

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard McClewer (McCluer) S9428

f20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/31/09: rev'd 9/11/16

[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 'indcipherable' 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 4]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County

On this tenth day of December A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of said Court now sitting Richard McClewer a Resident of the United States in the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina aged 75 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 7th June 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

Some time before the Revolutionary War my father purchased land on Main Broad River in Tryon County now Rutherford County North Carolina where I now reside at that time we was all Tryed [sic ?]<sup>1</sup> those that was for liberty was placed on the liberty side those that Declared for the King was on the other side I volunteered myself for Independence for which I fought through the Revolutionary War I became a general volunteer and served from the lines where I was stationed under the following named officers. I was first called from the lines by Capt. McFadden [James McFadden] when we pursued the Tories & British to the Saluda River the year I am not able to say we was stationed at a Fort for some days from that station we returned. Shortly after I was one of the volunteers under the command of Capt. Adam Hampton to go and take the block house on pacotat [sic, Pacolet River] where we had some fighting we took possession of the station there was one or two of the Tories or British killed at the engagement the length of time I was out I do not know.<sup>2</sup> We returned home shortly after I was called on again to go against the British & Tories that was stationed near Prince's Fort<sup>3</sup> on Pacolet where we had a severe engagement many brave men fell at that place I was still under Capt. Adam Hampton we followed them in the morning and overtook them and made considerable havoc with them after that we returned home -- shortly after Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] came in our country we was not strong enough to stand we had to fly for Refuge in the Mountains we went on to Watauga where we were stationed from place to place until we had an army sufficient to justify our return Colonels Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and Sevier [John Sevier] and Col. Campbell [William Campbell] raised a force that was thought sufficient to face the enemy on our return my being well acquainted with the Country I was kept out as a spy and one of the foraging party

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<sup>2</sup> Earle's Ford, July 15, 1780, [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_earles\\_ford.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_earles_ford.html)

<sup>3</sup> Prince's Fort, July 17, 1780, [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_princes\\_fort.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_princes_fort.html)

before my return the battle was fought at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] I was in actual service from the year 1775 to the end of the War I was young we had no Regular Officers we lived on the frontiers and I was ready at every call and served faithfully for the blessings I now enjoy I can only say that I spent much of the prime of my life in the Defense of my Country and am now in want of strength that I then spent for those that enjoy the Blessing I was at the taking of Thicketty Fort<sup>4</sup> under Capt. Hampton I was at the siege of Ninety Six<sup>5</sup> under Capt. Inman [Joshua Inman] I was stationed at Russell's station under Hampton During the time I was on the lines to Georgia I at all times rode my own horse and found myself everything.

I hereby Relinquish every Claim to a pension except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of [any] State whatsoever.

Attest: S/ Thos. T. Birchett, Clerk

S/ Richard McLere [?]



Questions by the Court

Question: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: from the information from my parents I was born in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1757

Question: Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: I have the Records kept by my father in the family Bible at home

Question: Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: I was living in Tryon [County] now Rutherford County North Carolina where I have lived ever since and expect to continue at the same place as long as I live.

Question: How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer: I was a volunteer from the year 1775 to the end of the War. I have given in detail the principal circumstances as they occurred to my memory.

Question: State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I was under Col. Sevier on our march to Kings Mountain there was no General Officer on the Ground Col. Charles McDowell was the oldest Col. Cleveland, Campbell with several others was there I do not think I was under any of the Continental Officers there was but very few of us to contend with the Indians and Tories we had a long line of frontiers to guard that it kept us busy at all times

Question: Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer: I do not Recollect that I ever received a Discharge for we continued under the same officers from the time I left home until our return and then not Discharged for we did not know what hour we would be called for to go to our post.

Question: State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and

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<sup>4</sup> Thicketty Fort, July 26, 1780, [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_thicketty\\_fort.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thicketty_fort.html)

<sup>5</sup> Siege of Ninety Six, May 21, 1781-June 19, 1781,

[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_ninety\\_six.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html)

who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

[Answer:] Rev. John Blackwell & Major James Gray

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court

Witness: S/ Thos. F. Birckett, Clerk

S/ Richard McClewer {Seal}<sup>6</sup>

[John Blackwell, a clergyman, and James Gray gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid Richard McClewer and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that from the year 1776 to the year 1780 he was stationed as an Indian spy on the lines of the Indian boundary that whilst engaged in that service my first service from the lines was under Capt. McFadden after the British and Tories I think we went 100 miles on that tour returned to the lines and shortly after I was called on under Capt. Adam Hampton this was to storm a post on Pacolet from that place I returned home for a few days, before I returned to my post Capt. Adam Hampton called the volunteers and we went a tour on Thicketty Fort near to that place we had an Engagement I was at the Siege of Ninety Six under Capt. John McClain and placed under Capt. Inman at that place I was a tour on near to Augusta under Capt. James Tutt. I was two trips over the mountains in pursuit of the Indians under Capt. Adam Hampton. This is the service that I rendered when I claim Eighteen months service for we were kept generally out for when we returned we went to our post and relieved the man of families who returned home it is impossible for me to identify the dates as to the length of my service and those are the only reasons I can state that justify me in saying 18 months because I clearly believe it was not less for I never knew myself out of Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of July 1833

S/ Martin Beam, JP

S/ Richard McClewer [?]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard McClewer". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized and difficult to decipher.

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State of North Carolina Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County and state aforesaid Alexander McFadden<sup>7</sup> and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that he was well acquainted with Richard McClewer during the Revolutionary war on to the present day that he knows that he the said McClewer served faithfully as an Indian spy and on the lines and at several forts this service was from 1776 to 1781 we was very often together I cannot identify the time but I know that we was generally engaged I was in service in company with him after the Tories & British as far out as Saluda. I was with him several tours after the Indians and when we returned we had to go to our post on the lines we Young or single man had to be on duty to save

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<sup>6</sup> same handwriting as the body of the declaration—unlikely to be the actual signature of the veteran as other examples copied herein show.

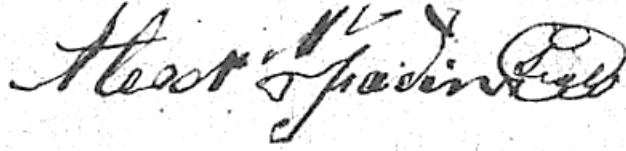
<sup>7</sup> [Alexander McFadin \[McFadden\] S8887](#)

the helpless women and children from the Tomahawk and scalping knife I know he served faithfully.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 20th day of July 1833

S/ Martin Beam JP

S/ Alex<sup>r</sup> McFadden




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State of North Carolina Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid James Gray<sup>8</sup> and after being duly sworn according to law deposes and saith that he was well acquainted with Richard McClewer who has sworn to the above Declaration during the Revolutionary War and to the present time that [affiant] knows that he served on the lines and at several forts that he was much of his time engaged in the Service that he was out with him on several Scouting parties that he was in company with him at the siege of Ninety Six that he was under his command twice in the Indian Nation that he believes he went a tour to Georgia near to Augusta that he knows he done considerable service and believes that from the year 1776 to 1780 he served more than 18 months. Sworn to and subscribed before me the 23rd day of July 1833.

S/ Andrew Beam, JP

S/ James Gray



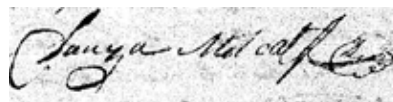
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State of North Carolina Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for said County Danza Metcalf<sup>9</sup> and after being duly sworn deposes and saith that he is well acquainted with Richard McClewer who has sworn and subscribed to the above Declaration before and since the Revolutionary War I know I served with him in several Tours of duty, that I served with him on the lines and at the forts say at Waddleton Fort at Prince's Fort at Earle's Fort at White Oak Fort and at Russell's Fort I cannot say the length of time but one thing I well remember that we was for several years that we done nothing but guard the frontiers I well remember that we was under the command of Col. William Graham Col. Andrew Hampton Col. Robert Porter Col. Charles McDowell. Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_ day of May 1833.

S/ John Logan, JP

S/ Danza Metcalf



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<sup>8</sup> [James Gray S8594](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Danza Metcalf W4280](#)

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State of North Carolina Rutherford County

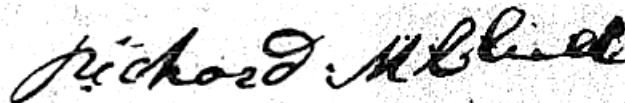
Personally appeared before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid Richard McCluer and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that from old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear to the precise length of his Service but to the best of his Recollection not less than the periods stated below and in the following grades and for which service I claim a Pension

1776 Volunteer under Capt. McFadden -- served --	5 months
1777 Volunteer under Capt. McFadden -- served --	2 weeks
Volunteer under Capt. Adam Hampton -- served --	2 weeks
Volunteer under Capt. John McClain --	1 month
1778 Volunteer under Capt. James Tutt	2 months
1780 Volunteer under Capt. Adam Hampton	1 month
1781 Volunteer under Capt. Adam Hampton this was	<u>6 months</u>
	17 months

Seventeen months is all the time that I am able from my memory to swear to I know I served that length of time and believe that I served much longer but cannot identify the time so as to swear positively to the length of time. Sworn to and subscribed before me the 11th day of November 1833

S/ John Logan JP

S/ Richard McCluer



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Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for said [County] Richard McClewer and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of my recollection I served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the grade of a common soldier

1776 to 1779 -- I volunteered under Capt. James McFadden and was stationed under the command of Col. William Graham to guard the lines and report to the following forts viz Wadleton Fort Princes Fort Earle's Fort White Oak and Russell's Forts we was commanded alternately by Col. Graham, Hampton -- Porter & McDowell part of this time I was under Capt. Adam Hampton. This service was for no less than in active service 18 months

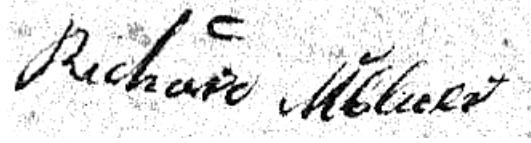
1780 -- under the Command of Capt. James Miller and returned under the command of Col. Shelby on to Kings mountain there I saw Colonels Sevier Campbell Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] 3 months

1781-- under the command of Capt. James Gray we joined the Main Army at the head of the Catawba River under the command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] we went a considerable length in the Cherokee Nation and done much spoil 3 months

This makes my service Twenty-four months for which service I claim a pension sworn to and subscribed before me the 13th day of May 1835

S/ John Logan, JP

S/ Richard McCluer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard McCluer". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$56.44 per Annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months and 28 days in the North Carolina militia.]