

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Lew Williams¹ W1344

Winnefred

fn43VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/24/11

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Rutherford County: County Court August Sessions 1832

On this 23rd day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court Lew Williams aged seventy years, before Henry Trott, James C Mitchell and Varner C. Cowan Justices of said Court now sitting, 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 of June 1832 – That he was born 19th of June 1763 Dinwiddie County State of Virginia, and in the year 1777 at Brunswick Court [house] in said State he entered the service of the United States as a substitute for Henry Harrison, under Captain John Williams, – Major Williams commanded the Corps – and there was two other companies of militia under the same Officers. He was marched from Brunswick down to Hick's Ford now called Ball ford [??] and then to Sea Cay [??] old fields to South Hampton [Southampton] County and at this place the Corps was encamped, three or four weeks, and news reached the commanding officer from Norfolk, that the services of the Corps was not then [indecipherable word], and he was discharged by Major Williams and Captain Williams and returned home, having been out six or seven weeks – at Brunswick Court house in the same year he became a substitute for Jehu Peoples, and joined the service under Captain James Marshall Colonel Richard Elliott then commanded, and there was then in service several other militia companies – Elliott marched the Court to Hick's Ford and to Cabin Point on James River, and he was stationed at this place until discharged by Colonel Elliott, having served six weeks. His recollection is, that Colonel Rolly Dowman [Rawleigh Downman] had a command at Cabin Point at the same time – In the latter part of 1777, at Brunswick Court house he again entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Turner Benun [Turner Bynum] – & rendezvoused at the Long Ordinary two miles above Petersburg – At this place General Muhlenberg and Colonel Rolly Dowman commanded. There were other Troops than the Court of which deponent was attached at the Long Ordinary. He was marched to the Chuckytuck [Chuckatuck] Mills, and there Major Boys [possibly Major William Boyce] took the command, for here General Muhlenberg and Colonel Dowman left the Corps and were stationed at or near Suffolk, – at this place he remained in camp until the expiration of his three months Tour, and declarant was discharged – In the year 1778 he again joined the service at Brunswick Court house, in a troop of light horse, under Captain Peter Jones, and was marched by South Hampton Courthouse to near Norfolk – and here declarant was in a skirmish and was wounded by a British trooper in the knee, which has disabled him up to the present moment – General Muhlenberg commanded at the time at that section of Country – he did not recover from his wound until his

¹ Alias Lewelling Williams, Lewellen Williams; BLWt36621-160-55. See N. A. Acct. No. 874 No. 050 194 –Not Half Pay Lew Williams

term of three months service had expired and then he was discharged – In Brunswick County 1781, he volunteered under Captain James Harrison, and was marched to near Petersburg, where General Robert Lawson and Major John Holcomb took the command of the Corps. He was marched to Poultry [?] Fork, and there joined Baron Steuben – from here we retreated to Prince Edward [County] and then to Charlotte [Charlottesville?] – and at this point, General Lawson marched his Court to James River and crossed at Carter's Ferry, and after one day's March, he joined the Marquis de Lafayette, and marched with him towards York [Yorktown]. The time for which he had joined the service having expired on the March, declarant was discharged – He was out only six weeks on this last campaign. Deponent served two full Tours of three months each, as a volunteer, and more than four months more as a substitute and as a volunteer. He has no documentary evidence by which to prove his services and he knows of no person by whom he can prove all his services now living. He can prove them in part.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ J. R. Laughlin, Clk

S/ Lew Williams



[Martin Clark, a clergyman, and John Coleman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories Question 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer, In the State of Virginia Dinwiddie County 19th June 1763

Question 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer he has a record of his age, at home in his Bible

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer – I lived in Brunswick County State of Virginia and lived there until I moved to the State of Tennessee where I have lived ever since.

Question 4th 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 volunteered – and was a substitute for Henry Harrison and Jehu Peoples

Question 5th 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 recollect the Baron Steuben and Marquis de Lafayette – He has no recollection of the names of the Continental or Militia Troops with whom he served – He was a Substitute in 2 tours for one Harrison and Peoples and he entered the service at Brunswick Courthouse – and was at Southampton and near Norfolk, and was under the command of Major Wilkins – and he was under the command of Colonel Richard Elliott – and he recollects Colonel Rolly Downman – he was at Hicks ford, Cabin Point, and James River. He was under the command of Major Boys or Bois [Boyce] – and under Muhlenberg, near Suffolk – and was near Norfolk, while commanded by Captain Jones – marched to a troop of Light Horse, and was wounded in the knee – by a British Trooper – He was under the command of General Bob Lawson, and joined Steuben at Pouty [?] fork and retreated with him, and afterwards under Lawson joined Lafayette – and was

discharged before he reached Norfolk.

Question 6th 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 did – from Major Wilkins and Captain Williams and from Colonel Richard Elliott – He has lost them.

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer, John Tombs, Emanl Tombs, James Landford, John Coleman, Jesse Coleman, James Mertin [?], Thos. S. Anthony, Luckett David Jacob Payne

[fn p. 19: On April 14, 1853 in Shelby County Tennessee, Winnifred Williams, 65, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating she is the widow of Liwelling Williams, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Franklin County Virginia; that they were married by Joseph Pedigo a preacher of the gospel; that her name prior to her marriage was Winefred Lovell; that her husband died November 28, 1838 in Rutherford County Tennessee and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[fn p. 16: On August 21, 1855 in Shelby County Tennessee Winefred Williams [sic], 69, gave testimony that she is the widow of Lewellen Williams; that she is a pensioner for the service of her husband in the revolution; that she was married to him on November 9th, 1803 by Joseph Pedigo; that her name prior to her marriage was Winefred Lovell; that her husband died in Rutherford County Tennessee November 22, 1838; that she makes this declaration to obtain the bounty land due her as the widow of a revolutionary war pensioner. She signed her application with her mark.]

[fn p. 11: marriage bond issued to Lewellen Williams and Markham Lovell November 17, 1803 securing the marriage of Lewellen Williams to Winnifrer Lovel [sic] issued in Franklin County Virginia.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months and 6 days service as a private of infantry & cavalry in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the same rate commencing February 1853.]