

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Merriman W157 Martha Merriman f25VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 5/26/13

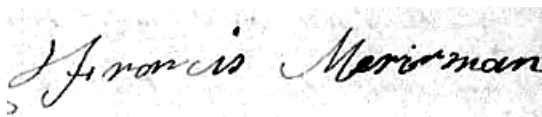
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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.]

[p 13]

State of Tennessee First Judicial circuit

On this 25th day of January 1820 before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts of law and equity in and for the State aforesaid, personally appeared Francis Merriman, aged about 66 or sixty-seven years, resident in Knox County in the Circuit aforesaid, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War:" namely, that he the said Francis Merriman, enlisted in Powhatan County in the State of Virginia as a regular Soldier in the Revolutionary War in the company commanded by Captain George Nicholas, of the Second Regiment of infantry of the Virginia line, said Regiment commanded by Colonel Spotswood [Alexander Spotswood]; that said enlistment took place sometime in the year 1776, shortly previous to the Declaration of Independence, the precise time not now recollected, and was for the term of three years; that he continued in the service of the United States under said enlistment for the full period thereof, when he was regularly discharged from service at or near Valley Forge in Pennsylvania; that he was in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], of Germantown [October 4, 1777], of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] and of Stony Point [July 16, 1779] during said enlistment and afterwards in a battle at Petersburg [April 25, 1781], and at the capture of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781], with many skirmishes at various places; that he is in reduced circumstances, and old, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; that his discharge has been lost or so mislaid, that he cannot procure it, that he has no other evidence of his said services, that is now in his power, than his own statement; that he never was in any way a pensioner of the United States, or of any State, and hereby relinquishes any pretension to such a claim, except under the present application.

S/ Francis Merriman



[p 11]

Schedule

State of Tennessee Knox County: SS July Sessions 1820

On this 6th day of July 1820, personally appeared in open court, being a court of record, (having the power of fine and imprisonment and also having been made a court of record by the laws of said state,) the said County, Francis Merriman aged 68 years resident in the County of Knox aforesaid, who, being duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, declare that he served in

the revolutionary war as follows: he enlisted in the company of Captain George Nichols in the 2nd Virginia Regiment for the term of 3 years which term he served out, – that his original declaration was dated January 25th 1820 as well as he remembers and his certificate is dated May 5th, 1820 –

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. –

One small horse, one old mare [?], two small Colts – a cow, and calf, two hogs & fourteen pigs – 9 old chairs – 17 plates, ½ dozen common cups & saucers, – one old pot – one kettle, one skillet, ½ knives and forks, one old axe – The declarant further states that he owes by notes of hand at Court one hundred dollars – besides small neighborhood accounts – the principal part is owing for the support of my family which consists of myself and wife both very old and infirm, and one son about 18 years old – how long he may remain with us is uncertain – and three daughters, who labor for their own support. –

Sworn to in open Court the date first above written

S/ Francis Merriman

[The court valued the property shown in the schedule at \$15]

[p 9: On November 3, 1845 in Davidson County Tennessee, Michael Bradbury, 54, filed a claim under the 1838 act for the pension due Martha Meriman [sic], the widow of Francis Meriman; the claimant states he is the son-in-law of Francis Meriman, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum; that Francis died August 19, 1822 leaving his widow Martha who departed this life July 5, 1844 leaving the following children as her heirs at law of Martha Merriman, Phebe Porter (widow), Dicy Merriman now Dicy Bradbury, wife of the affiant.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Bradbury". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. To the right of the signature, there is a small square bracket symbol "]".

[p 8: Certificate issued by the clerk of the Powhatan County Virginia court stating that records in his office indicate that Benjamin Watkins solemnized the marriage of Francis Merryman [sic] and Martha Amonett on July 28, 1791.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing January 25, 1820, for service as a private in the Virginia Continental line. His widow's heirs were pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836 and ending July 5th, 1844 when she died.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

1778

May 30th I do hereby Certify that Francis Merryman was Enlisted in Captain George Nicholas

Company in the 2nd Virginia Regiment the 13th day of August 1776 to serve 3 years from that date.

June 17 1783

A Copy

S/ J Shackelford, CBA

The Bearer Francis Merriman Soldier in the 2nd Virginia Regiment having served the full time for which he was enlisted is hereby discharged.

Given under my hand this 17th day of August 1779

S/ William Woodford, BG

June 17, 1783

A Copy

J Shackelford CBA