

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Shaw W127

Sarah

fn36NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/8/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 17]

State of Tennessee Lincoln County: SS

On this 19th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Court Sessions now sitting, William Shaw a resident of said County of Lincoln, aged about seventy-five 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 first entered the service in Guilford County State of North Carolina in the fall of 1775 under the command of Colonel James Martin Colonel Com [commandant], John Paisley Lieutenant Colonel, Captain Arthur Forbis, Lieutenant William Wiley & Ensign William Gilmer were my company officers. I also served a second tour under the above mentioned officers: but have no distinct recollection of the exact time I served in either, the two tours he thinks between two & three months.

My third tour was against the Cherokee Indians in 1776 under the command of Brigadier General Rutherford the regimental and Company officers above mentioned and was in service between three & four months.

I again, in the latter part of the year 1779 I think served a tour of three months in the capacity of orderly Sergeant in Captain Smith Moore's Company under the command of Colonel Isaacs, and of my subaltern officers, name was Chesley Barnes, the others are forgotten. During this tour we were principally engaged in ranging through Randolph County, Caraway mountains, Pedee, Montgomery County and others, against the Tories & others.

Again in 1780 a short time before General Gates defeat at Camden I served a tour of duty under the command of Captain Whitsell to go to Suffolk in Virginia for arms and ammunition. We marched direct to Halifax from which place Colonel Long Quarter Master General, I believe, sent other wagons under the escort of our guard: we proceeded to Suffolk where we obtained both, & returned by the same route, and were engaged therein between two & three months.

I also served a tour of three months under Colonel Paisley against the Tories on Pedee River and the adjoining Counties, but cannot distinctly state the exact period when it was.

In the latter part of the year 1780 I attached myself to a company of Light Horse under the command of Captain John Gillespie, Daniel Gillespie Lieutenant & George Parker cornet –

Daniel Gillespie subsequently became our Captain, George Parks Lieutenant & William Kerr Cornet. John Gillespie having been promoted to the command of a Regiment. From this period until the conclusion of Peace we were continually employed in scouring the country from Guilford County in North Carolina to Waxsaw Creek in South Carolina and were employed in various skirmishes with the Tories and British. One at Charlotte,¹ one at Wachams Lane [sic, Walkup or Wahab's Plantation of Lane]² and sundry others of less note. We were in active service about two years and six months, two years of which I served in the capacity of a orderly Sergeant. Our principal commander was Colonel William R Davie both at Charlotte and Wachams Lane.

The different interrogatories propounded by the War Department I make the following reply

Agreeably to record of my birth, I was born on the 5th day of February 1758 in Killeleagh parish [sic, Killyleagh Parish] County Down in Ireland, and in the year 1772 I emigrated to America and settled in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina where I continued to reside through the revolutionary war and there afterwards until the fall of the year 1817 when I removed to the State of Tennessee and settled in Lincoln County where I have continued ever since. On each tour of duty I was called on I entered the same as a volunteer, with the exception of the tour against the Cherokee Indians when I was drafted. And in addition to the officers already mentioned was Colonel Alexander Martin who was a regular Officer who commanded us on my first tour of duty in 1775 employed principally against the Scotch Tories under McDonald, McLeod and others.

I received a discharge of each tour of duty I was engaged in, together with certificates of pay, all of which I lost by the burning of my house; and am therefore unable to say here precisely how long I was in service, but was in all between three & four years.

I am known to my neighbors where I reside and presume that some of them will appear before the Court & testify for me.

And I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Inge, Clerk

S William Shaw



[Ebenezer McEwen, a clergyman, and David Cooper gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 30]

State of Tennessee Lincoln County: On this 25 day of September 1833 personally appeared before me David McGahey an acting justice of the peace in said County James McBride³ who being duly sworn upon his oath doth say that he is acquainted with William Shaw, formerly of Guilford County, North Carolina, but now of Lincoln County, Tennessee, an applicant for a pension. That he saw him in the service of his Country in the year 1775 in the Regiment of Colonel James Martin of the Militia – that he afterwards served a tour with him of 3 months and Colonel Isaacs Regiment, and a tour to Suffolk for arms of two or three months, and

¹ September 26, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_charlotte.html

² September 21, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wahabs_plantation.html

³ [James McBride S4192](#)

subsequently another tour of three months under Colonel Paisley – and further that he knew of his serving in the Light Horse as they were then called, under Captain Gillespie, but has no distinct recollection of the directions of said service only that he remained therein until the war ended.

S/ James McBride

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James McBride". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

[fn p. 9: on January 6, 1845 in Lincoln County Tennessee, Sarah Shaw, 77, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Shaw a pensioner under the 1832 act for his service in the revolution; that she married him June 7th, 1787; that her husband died August 25, 1842.]

[facts in file: three children are referred to in the file documents, all born before 1793; their names are given as Elizabeth, Joseph and the other possibly Sarah.]

[fn p 5: marriage bond issued to William Shaw and James McBride in Guilford County North Carolina, May 24, 1787 to secure the marriage of Shaw to Sarah Job.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a private in the cavalry of the North Carolina militia.]