

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Meek¹ S7218

Transcribed by Will Graves

f36VA

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[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, Lincoln County: County Court October Term 1832

On this 19th of October 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Lincoln County Tennessee now sitting Alexander Meek a resident of said County aged about 68 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 June 7, 1832.

I was born in Cumberland County Maryland on the 14th December 1764 according to a record of my age now in my possession. Sometime in the month of July 1779, living then in Washington County Virginia & having enrolled my name on the muster roll, although not quite fifteen years of age, I was drafted and entered the service of the United States for a tour of three months in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Archer Campbell [Arthur Campbell]. I was placed in the command of Major William Edmiston [William Edmondson] with about four hundred men on scouting parties & sent against the Tories in Wythe County & about the Iron Mountain who were ravaging the country and murdering the people in that quarter. The company to which I was attached was commanded by a Sergeant John Robertson – but the Tories disappeared upon our approach, so that we had no action with them & we returned home a short time before the term for which we were drafted expired. About the first of September 1780, we were again drafted for a three months tour under Colonel Campbell & Major Edmiston, my company being commanded by Captain James Dysart & 1st Lieutenant Samuel Meek who was my brother – the No. of the Regiment I now forget. We rendezvoused at Abingdon Virginia and was marched to the Watauga River in what is now East Tennessee where we joined the North Carolina troops under Col Shelby [Isaac Shelby]. We then marched on through North Carolina over the Yellow Mountain crossing Broad River about eight or nine miles from King's Mountain in the southern boundary of North Carolina. I was in the battle at King's Mountain [October 7, 1780], where our troops were under the command of Colonel (or as I think he then was General) William Campbell at this battle I think we took about a thousand prisoners, British & Tories who were commanded by an officer by the name of Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson]. In this battle our forces were commanded by Col Campbell, Col Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], Col Bluford, Col Shelby – after our victory we started toward Richmond with our prisoners, their baggage wagons &c when after traveling three or four days we understood that Lord Cornwallis was following us to retake our prisoners (though our information was not correct) a council or court martial was held, in which it was determined to burn their baggage wagons (which was accordingly done) and to hang about thirty of the Tories, but we hung only nine. I myself holding the cow hides to cut the strings to hang them with – we then continued our march night & day for four or five days, when we were met by the regular troops (but I cannot recollect by whom they were commanded) we were then dismissed by General Campbell, and went home about the first of November. About the first of December of the same year I volunteered in the same Regiment & still commanded by Colonel Archer Campbell & one Major Christian the company to which I belonged

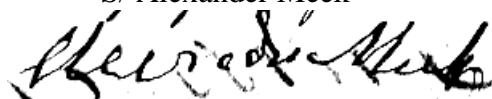
¹ BLWt34827-160-55

commanded by Captain Robert Kyle. We were then ordered against the Cherokee Indians & marched to the Tellico Towns on the Tennessee River between French Broad & Tennessee rivers we joined the North Carolina forces who were then put under the command of Colonel Campbell. We took some prisoners & then eighty of us (40 being Virginians & 40 Carolinians) were left to guard them, while the balance of the Army went to the Hiwassee to destroyed the Indian towns there: when they returned, we destroyed the Tellico Towns, burning houses, corn and everything we could find. We then marched back, we were dismissed and went home about the last of January. I never received a written discharge from service as, on each occasion we were taken out a three months tour & after being dismissed we were still considered bound to service, if necessity required. I have no documentary evidence nor do I know of any person whose testimony I can procure to testify to my services. I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. I would refer for my character for veracity and for revolutionary services to the Reverend Ebenezer McEwen and to Samuel Buchanan, Esq. and William P. Pulliam, Esq.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

Test: S/ Robt. Inge, Clk

S/ Alexander Meek



[Ebenezer McEwen, a clergyman, and Samuel Buchanan and William P Pulliam gave the standard supporting affidavit. In addition, Samuel Buchanan "further certifies that he lived in the same neighborhood with said Alexander Meek during the revolutionary war (being then a boy) – and it was generally understood and believed in that neighborhood that he did perform the services mentioned in his declaration."]

[p 14]

State of Tennessee Lincoln County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Alexander Meek who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the 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. For six weeks I served as a private under Major Edmiston in the country above the Iron Mountains. For two months & one week I served as a private in the Army commanded by General William Campbell about the time of the battle of Kings Mountain. For two months and three weeks I served as a private under Colonel Campbell and Major Christian in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 27th day of April 1833.

S/ Alex Meek



[p 32: On February 20, 1843 in Marshall County Mississippi, the veteran applied for the transfer of his pension benefit to the Mississippi agency giving as his reason for removing from Tennessee to Mississippi that he is old and infirm and accompanied his children who have removed from Tennessee to Mississippi in order that he could live near them.]

State of Mississippi, County of Marshall

On this 24th day of July A.D. 1855 personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid Alexander Meek, aged ninety two years, a resident of Marshall County in the State of Mississippi, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the

identical Alexander Meek who was a private in the company commanded by Captain James Dazcy [James Dysart?] in the Virginia Regiment commanded by General William Campbell; that he was one of the volunteers who served at the battle of King's Mountain in the Revolutionary War, that he engaged in the military service of the United States in Washington County State of Virginia as he thinks in October 1779, and continued in actual service in said war for the term of 14 days and upwards, and was honorably discharged near Iron Mountain, about the head of New River in Virginia. He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the act approved March 3rd, 1855. He also declares that he has not received a warrant for bounty land under this or any other act of Congress, nor made any other application therefore. He states above that he was a volunteer, which he thinks is correct, but, as he believes, the muster rolls of Captain Dazcy [Dysart?], if to be found, will determine.

S/ Alexander Meek, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.11 per year commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months and 10 days in the Virginia militia.]