable intimate with his Captain, he was requested by him to return and get it. He obtained a furlough (as the times were dangerous) to remain until the next company of drafts men came on, which was in less than a month after. He then returned and joined the company under Captain Jameson at Purysburg where General Lincoln commanded a considerable force. He had not been long at this place when General Lincoln ordered about 15 hundred men, of whom he was one, commanded by General Rutherford and Colonel James Saunders, to march to a place called the Two Sisters [ferry] on Savannah River. The British under Cornwallis were on the opposite side of the river. The Governor of Georgia's house was situated near the Two Sisters and on the opposite side of the river and when this applicant with his comrades arrived the Governor came over, General Lincoln with his army soon after coming to the same place. Cornwallis retreated lower down the river towards Savannah City. He had not been long at the Two Sisters when his time of six months, for which he was drafted, expired. But he remained ten days longer in consequence of the recruits not having arrived sooner. His Captain gave him his discharge of six months service and he returned home to Orange County, North Carolina and was there but a short time until he was again drafted for a three month tour. He thinks this was in May 1780, about the time Charleston fell into the possession of the British [Charleston South Carolina fell on to the British owned May 12, 1780]. Captain William Williamson [William Williams] was his commanding officer. He was stationed at Hillsborough, North Carolina. Captain Taylor soon after took the command of this company in the place of Captain Williams. This arrangement was affected by its falling to Taylor by lot. He remained here guarding the magazines from the British until his tour of three months was expired, when

he, a second time, returned home to Orange County, North Carolina.

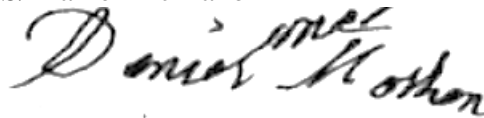
He obtained a discharge this time also but like his first he does not recollect what has become of it. After he had lain at home some short time he took a certain deserter prisoner, by the name of John Kell and delivered him up to the proper authorities for which service he obtained a discharge for three month service. There was a law to that effect. He then, the precise time he does not recollect, but thinks it was in 1781, volunteered for a tour of about one month with about 25 men under Captain Williams against a body of Tories of about 50 in number under Colonel Fannell [sic, probably a reference to David Fanning]; who were doing great mischief in the neighborhood of Deep River in Chatham County. He marched by Guilford and pursued them across Deep River where they escaped and were protected by the enemy. He served another tour of one month in which he volunteered under James Falker, Captain and Nathaniel Rochester, Colonel. He marched from Hillsborough to Campbell's town below Cross Creek on Cape Fear River. This expedition was against the Tories who had collected in those parts but before he arrived there General Moore had defeated and drove them over where they were protected by the enemy. He knows no person in this country living except Thomas Raegans¹ [sic, Thomas Ragain, or Ragains] who can prove his services as he has stated. He has no documentary evidence of that fact. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the year 1751. He has a record of his age in his own bible now in his possession. He lived in Orange County, North Carolina up to 1799 when he moved to Williamson County, Tennessee where he has been living ever since and now lives. He knows of no officers that were then with the troops when he joined except those stated. He states Thomas L. Douglass, William G. Childress, David Youngman and Wright Stanley who can testify to his veracity and their belief of his services in the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Preston Hay, Clk &c

S/ Daniel McMahan



We, Thomas L. Douglass, a clergyman resident in this county of Williamson and state of Tennessee and William G. Childress, David Youngman and Wright Stanley of the same county and state do hereby certify that we are acquainted with Daniel McMahan, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be 81 years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Preston Hay, Clk &c

S/ Thos L. Douglass

S/ W. G. Childress {seal}

S/ David Youngman

S/ Wright Stanley

The Amended declaration of Daniel McMahan for a pension
State of Tennessee, Williamson County

1 [Thomas Ragains \(Ragain\) W4502](#)

On this 21st day of May A.D. 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for Williamson County aforesaid who being duly sworn according to law doth depose and say that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, that is to say:


- In the first tour mentioned in my declaration
1. For six months I served as a private 6Months
- In the second tour mentioned in my declaration
2. For three months I served as a private 3 Months
- In the third tour mentioned in my declaration
3. For one month I served as a private 1 Month
- In the fourth tour mentioned in my declaration
4. For one month I served as a private 1 Month

Making in all eleven months service (besides the three months I was allowed for taking and capturing a prisoner which I am not allowed to claim for) and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed or me this day and year above written.

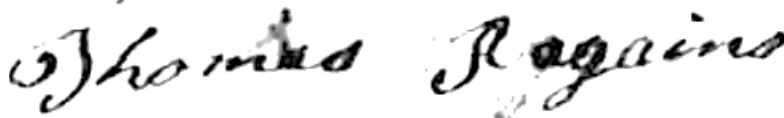
S/ John W. Miller, JP

S/ Daniel McMahan



I Thomas Raegans [sic] do hereby state that I have been acquainted with Mr. Daniel McMahan on about 50 years. I saw him while in the service frequently. I saw him in the expedition against a parsal [sic] of Tories about Cross Creek on Cape Fear River Captain Moore defeated them I was in that battle. I saw him when at Hillsboro under Captain Taylor when he was guarding the Magazine. I saw him while in another tour, but do not distinctly recollect the Captain he was under but think it was Captain Williams. We were very intimate with each other and I lived in about a half a ~~mile~~ of him in Orange County North Carolina. I have read his declaration and with regard to that part of his service which I did not see him in, being myself in other parts, I have not the least doubt of his being there also I know him to be a man of veracity. I know [? word or words written over and difficult to discern] of his taking one John Kell prisoner very well. This day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Ragains



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the North Carolina militia.]