

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Weems S7864

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Transcribed by Will Graves

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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. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 102]

State of Mississippi Simpson County: SS In the Circuit Court October Session 1832

On this the 15th day of October in the year while Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Edward Turner Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of the County of Sampson and State of Mississippi now sitting John Weems Senior a resident of the County of Lawrence and State aforesaid aged seventy 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 7th 1832.

That he the said John Weems Senior entered the service of the United States in the 15th year of his age as a volunteer soldier in the South Carolina Militia in the year 1777 under Captain Joseph Dawson and continued in said service at that time for the period of three months and in a company with Major Chambers crossed the Saluda River during said service. Afterwards was drafted & went a short voyage under General Pickens to Bull Swamp and afterwards volunteered under Captain John McGow and marched with him to the Fort of old Ninety Six where in the Spring of the year 1781 he was in a battle in which General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] had command and was defeated & soon after which he thinks the British left. Shortly after the British evacuated the Fort of Ninety Six he went out again in said service drafted under Captain Moses Little and was out as a detached horse guard at the time of the Battle of the Eutaw Springs where General Greene had command. That he the said John Weems Senior served of that time in the [indecipherable word] service of the war and stood as a minute man from the time he first entered the service as aforesaid ready to march at a minutes warning until about the close of the war and frequently went out on short tours that he has almost entirely forgotten. That he is confident he served at least three years actual service during said war and he thinks serving a longer period. That he the said John Weems Senior was born about the year 1762 in the lower part of the State of Virginia. That he has no record of his age. That he was living in the State of South Carolina in Abbeville District when he was called in the said service. That since the Revolutionary war he has lived until 1810 or 11 thence to Jasper County in the State of Georgia until about 1814 thence in the State of Mississippi where he now resides in the County of Lawrence. That he was called into service part of the time as a drafted [militia man] and part as a

¹ The page numbers assigned to the digital image is posted on Footnote.com or nonsensical.

volunteer soldier. That he recollects Generals Marion -- Anderson -- Pickens -- Greene and Major Chambers who were with the troops where he served. That he received a regular discharge from said service given by Captain Dawson which is long ago destroyed or lost. That he is known in his present neighborhood to Luke Butler Esquire, Jesse Winbourn Reverend Mr. Mallard and others who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. And that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service and 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 of the union.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid before.

S/ E. Turner, Presiding Judge

S/ John Weems

[William Morris, a clergyman, and Jesse Winbourn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 531]

State of Mississippi Simpson County: In the Court of Probates at the May Term 1833

Supplementary declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1833.

On this the 27th day of May in the year 1833 personally appeared in open Court before his honor Bruster H. Jayne Judge of the Court of Probates of the County of Simpson and State of Mississippi now sitting John Weems Senior a resident of the County of Lawrence and State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in addition to the one made by him in the Circuit Court of the County of Simpson on the 15th day of October 1832, which is hereunto annexed in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the June 7th 1832.

In addition to the said declaration of 15th October 1832, he the said John Weems says that in the year 1777 he volunteered and entered the service of the United States as a private soldier under Captain Joseph Dawson, Major Anderson and Colonel Pickens in Abbeville County (or District) in South Carolina in the 2nd Regiment of the division a man afterwards commanded by General Andrew Pickens and continued and served in the revolutionary war and said engagement for the period of three months in which campaign he marched with said corps from Abbeville to the high hills of Santee where he was encamped with the Army for some time and afterwards returned to Abbeville & was discharged. And afterwards but in what particular year he cannot now recollect he volunteered and entered in the service again in the company commanded by Captain Joshua Patterson under Major John McGaw and General Pickens in Abbeville aforesaid and continued and served as aforesaid for another period of three months in which service he marched to Bacon's Bridge where he remained in camp for some time and at the end of said three months was regularly discharged by his officers. That he recollects that he was drafted for the term of three months but he cannot recollect in what particular year said draft took place, under Captain Maxwell and General Pickens in the South Carolina Militia but in what particular division (by reason of old age) he cannot now recollect in which last mentioned company he recollects of marching into the Cherokee nation against the Indians and Tories and that afterwards but at what time he does not now recollect he was again drafted for the period of three months in the South Carolina militia but in what Regiment or division he cannot now recollect in the company commanded by Captain Moses Little and General Pickens division & in the said last mentioned service he marched near the Eutaw Springs under the circumstances named in the annexed declaration. That during all the times above specified he served for the

periods named with an embodied Corps called into service by competent authority under the circumstances in the said declaration of the 15th October 1832 hereunto annexed specified & set forth. That the reason this application is made in the County of Simpson and not in the County of Lawrence where I resided is the calls the court in the County of Simpson happened to sit sooner in that County than in Lawrence after I obtained information of the said Act of June 7th 1832. Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Weems Senior

Done in open Court before me

S/ Brewster H. Jayne, Judge

[James Murry, a clergyman, and Richard A. Hargis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: the veteran died in 1840 in Smith County Mississippi; in 1854 the soldiers daughter, Margaret McFerrin, resided in Simpson County, Mississippi. The veteran's pension was suspended upon re-examination based upon his failure to establish service as required by the pension.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for one year service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]