Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Henry McLain S7196 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 Oct 2014.

State of Virginia and County of Nelson to wit

on this 6th day of october – 1832 personally appeared before me Littleberry N Liggon [sic: Ligon] a justice of the peace for the said County and State, Henry McLain a resident of the said County and State, aged eighty two years the 10th day of May last past 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 the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the united states under the following named officers and served as herein stated; he entered the service as a militiaman in the county of Amherst Va under Captain Azariah Martin, lieutenant James Alexander and Ensign William Holt in the year 1779 that they marched to Hillsborough in the state of North Carolina where they stayed perhaps two weeks from thence to Camden in South Carolina where they joined General Gateses [Horatio Gates's] army at Rootsleys Mill [sic: Rugeley's Mill 12 mi N of Camden] in the evening and the engagement in which General Gates was defeated took place the following night and before day [16 Aug 1780] they had orders to retreat, he recollects that Colonel [last name Do—?, probably Rawleigh Downman] who had lost his hat told them to escape in the best way they could which they done, and got off in great confusion and from there he went home as his company was not organised again; that some time after, they said Captain Martin drew his pay for a two months tour and gave it to him. The next time he entered the service under James Pamplin who was then either a captain or Major, in Amherst County and state of Va. who marched them to Hillsborough in North Carolina where they went under the command of Captain John Graves and Pamplin returned, after having stayed at Hillsborough some ten or fifteen days, from thence they marched by Gilford Courthouse [sic: Guilford Courthouse NC] and on to Pee dee River at the mouth of Hixes Creek [Hicks Creek near Cheraw in Marlboro County SC] where they joined General Greens army [sic: Nathanael Greene's army, at Hicks Creek from 26 Dec 1780 until 28 Jan 1781], after being stationed there a while they left General Greens army and marched to Saulserry [sic: Salisbury] in North Carolina and from thence to Pitsylvany [sic: Pittsylvania County] in Virginia where they were discharged in the month of February after a tour of three months, he recollects Major Morris [Nathaniel Garsden Morris] in addition to the other officers he has mentioned. The next and last time he was drafted in Amherst County Va. and marched under Captain John Loving and Lieutenant Turner, which last, did not stay with their Tour owing to his being taken sick. when Lieutenant William Barnet took his place. when they marched they went through the county of Buckingham Va. from thence to williamsburg where he was stationed untill his brother James McLain took his place which was some time before the expiration of the tour which he thinks was three months. There was no fitting while he was on that tour. his company had joined General [Edward] Stevens before they got to Williamsburg, he thinks in the County of King William. Questions by the Magistrate 1st where and in what year were you born, answer. I was born in the County of Lancaster State of Pennsylvania in the year of 1750 as I was told by my parents 2nd. have you any record of your age and if so where is it. Answer. I have none 3rd. Where were you living when called in to service where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live. Answer. I was living in Amherst County Va. when called into service, have lived in that part of old Amherst which is now Nelson County since the revolution, and am now living in Nelson County. 4th. how were you called into service were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom. Answer I was drafted 5th did you ever receive a discharge and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it. Answer I dont recollect to have received but one written one, and that was given by Captain Graves and is lost.

6th. state the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service. I cant recollect the No. of of any regiment with which I served and the names of all the officers that I

recollect and the General circumstances of my service as well as I can recollect are all set forth in the body of my declaration.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are acquainted in your present neighbourhood, who can testify as to your Character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution. The Magistrate will please inquire of Wilson C Smith and Hazlewood Morris and any other of my neighbors who can certify as to my Character for veracity and their belief of my service as a soldier of the revolution. The Magistrate will also please enquire of Wilson C Smith and Alex'r Fitzpatrick whether they believe me to be as old as I represent and whether I am reputed and believed in my neighborhood to have been a soldier of the revolution and whether they concur in that opinion.

he hereby relinquishes every 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 or territory. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Henry McLain

NOTE: On 6 Oct 1832 Lucy Page stated that she lived at "Henry McLain's Fathers" when he was in service.