

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Swain S4910

f24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/29/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: SS

On this 13th day of September 1832 personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County Elizabeth Swain a resident of said County aged eighty-seven years last February who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain for her husband Charles Swain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That she is the lawful wife of Charles Swain a resident of said County of Hawkins, and who is now nearly Eighty-eight years of age, and who is at this time & has been for about eight months past laboring under great bodily debility and alienation of mind so that he is entirely helpless and cannot talk rationally, so as to either appear in Court or make any Statement of facts so as to avail himself of the provisions made by the said act of Congress of June 7th 1832. That she the said Elizabeth intermarried with the said Charles on the 12th day of January 1770 in Bedford County State of Virginia, and that afterwards sometime in the month of August (the date not recollected) in the year 1777 her said husband entered the service of the United States under the command of Captain Cummings [perhaps Alec Cummins] in the Regiment of militia commanded by Captain Charles Lynch, and at said time her husband resided in said County of Bedford, and that he entered as a volunteer, that her said husband marched with his said Regiment from New London (at that time called) to the lead mines on New River above Evan's ferry, and from thence was marched into North Carolina, against the Tories, where he continued to serve about six months, at the Expiration of which time he was marched back into Bedford and returned to his family about the latter part of February 1778. She further states that her said husband received from his said Colonel a discharge which stated that he had served six months in said Regiment, and was discharged – honorably, which discharge was afterwards burnt up with everything they had save some beds in their House, which was set on fire by some Incendiary while living in Bedford. The said Elizabeth further declares, that her said husband again volunteered in the service of his country under a Captain Huddle Stone in Bedford County aforesaid, about the middle of March in the year 1778 but the Colonel's name under whom her husband served she has forgotten, though her husband has often named him, and as the said Elizabeth has understood from her said husband, he with his company was marched into Montgomery County on Little River, and did not return until about the first of June following, having served about two months and a half. Again in the fall of said year 1778, the month not now remembered her said husband entered the said service as a volunteer and was employed as one of the guard over the Tories who were prisoners at New London, in Bedford County and continued in service about two months & one half before he returned home, but the exact month when he returned the said Elizabeth cannot state positively, but she remembers it was in cold

weather in the winter of 1778. Neither can she name the officers under whom her husband at that time served but she recollects of her husband often mentioning the names of Captain David Murray and Lieutenant Thomas Murray who was with him at the time –

Again about the middle of January 1781 her said husband entered the United States service in the said County of Bedford in a company of volunteers, as a Lieutenant of said company, commanded by Captain Poindexter [Joseph Poindexter] of Bedford County under Colonel Merriwether or Marywether as she thinks, she understood from her husband, and marched from New London to Norfolk and from thence to a place called Gregory's Camps, in North Carolina, and in the dismal Swamp, and after serving three months returned home to his family. The said Elizabeth further declares that her said husband always stated that he had served about two years, altogether in the United States Service, during the revolutionary war, but she at this time does not recollect of any other engagements than those she has stated, although he might have been out for shorter periods. She is well satisfied however from her own knowledge and from what she has heard her husband say, when he was in his right mind, – that he did serve in the manner above stated, amounting in the whole to fourteen months, eleven months as a private, & three months as a Lieutenant. She further states that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State –

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ N. Fain, Justice

S/ Elizabeth Swain, X her mark

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: On this 18th day of September 1832 before me Nicholas Fain a Justice of the peace in & for said County personally appeared John Leonard¹ a resident of said County who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith that he is acquainted with the above named Charles Swain whose wife is now applying for a pension on his behalf, that the said Charles is about the age of 87 or 88 years – The said Leonard further saith that he is himself now on the pension roll of the United States and that he recollects of seeing the said Swain in the United States Service as a Lieutenant at old Cumberland Court House in Virginia, the said deponent belonging at that time to the 11th Virginia Regiment, that after remaining at Cumberland Court House a few weeks the said Swain left there for whom or some other place and deponent doth not know where he was ordered to – but deponent is well satisfied from having seen the said Swain in the service as aforesaid, and conversing with him about a year ago, that the said Swain was in the Service of the United States nearly or quite eighteen months, & further deponent saith not.

S/ John Lennerd

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Lennerd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, dark ink blot at the end of the name.

[Facts in file: veteran died July 11, 1833; there is no family data in this file; the file contains several private bills passed by the U.S. Congress for the benefit of the veteran.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$44.67 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for his service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

¹ FPA W1625