

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph McLain (McLane) S8805

f40NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 1/25/17

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 3]

North Carolina, Guilford County: November Term AD 1832

On this 20th day of November AD 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of our County Court the same being a Court of Record Joseph McLane Sr. aged 80 years of age and made oath in due form of law to the following declaration by him filed to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed this 7<sup>th</sup> June AD 1832.

That he served under the following named officers herein after stated (to wit) that he was born in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 1752 and moved in the fall of 1762 into North Carolina and settled in that part of it now called Guilford County in which he has ever since resided -- that at the commencement of the war he has known to be on the Whig [text missing, possibly "side"] and was constantly exposed to the [text missing, possibly "injuries"] inflicted on that party by the Tories, many of whom then were in his own section of North Carolina. That from the commencement of the war [in] 1775 until 1781 he spent half his time in small tours after the Tories sometimes down to Fayetteville, often down to the Caraway Mountains in Randolph County under Captain Forbis [Arthur Forbis], Col Paisley [John Paisley] and sometimes under Captain Whitesell [Henry Whitesell], and several trips up on the Yadkin after a Tory called Col. Brian [Samuel Bryan] —that he is unable to give any satisfactory history of any of them owing to his age and impaired memory -- that he believes his tour to Fayetteville was performed in the summer of 1777 and that he must have been out on this tour as much as six weeks -- that of the many tours he made among the high Hills of Randolph called Caraway Mountains, down to the Raft Swamps, down on the waters of Deep or Drowning Creek, and up on the River Yadkin, he cannot state their particular dates and length but states that he would be out sometimes a few days sometimes a few weeks, and be at home in like manner. That the Tories were so plenty in this section of Country that the Whigs were almost constantly forced to be armed and that his neighbors who were Whigs formed themselves into a company of minute men under the aforesaid officers to be always ready when called on and in a minutes warning—that in the summer of 1780 he volunteered as before and was marched under the command of Captain Forbis to Martinsville, thence to Salisbury, and thence to New Providence in the County of Mecklenburg and joined the troops under Gen Davidson [William Lee Davidson]; that the Americans shortly driven from New Providence by a superior force of the enemy under the Command of Rawdon & Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] - that he retreated with his officers back on this side the Yadkin River; that staying here a few days he was marched again south to a creek call Waxhaw for the purpose of annoying the enemy on their march from South Carolina—that on their retreat from the aforesaid New Providence the cavalry staid behind and attacked the advanced guards not far from Charlotte—that as soon as this was known Col. Paisley & Col. Armstrong volunteered and requested others to join them and returned to assist the Cavalry there

engaged—that he and others among whom was his neighbor [written over and illegible but probably William Albright referred to below] Albright joined them but they met their friends on the retreat—that he was discharged in the County of Mecklenburg, which discharge he still has and remits & and by means of which he is enabled to fix with certainty on the date of this service—that no time was allowed him for service until he arrived at New Providence & joined the troops under Genl Davidson—that his certificate certifies to three month service but that he was longer from home in marching out to New Providence and home again which must have taken near two weeks—that on his return home he again set out and joined Capt. Whitesell's Company at Troublesome Creek and assisted him in guarding prisoners—that after the Guilford Battle [March 15, 1781] he marched after and annoyed the British on their march to the south—that in this service under Capt. Whitesell he must have served 6 or 7 weeks—that he has no documentary or written evidence of his serving more than he transmits—that he is known to Geo Neese,<sup>1</sup> Mathias Swing<sup>2</sup> and Wm. Albright<sup>3</sup> with whom he done service and who can and are willing from their own personal knowledge to testify to his aforesaid services—that he hereby relinquishes any claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court

S/ [illegible signature of clerk]

S/ Joseph McClain



Joseph McLean further states that all his neighbors are willing to testify to his character for truth and their belief as to his services.

Sworn to as above

S/ Joseph McClain

[William Adams and Benjamin Ross gave the standard supporting affidavit. William Paisley, a clergyman, gave a separate standard supporting affidavit.]

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I George Neese hereby certify that I have long known Joseph McLean who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration, that it has been read in my hearing and that I know my personal knowledge that everything therein stated is true.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court

S/ George Neese, X his mark

We William Albright & Matthias Swing hereby certify that we have known Joseph McLean who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that it has been read in our hearing and believe from our personal knowledge that everything he states is true.

Subscribed & sworn to in open Court.

S/ William Albright



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1 [George Neese \(Nease\) S7268](#)

2 [Mathias Swing S7669](#)

3 [William Albright S6492](#)

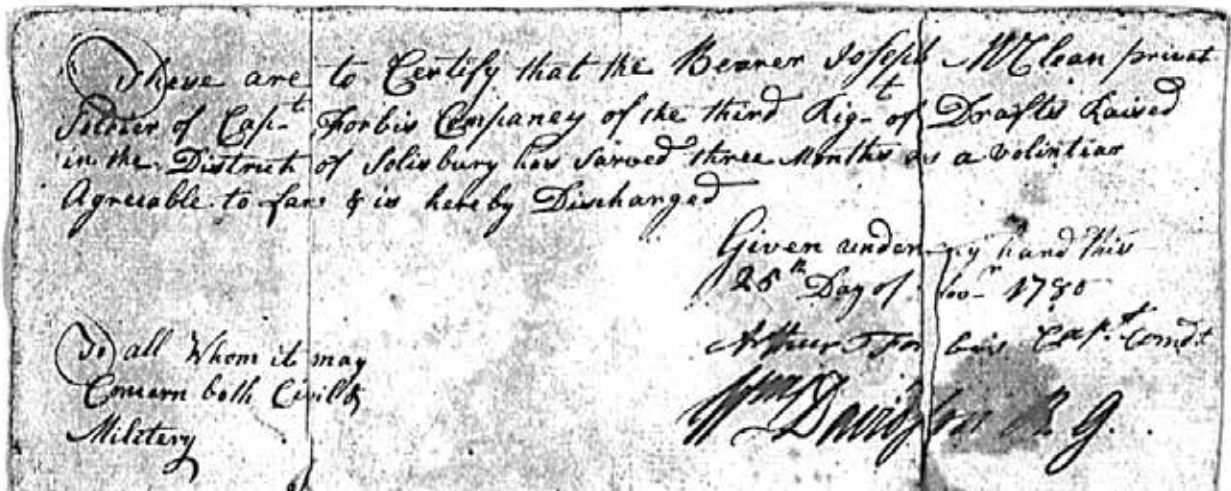
S/ Matthias Swing, X his mark

[p 16]

These are to Certify that the Bearer Joseph McLean private Soldier of Captain Forbis Company of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Drafts Raised in the District of Salisbury has Served three months as a Volunteer Agreeable to Law & is hereby Discharged.

Given under my hand this  
25<sup>th</sup> day of November 1780  
Arthur Forbis Captain Comd't  
Wm Davidson B. G.

To All Whom it may  
Concern both Civil &  
Military



The image shows a handwritten military discharge certificate on aged, slightly stained paper. The text is written in cursive ink. The main body of the text certifies that Joseph McLean, a private soldier in the 3rd Regiment of Drafts, has served three months as a volunteer and is being discharged. The certificate is signed by Arthur Forbis, Captain and Commander, and Wm Davidson B. G. The date is given as the 25th day of November 1780. At the bottom left, there is a separate line of text addressed to all whom it may concern, both civil and military.

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Soldier of Capt. Forbis Company of the third Reg. of Drafts Raised  
in the District of Salisbury has served three months as a Volunteer  
Agreeable to Law & is hereby Discharged

Given under my hand this  
25<sup>th</sup> Day of Nov. 1780  
Arthur Forbis Capt. Comd't  
Wm Davidson B. G.

To all Whom it may  
Concern both Civil &  
Military

[p 12: On February 21, 1833 in Guilford County North Carolina, Marshall McLean Junior son and heir of Joseph McLean gave testimony that he was present when his father's declaration was drawn; that he, affiant, was of the impression that his father believed he had served 2 years; that his father served as a private and that his father died December 23, 1832 leaving no widow but the following heirs: Marshall, John, Mary, Ann & Margaret.

*Marshall McLean* ]

[p 27]

North Carolina Guilford County

Be it known that on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me Jededeah Smith an acting Justice of the County Court William Smith who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath say that during the revolutionary war he served long and much with Joseph McLean mentioned in the foregoing declaration in a company commanded by Captain Forbis and Colonel Paisley – that he was a faithful Soldier from the commencement to the end of the revolutionary War and that in all his service must have served as much as an not less than two years – And this affiant further states that he is 80 years of age, is a Revolutionary pensioner and is so weak, feeble and indisposed that it would be with great inconvenience and fatigue he could be taken to court to testify as above, he is also known to Honorable A H Shepard.

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid

S/ J. L. Smith, JP

S/ William Smith<sup>4</sup>

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William Smith", written in dark ink on a light background. The signature is positioned below the printed name "S/ William Smith<sup>4</sup>".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia. The certificate was issued in favor of Marshall, John, Mary, Ann, & Margaret McLane, heirs of Joseph McLane, Deceased.]

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<sup>4</sup> [William Smith S7555](#)