

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Leslie S4539

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/25/13

[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. 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Sullivan County: August Session

Personally appeared in Open Court Alexander Leslies [sic] and being duly sworn according to law in presence of the Justices of said Court makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That in 1777 or 1778 as well as he recollects he was cawled [called] on to perform a three months tour in the Militia of Surry County in Virginia under Captain James Belches [?]<sup>1</sup> and marched with him to Mckeyes mills [probably Mackey's Mills] and then to Smithfield and then to Suffolk River where his time of service expired and he was dismist [dismissed].

He afterwards settled in Prince George County Virginia and was again cawled on to perform a three months tour under Captain Edward Bland in the Militia of said County at Fort Hood on James River where General Cocke commanded the British shipping came up the River and they Cannonaded on both [indecipherable word]<sup>2</sup> two or three days and nights the British effected [effected] a landing of some of their troops some distance below the Fort and General Cocke gave orders to evacuate the Fort and Spike the Cannon my term of service then expired and I was dismissed I think as well as I now recollect that was in 1779 or 1780.

I then Volunteered in the Light Horse service and inroled [enrolled] in Captain Edmond Ruffins Company we then Retreated up James River to Bull Hill where the British landed and drove us to Petersburg we had some scrimages [scrimmages] on the way but no General engagement we Crossed [crossed] the Apomatick [Appomattox?] River and pooled [pulled] up the Bridge where we continued some time we then Retreated up James River to the fork a considerable distance above Richmond we joined the French General on our way the marques Delefeat [Marquis Lafayette] who commanded the Regulars our Magazun [magazine] in military Stores had been moved up James River from Richmond to the fork the British armie [Army] on one side of the River and the Amaricans [Americans] on the other they drue [drew] of their men but did not ingage [engage] the British then Retreated and we pesued [pursued] them on below Richmond near Williamsburg whare [where] my term of service expired and I left the Army. I have since that time been ingaged in Teaching School through deferant [different] parts of Virginia and now Reside in Sullivan County State of Tennessee and I am living on the Charity of

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1 *Belches*

2 *parties*

the Citizens of said County as I am 73 or 74 years of age by the best Calculation I can make having no Record and also very infirm that I am unable to labor and have lost my sight and hearing that I am not Capable of teaching School and ware [were] it not for Hospitality of the Inhabitants of this County I must inavetably [inevitably] sufer [suffer] that he has no documentary evidence to prove his Services nor any witness by whom he can at this day prove the same.

Questions asked Alexander Leslies by the Court have you ever Received a pention [pension] or land or money of the United States or State of Virginia where you served in the Militia of that State for your services

Answer I never have had a pention or any pay in land or money of the US or the State of Virginia whether the other militia ware paid or not I do not know I never before this made aplication [application] or received anything in any way – save my Rations while in Service.

ques. By Court do you know of any of the Officers or Soldiers who served on any of the tours during the 9 months as stated that you Cold [could] have the benefit of their testimony – answer I do not know I left the Cuntry [Country] some years after the war and have not been there since whether any of them are living or not I Cannot tell I was young then myself and I supo [suppose] few of the troops then in the Service are now living se

Sworn to & subscribed in open court this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 183? [Last digit obliterated by damage to the paper]

S/ Alexander Leslie

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alexander Leslie". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Alexander Leslie".

[William Snodgrass and Abraham Hulse gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]