

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Williams S7897

Transcribed by Will Graves

f19NC

rev'd 7/6/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Ohio, Gallia County} SS

On this nineteenth day of October A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open court, before the Honorable the Judges of the court of Common Pleas of Gallia County now sitting Benjamin Williams a resident of Harrison and the County of Gallia in State of Ohio aged seventy-one 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

1st That he was drafted as a private into the North Carolina state troops, at a place called the barracks in Chatham County North Carolina, the year and month not recollected owing to loss of memory consequent of his advanced age; that his Captain's name was William York, Lieutenant John Hinds, Ensign Abraham Catalin, Colonel John Litteral [sic, John Luttrell], other regimental officers not recollected. Went to Cheraw Hills where were the headquarters of the Army during the whole term of his enlistment in service, 18 months; was not engaged in any battle of moment, but was often occupied in putting down the Tories of the vicinity. He was out on this enlistment and in service eighteen months.

2 That on the expiration of his former term of service he enlisted as a private into the regular service for the term of three years. That he does not recollect the year, but thinks it was in the fall of the year: that he does not recollect the names of any of the officers of his company or of the Regiment, that the Army was under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. From Cheraw Hills station, the Army went to Salisbury, from thence to Guilford court-house where they met the British under Cornwallis, and a severe battle [Battle of Guilford County Court House, March 15, 1781] ensued; that the American Army was divided in three lines, and that his Regiment was stationed on the right of the front line, and that after the battle had continued some time, they retired behind the second line; that the Americans were obliged to retreat. From this place the Army went to Hillsboro, where the Army stayed about 24 hours; from that place, they went in pursuit of Cornwallis, whom they followed, to Ramours Mills [sic, Ramsey's Mills] on Deep River. Here they offered the British battle, and Cornwallis sent a reply, that he would fight them in the morning, but, during the night, had built a bridge over the River and fled. Greene now returned to Cheraw Hills, where the Army stayed till it was disbanded after the surrender of Cornwallis and the coming on of peace. He does not recollect exactly the amount of the last term of service, but knows it was not less than six months.

That he had discharges but they are now lost.

That when he entered the service, he lived in Chatham County in North Carolina from where about 20 years of go, he removed into Tennessee State near Newport where he resided a short time, and then removed to this state, to his present place of residence in this County and

State.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Attest: S/ Simeon Nash

S/ Benjamin Williams, B his mark

[James McCall, Jr., Esq., and Elijah Howell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13]

State of Ohio, Gallia County

The following is the Deposition of Mary Gibson of the County aforesaid to be Read as Evidence in an application that will be made to the Secretary of War by Benjamin Williams of said County, for his Revolutionary Service under the act of Congress 1832.

Before me James McCall, Jr., one of the Justices of the Peace for said County personally came Mary Gibson who being duly affirmed according to law deposeth and saith: That she is known to Benjamin Williams serving in the Revolutionary war: that she seen him the said Williams in the American Camp when serving in the Militia. And further that he the said Williams was absent from home that Report said he was Enlisted in the Continental Army. Also that she seen him Return home dressed in Regimentals and she did believes it was after Peace was made between Great Britain and the American Colonies. That he the said Williams told on his Return home that he had been Serving as a Regular Soldier under an Enlistment. That she verily believes what he the said Williams told her and further this deponent saith not.

Affirmed to and subscribed before me at the County aforesaid this 11th day of October A.D. 1833.

S/ Jas. McCall, Jr., JP

S/ Mary Gibson, X her mark

[p 14]

State of Ohio, Gallia County

The following is the Deposition of Jonathan Williams of the County aforesaid to be read as Evidence in an application to be made by Benjamin Williams to the War department for his Revolutionary Services under the act of June 1832.

Before me James McCall Jr. one of the Justices of the Peace for said County, personally came Jonathan Williams who being duly affirmed according to law, deposeth and saith

That he Recollects seeing Benjamin Williams return home from the Army of the Revolution that he the said Williams said he had been in the Continental Army of the United States of America, the deponent further states that he Recollects of seeing his mother a watking [awaiting? Or walking?] the door [?] yard and crying supposing her son was in a battle fought on the Yadkin River in North Carolina – and further that always heard his neighbors say that he the said B. Williams was a Revolutionary Soldier. And that he has known him the said Benjamin Williams ever since that time and he verily believes that what he the said Benjamin Williams told him was truth -- and further this deponent saith not.

Affirmed to and subscribed before me at the County aforesaid this 19th day of October A.D. 1833.

S/ Jas McCall, Jr., JP

S/ Jonathan Williams, X his mark

[p 16]

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned an acting justice of the Peace within and

for the County of Gallia State of Ohio, Benjamin Williams who being duly sworn, depose 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 one year and six months during my first tour of service, I served as a private, and for six months during my second term of service, I served as a private and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ Benjamin Williams, B his mark

Signed and sworn to this second day of December A.D. 1833 before me
S/ Jas. McCall, Jr., JP

[p 18]

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war that Benjamin Williams a private in Captain Pointer's [John Poynter's] Company of the 7th Regiment enlisted on the 6th of February 1777 for the term of three years, was Sergeant 1st May 1779, and that nothing more is said of him on said rolls.

Given under my hand this 24th day of December 1833.

S/ Wm Hill

[Note: The above certificate probably does not relate to this veteran since his description of his services does not include time served under John Poynter nor does it fit service done in the NC Continental line.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia.]