

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Cornelius McFall S5753

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/25/13

[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. 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 Virginia Albemarle County: SS

On this 29th day of November 1832, personally appeared before me John Pilson a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and as such a member of the County Court of Albemarle, being a Court of record, Cornelius McFall aged ninety-eight years, a resident of said County & State, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born on the __ day of August, (the day not recollected) in the year he thinks 1734 and, in the County of Antrim in Ireland but has no record of his age – that he emigrated to Virginia and landed in Hampton sometime in the year 1775; that, for a while, he followed ditching in the neighborhood of Hampton from thence he went to the County of Augusta in Virginia & there resumed & followed his trade as a weaver – that he married in the last named County & removed from thence to Albemarle, where he made a purchase of land & settled, till he was drafted in the militia, (the precise year not recollected, though it was the year [1777] that Burgoyne's troops were first stationed at the Albemarle barracks[]) – where he was stationed in all about four and months as a guard of the said Barracks under Captain William Grayson or Grisson – the Regiment to which he was attached was commanded by Colonel Crockett – that, after his discharge from this service, he was again drafted in the militia (the year not now recollected) in the County of Albemarle and marched, from thence, to the neighborhood of Yorktown, under the command of Captain __ Leake [perhaps Mark Leak or Leake], where he was attached to a Regiment commanded he thinks by Colonel Reuben Lindsay, which was itself under the command of General Nelson [Thomas Nelson] – that this occurred prior to the possession of Yorktown by Lord Cornwallis – that it was the same year skirmish was had with the enemy at a place called Green Spring [July 6, 1781] in the neighborhood of Yorktown, from thence he was marched to Morvin hills [Malvern Hills], where he was discharged – from thence he returned to Albemarle – and was again in a very short time drafted in the militia, & marched under the command of Captain __ Garland [perhaps either James Garland or Nathaniel Garland] to Yorktown, where he remained in service till the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. After the surrender of Cornwallis he was the declarant, was marched with a portion of the prisoners to Winchester, where, remaining in service for a few weeks, he was discharged, but received no written discharge, returned to Albemarle, where he has resided ever since. He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ Cornelius McFall, X his mark

Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the County of Antrim in Ireland in the year I think 1734
year

Have you any record of your age – & if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age.

Where were you living when called into Service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, & where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in Albemarle when called into service, & have lived since the revolutionary war in Albemarle.

How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?

Ans. I was drafted.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served. Such Continental & militia regiments as you can recollect. & The general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I do not recollect the names of any regular officers who may have been with the troops with whom I served nor the number or names of the regiments – & the circumstances of my service, so far as at this distant day I can recollect them, are detail in my foregoing declaration. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service: and, if so, by whom was it given, & what has become of it?

Ans. I never received a written discharge from service.

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

Ans: I refer to Samuel McCord, Solomon Wood, & William Black who were with me in service – and to __ for my standing and reputation for honesty & veracity.

S/ Cornelius McFall, X his mark

[Porter Cleaveland,¹ a clergyman, and Joseph Alexander gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Virginia Albemarle County Sc:

This day Solomon Wood² and William Black came before the undersigned a justice of the peace for said County & made oath that they were in the service as drafted militia at the Siege of York, & well recollect to have seen Cornelius McFall in service in the militia at the same time & place – it having been heard the declaration of said McFall read, and having always esteemed him a man of strict truth, they aver there believe & confidence in the facts set forth in said declaration and Colonel [inserted text to faint to read] came before the undersigned on the 30th day of November 1832 & made oath that they have been well acquainted with Cornelius McFall for a number of years – that his character for truth is good, & has never been to their knowledge in the slightest manner in peach. Witness my hand this 30th day of November 1832

S/ John Pilson

Virginia Albemarle County Sc.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, Cornelius McFall who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory the [sic, he] cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his

¹ His signature looks like "Porter Cleaveland"

² [Solomon Wood S18668](#)

service but according to the best of his remembrance or recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grade. I was drafted in the militia – at the time Burgoyne's troops was first stationed at the Albemarle barracks, and served a tour of at least four months, as a private – under Captain Grayson of Colonel Crockett's Regiment, I was again drafted in the militia (time not recollected) in the County of Albemarle and marched from thence to the neighborhood of York town under the command of Captain Leak – where he was attached to a Regiment, I think, commanded by Colonel Reuben Lindsey which was itself under the command of General Nelson and served as a private a tour of at least three months – and was discharged. I was again drafted in the County of Albemarle in the militia and marched under the command of Captain Garland to Yorktown where I remained in the service till the surrender of Cornwallis, after the surrender of Cornwallis I was marched with a portion of the prisoners to Winchester – where I remained a few weeks in service and was again discharged continuing in this tour at least three months and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ Cornelius McFall

As witness my hand as justice of the peace aforesaid this 18th day of June 1833

S/ John Pilson

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 10 months in the Virginia militia.]