

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Tunis Mucklewaine (Mucklewaine) S9043

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }  
Kanawha County } SS

On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 1833 personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said Kenhawa County in the State of Virginia Tunis Mucklewaine a resident of Kenhawa County in the State of Virginia aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in August 1776 he volunteered as an Indian Spy for three months under Captain Robert Davis in what is now Pendleton County in Virginia that he was marched to Evick's Fort and placed under Colonel Gregg. He with others of Captain Davis Company was ordered to spy westward on the North fork [of South Branch of Potomac River] and Seneca [Creek] and as far as the top of the Allegany [Allegheny] mountains which seperates the waters that falls into Cheat river from those of the North fork and other waters of the South Branch of Potomac. he done so until in November 1776 when he was discharged by Captain Davis. Then in March 1777 he volunteered to serve six months as an Indian Spy under the same Captain Robert Davis. Captain Davis was this year under Col. Hutton. he was again ordered to spy from Evicks fort to a fort [probably Fort Upper Tract] at a place called the upper tract and to westward on the North fork and its waters around their sources to the top of the Allegany. This year a man named Wilfong was returning home with a web from the weavers and a keg of five gallons of whiskey was taken prisoner by the Indians. On the succeeding night on the head of a right hand branch of Seneca creek (which empties into the North fork) he procured the Indians all to be drunk on the whiskey and escaped from them came to the fort at the tract and gave this narrative. Captain Davis with 20 chosen men of which declarent was one pursued the Indians. we found their trail and pursued them through what is now called Tygarts vally [Tygart Valley] in Randolph County crossing Leading creek, Sugar creek & the vally river [Tygart Valley River] below where Booths or Anglins ferry now is into & through Harrison & Tyler Counties now west augusta [sic? then Western District of Augusta County] then to the Ohio river near the mouth of Middle Island. we could not overtake them. we returned much fatigued from a long march with scanty provisions. Continued to spy as before till in September when he was discharged having served six months this tour as an Indian Spy. Then in March 1778 he again volunteered to spy for six month in a company commanded by Captain McCoy [possibly John McCoy] in that part of Virginia which is now Pendleton County in Virginia the same place where his above recited service was performed although it was then Augusta County. His Captain McCoy rendezvoused at Shriver's fort at the upper tract in now Pendleton County Va under the command of Col Dyer. He was ordered again to spy westward in what is now Pendleton County across the North fork as well as up and down it, and up Seneca creek to report at Shriviers and Evicks forts every two weeks. this he done till September 1778 when he was discharged having served six months this tour as a private and Indian Spy. Then again in May 1779 He again volunteered under Captain Trimble for six months as an Indian Spy in what is now Pendleton County in Va. He was ordered to what is now called Randolph County to Wilson's fort [about 4 mi N of Beverly] and ordered to spy across the Country towards Buckhannon and back every two weeks. this he did till in November late, when he was discharged. in this year the command was given to Col. Duvall who was what was in those days in Virginia called County Lieutenant. He was for many years in that part of Virginia a brave and vigilant officer.

In April 1780 he again volunteered in what is now Randolph County in Virginia under a captain Stuart to act as an Indian Spy. He was ordered to spy from Wilsons fort to Buckhannon thence back to Westfall's fort in Tygarts vally 15 miles above Wilsons and down the vally by Cassaday's fort two & a half miles above where Beverly Town now stands in Randolph County thence to Wilsons fort every two weeks. this he did till late in the month of October 1780 when he was

discharged having served six months this year as a private and Indian Spy. Again in March 1781 he was ordered out as an Indian Spy in what is now Randolph County under Captain Bogard by Col. Duvall for six months. he was ordered to spy in what is now Randolph, Lewis and Nicholas Counties, and report to Buckhannon [Fort Buckhannon of West Fork of Monongahela River] Warricks [Fort Warwick on the head waters of Greenbrier River] and Cassady's forts. this he did from in March 1781 till in September of the same year when he was discharged after a hard and perilous service of full six months. in this year much mischief was done by the Indians in western Va. In this year Cornwallis was Captured [19 Oct], and in 1782 he volunteered for three months in March under the command of Captain Bogard & Col. Duvall. he was ordered to perform the same routine of duty which he did in 1781 till in June 1782. There being more men remainingst home this year than usual he performed no more service this year. in 1783 he again volunteered in March to serve three months under Captain Wilson Col Westford he spied on the same ground performing the same tours of service reporting to the same forts which he did in 1781 & 1782 till in June 1783 when he was discharged having served three months in each of the years 1782 & 1783 as a private and Indian Spy. This was the last service during the continuance of the revolutionary war, but he acted as an Indian Spy a ranger or scout every year after down to the year 1795. He served during the revolution not less than three years & three months as a private and Indian Spy during the revolution from 1776 till 1783 including both years. He saw no general officers that he now remembers, nor did he see any regular troops. he saw militia and Indian Spies a kind of mixed service. He knew Col Gregg, Hutton, Matthews, Dyer, Westfall, & [William] Lowther. he does not now remember the Nos. of names of regts. he has no documentary evidence. He knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services. 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. Subscribed and sworn to this day and year aforesaid. Tunis hisXmark Mucklevaine

The seven interrogatories prescribed by the War Department were propounded to the applicant to which he answered as follows viz.

1<sup>st</sup>. That he was born on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 1759 in what is now Rockingham County in Virginia as he always heard.

2<sup>d</sup>. That he has no record of his age.

3<sup>d</sup>. That he was living in what is now Pendleton County in Va. from thence to Randolph thence to Nicholas thence to Kenhawa where he now lives.

4<sup>th</sup>. That he volunteered first in 1776, 77, 78, 79 & 1781 he was ordered out as an Indian Spy and in 1782 & 83. he again volunteered in all those years and three months

5<sup>th</sup>. He knew no general officers. He knew Col. Trigg, Hutton, Matthews, Dyer, Westfall and Lowther. He does not remember the Nos or names of regts. he saw no regular troops. The general circumstances of his service is set forth above.

6<sup>th</sup>. He received discharges from Captains Davis, McCoy, Trimble, Stuart, Bogard & Wilson. he has lost them all long since.

7<sup>th</sup>. He is known in his present neighbourhood to Daniel B. Hardway and Jacob Mucklevaine that can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. There are no Clergymen residing near him. sworn & subscribed this day and year aforesaid. Tunis hisXmark Mucklevaine

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth. Singleton wrote "Fraudulent" on Mucklevaine's report.]

Tunis Mucklevain — Pensioner, receives \$80. per annum

I the undersigned Tunis Mucklevain in pursuance of of the requisition of the Secretary of War give the following statement of my age & services as a soldier in the war of the Revolution to wit. I am a native of Rockingham County Va. was born (I think in 1763 - at the age of fifteen moved to the South branch and there about four years. And at the expiration of the four years I was drafted for a six months tour under Capt John McKay. Marched about eight miles and was discharged because of my bodily infirmities - I was an Indian Spy for about 3 yrs. during this

time I lived on the South brand under Capt Robert Davis - was frequently out on scouts, perhaps as many as thirty or forty times - was never further than fifteen or twenty miles from the Fort - ("Fort Evick") Thomas Bland engaged to get my pension - and by contract he was to have all the back draws [money due from the start of the pension act to the first payment] which was about two hundred dollars - I have received but forty dollars. ten dollars in cash and \$30 in goods at double price — the forgoing Declaration contains the truth & the whole truth. August 19, 1834.  
Witness Peyton B. Byrne Samuel Harrold Tunis his mark Mucklevain  
Phillip Statzer, Jeremiah Mace, Isaac Mace, Mrs. Montgomery & John D. Sutton - all say they have known Mucklevain for many years - and from his own repeated statements to them he is now in his sixty first year of age, their respective conversations with Mucklevain on the subject of his age are of recent date — A Copy W. G Singleton  
Memo. the consensus of opinion of the people of Mucklevains neighbourhood is that he is an imposture. W. G Singleton Jany 13, 1835

NOTE: Federal censuses of Kanawha County list Tunis Macelevani 50-60 in 1830 and Tunis McClevane 70-80 in 1840.