

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Salathiel Martin <sup>1</sup> W1044

Mary Martin

f120NC

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. 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 4]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County:

On this 27 day of February 1845 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace Miss [sic] Mary Martin a Resident of the County and State aforesaid aged Eighty-one years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July the 7th 1838 Entitled an act granting half pay and pension to certain widows and in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed March the 3rd 1843 Entitled an act granting one year's full pay to certain widows and in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June the 17th 1844 Entitled an act to continue the pension of certain widows

That she is the widow of Salathiel Martin who was a Capt. in the North Carolina militia in the Army of the revolution in Col. Armstrong's [Martin Armstrong's] Regiment and served 18 months fought the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] that affiant does not recollect whether he was in the service prior to the year 1780 but she recollects that he was in the service that year that affiant does not recollect the Col. but he was under at the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780], but she has often heard him talk of being at that battle. That affiant does not recollect any other battles that he was in until Cornwallis and General Greene fought at Guilford Court house he was either drafted or ordered out she don't know which, he marched from Surry Court house and joined Greene a few days before the battle I think it was late in the winter or early in the spring when this happened and he never returned home for better than a year he went to the South with Greene but what they done affiant does not know. That affiant has not been able to find any documentary evidence relating to his services or of their marriage further than an old leaf in their old family Bible in Salathiel Martin's own handwriting said record was -- always been in affiant's possession.

She further declares that she was married to the said Salathiel Martin on the 23rd day of April 1782 by William Cook Esquire in Surry County North Carolina. That her husband the aforesaid Salathiel Martin died on the 6th day of May 1827. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1784 viz. at the time above stated.

S/ Mary Martin, X her mark

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt61263-160-55

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and I further certify that the said Miss Mary Martin is from bodily infirmity unable to attend Court and full faith may be given to her Statements. In witness whereof I have set my hand this 27th day of February 1845 and that she is a widow at this time.

S/ J. E. Bowman, JP

[p 16 Family Register—badly torn/worn at top and bottom and along the edges:

David born Marched 1783

Thomas born February 29, 1785, living in Estill County Kentucky, in 1851

Elizabeth born March 29, 17\_\_

George Washington born February 11, 1789, living in Jefferson County, Indiana, in 1851

William born February \_\_, 1791

Nancy born May 12, 1793, married \_\_ Shumate

Mary born April 9, 1795

James born \_\_15, 1796

Wilson born June 17, \_\_

Robert born \_\_ 23, 1801]

March 1783  
Thomas Martin was born on  
the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 1785  
Elizabeth Martin was born  
Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> of March  
George Washington Martin  
11<sup>th</sup> February 1789  
William Martin was born  
of February 1791  
Nancy Martin was born on the  
of May 1793  
Mary Martin was born the  
April 1795  
James Martin was born on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
1796  
Wilson Martin born 17<sup>th</sup> June  
Robert Martin born 23<sup>rd</sup>  
1801

[p 9: On April 8, 1857 in Claiborne County Tennessee, the widow, then stating her age as 93,

filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier; that she was married on or about the year 1781 in Surry County North Carolina by William Cook, JP; that her name prior to her marriage was Mary Cook; that her husband died in Claiborne County Tennessee about the year 1826; and that she remains his widow; she signed this document with her mark.]

[facts in file: widow's name before her marriage was Mary Cook; she was 93 years old when she filed an affidavit dated April 8, 1857 in Claiborne County, Tenn; in another document her birth date is given as August 23, 1763; she died March 3, 1858;Salathiel Martin is described as being 6 feet nine inches tall.]

[Veteran's widow was initially pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum subsequently increased to \$600 per annum based on her husband's service as a Captain in the North Carolina militia.]

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The following document is NOT found in the pension files but since it reflects some of Salathiel Martin's own experience (and names some of his comrades in arms), I have included it for whatever interest it may be to those who read this transcript.]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County<sup>2</sup>

By virtue of a commission to us directed from the Honorable Superior Court of Law and Equity for the District of Salisbury State of North Carolina bearing date the 19th Day of September 1806 by Mr Chambers E. M. Esqr. in a certain cause wherein Ridges orphans by their next friend Jonathan Haines is Plaintiff and William T. Lewis and others are Defendants-

We John Word & William Rash Justices assigned to keep the peace for the County and State first above mentioned have caused Salathiel Martin to come before us this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord 1806 and being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God did depose and say that he Salathiel Martin of lawful age that to the best of his remembrance in the year 1778 or before there was an act of Assembly of the State of North Carolina for the purpose of balloting into the Continental Service for the space of nine months that he then was the Captain of a company of Militia Soldiers in the County of Surry and State of No Carolina and that he received orders from his Colonel of said County of Surry to parade with his company at the Court house to carry the said act of assembly into effect which this Deponent did and made his draft and that to the best of his recollection Godfrey Ridge, David Riggs, Michael Henderson, George Roberts and William Davis was drafted as nine months Soldiers and that they all refused to go into the Service but Michael Henderson and lay out and would not march which subjected them to serve three years in the Continental Service as this Deponent believes was the act of assembly.

This Deponent further saith that in the spring of the year 1780 that he this Deponent was then informed that William Ridge gave Wm T. Lewis two Negro girls by the name of Sal and Nan two of the Negroes now in dispute for him said Lewis to enlist and put a man into the Continental Service in the place of his son Godfrey Ridge. This Deponent further saith that he remembers that the said William T. Lewis had the said Negro girl Nan in his possession in the spring of the year 1780 in consequence of the bargain it was said he had made with the said William Ridge and after this contract should have been made the said William T. Lewis said and did affirm that he has put a man in Godfrey Ridges place. This Deponent as Captain of said

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<sup>2</sup> NC State Library and Archives, CR085.508.136, Estate Records, Rowan Co., NC, Folder: William Ridge (1785)

company suffered said Godfrey Ridge to remain at home which he would not before have done could he have taken him.

Question 1<sup>st</sup>. Do you no [sic, know] anything of Thomas Ridge or his Character?

Answer : Thomas Ridge never belonged to my company as I recollect nor do I believe that he was for many years in Surry County only as a transient person until after the death of William Ridge in 1780 after the battle at King's Mountain no[r] do I believe he could know anything of the contract between William T Lewis and William Ridge only by hearsay from said Negroes. Thomas Ridge's character was not of the best in the County when I was acquainted with him. He was said to have a connection with bad men.

Question 2<sup>nd</sup>. Do you know anything of the character of John Combs, William Combs, Mason Combs, Biram Combs, Jeremiah Combs, Thomas Cody, Godfrey Cody, William Cody or John Stacy or any of them?

Answer: I believe that they were all relations of William Ridge by marriage and also was counted disaffected to the American cause- that the most of them took an active part with the British and some of them murdered a certain Francis Bradley in Mecklenburg County North Carolina that is Godfrey Ridge, Biram Combs and Jeremiah Combs as they returned home from the British camps.

Question 3<sup>rd</sup>. Do you know anything of William Cook's giving one of the Negroes returned by Nathan Allen in the schedule after he had married the widow of William Ridge to the County of Surry?

Answer: There was a Negro fellow named Jack that William Cook some time after the said Allen married the widow of William Ridge he the said Cook was appointed Guardian to said Ridge's children and that he sold said Negro fellow Jack for the purpose of getting a peace [sic, piece] of land to support said children.

Question 4<sup>th</sup> Do you know of any other children of William Ridges that now is mentioned in the complainants Bill?

Answer: I do there was two of the oldest children of William Ridge that was not mentioned in the Complainants Bill of Complaint to wit Godfrey Ridge and Nancy Ridge and some others said all to be base begotten children that is not begotten in wedlock.

Question 5<sup>th</sup>. Do you know anything of Nathan Allen's supporting the children of William Ridge after the said Allen married the said widow?

Answer. Said Allen after intermarrying with said widow of said Ridge supported the children about two years and received nothing for it as ever I heard of except an old horse he took away with him.

Question 6<sup>th</sup>. Do you not remember to hear that in the year 1780 when John Goings robbed Wm T. Lewis one of the present defendants that said Lewis supposed he had lost a bill of Sale he had got of William Ridge for the before mentioned two Negroes Sal and Nan?

Answer. I did at that time to have heard and did you or did you not hear that the said William T Lewis had applied to Winifred Ridge wife of William Ridge deceased John Fielder son in law to William Ridge Godfrey Ridge son of said William Ridge for them to give a second bill of sale for said Sal and Nan in consequence of his supposing he had lost the first. The said Lewis supposing them as he said the only persons that had the management of his William Ridge's affaires they did give said Lewis a bill of sale for said Negroes Sal and Nan. Answer I understood so

Question 7<sup>th</sup>: Do you or do you not think that the recovery that was made by William Cook and Jonathan Haines Guardians of the children of William Ridge deceased against William T Lewis

County Court of Surry No Carolina that the amount of said judgment was the worth of Kate and her three children that is mentioned in the Complainants Bill?

Answer. I do think it was the value of Kate and her children at that time and I understood that the said Lewis did pay up the said Judgment.

Question 8th: Have you or have you not known Keziah Jarvis of Surry County No Carolina?

Answer. I have known him upwards of thirty years.

Do you conceive him to [be] friendly to William T. Lewis one of the present defendant?

Answer. I do no [sic, know] he is not; I have known them to dispute frequently and I do believe he would do him all the injury he could in carrying on anything that the said Jarvis thought was not right and honest-

All the before mentioned questions were all asked by Wm T Lewis in a former deposition taken by him.

Question the 1st. by the Plaintiff: Did you or did you not know of any bargain that should have been made by William Ridge and William T Lewis of your own knowledge of any Negroes?

Answer. I never did only from the report of William T Lewis and his brothers.

Question the 2nd. Did you ever know that William T Lewis did put a man into the service in the room of Godfrey Ridge?

Answer. I did not only he told me he had.

Question the 3rd. Do you think there could be full faith and credit paid to Michael Bacon and Isbel Bacon his wife when on their oath?

Answer. I do not think there could.

Question the 4th. Do you know of your own knowledge how William T Lewis came into possession of the Negroes now in dispute with said Lewis and Jonathan Haines?

Answer. I do not only by hearsay and further the said Deponent saith not.

Subscribed and sworn to the 7th day of July at the house of Salathiel Martin in Powell's Valley in the State of Tennessee in the year of our Lord 1806

S/ Salathiel Martin

S/ John Word, JP

S/ William Rusk, JP