

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Stevens W19109 Margaret Stevens PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } Ss.

County of Brooke } On this thirteenth day of July 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the court of Brooke county, now sitting, William Stevens, resident in the said county and state aged seventy nine years past, 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 enlisted, as a private, in the army of the united states, in the beginning of the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six, with Lieutenant Gib Jones [Gibbs Jones], in the town of Lancaster in the state of Pennsylvania, for the term of one year, and served in Captain Romains [sic: Bernard Romans's] company of Artillery; After enlistment was marched to Philadelphia, thence to New York, and thence proceeded up the North river into Canada – Col. Anthony Wayne and Genl. [John] Sullivan were in the same service. Genl. [Arthur] St. Clair was commander. When the troops were advanced about one day an an half's march beyond Quebeck [sic: before reaching Quebec City], they were ordered to retreat, which was done as far as Ticonderoga, where they remained all the summer of 1776 and until march 1777, the declarant having been detained three months over the time for which he was enlisted. This overtime was ordered to be performed by Genl. Wayne of the Pennsylvania line, there not being at the time of the expiration of enlistment, any other Artillery soldiers at Ticonderoga. When permitted to leave that place, we marched over ice and through snow to Philadelphia, where we were discharged, or rather permitted to retire from the service, as there was then there no regular Officer to sign a written discharge, nor was any pay or allowance given, and declarant had to sell his coat, on his return home, in order to procure provisions. Many applications were made for our settlement and pay, before we left Phil'a. and although often promised by a person who acted as our Lieut. commandant (Andrew Caldwell) yet none such was ever obtained, and we were oblinded to return home, pennyles and bare of cloathing, and without a written discharge.

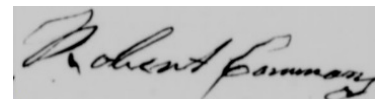
At the time of enlistment, declarant resided in the county of Lancaster, in the State of Pennsylvania.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. William hisXmark Stevens

On the same day, and before the said Court, personally appeared Robert Cummins [Robert Commans, pension application S9259], a resident in the county of Brooke aforesaid, aged Eighty years past, who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that in the beginning of the year 1777 this deponent became acquainted with the declarant, William Stevens, whilst the said Stevens was in the service of the United States as a private soldier in Capt. Romains Company of Artillery; It was when the said Declarant was on his retreat from Quebeck, after the fall of Genl. Montgomery [Richard Montgomery, 31 Dec 1775]; deponent became personally acquainted with Declarant at Ticonderoga, that previously the troops to which the Declarant belonged joined the troops with the deponent at the Three Rivers [Trois-Rivieres], from thence we were marched to Chambelee [sic: Chambly], which place we burned, thence to the Isle of moat on the lower end of lake champlain [sic: Isle La Motte at the northern end of Lake Champlain], thence to crown point, the English still in pursuit, and thence to Ticonderoga; and that he is perfectly confident that the said Declarant, William Stevens, was a soldier in the army of the United States in the year 1777, as stated in the annexed declaration.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid



[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applicants from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.]

William Stephens/ Pen. Brook Cty.

Draws too much.

Mr Edwards [James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions] will examine this case in connection with Richard Matthews & Robert Cummins of Brook county & James Holliday of Ohio County [Richard Mathews R7028, Robert Commans, and James Holliday S7025]. They were all in the same expedition and none of them longer than one year. If so Stephens draws too much. W. G Singleton

[The following note apparently by someone in the Pension Office corrects Singleton's belief that all the soldiers on the expedition did the same service.]

Not. Holliday & Cummins both claim 15 mo. – no two belong'd with same compay altho in the sam Reg't. HH [?]

William Stephens –

alleges in his Declaration to have served one year & 3 mo. in the Pa. Line under Capt. Romain & Col Wayne, so says abstract for Brook cty.

I the undersigned William Stephens. In pursuance of the Requisition of the Secretary of War give the following Re Declaration of my Revolutionary service to Wit.

I shall be 82 years old in March next. am a native of Germany. Came to the US when ten years old. I lived in the county of Lancaster Pa. during the war of the Revo. & settled in Brook county in 1795.

Early in the year of 1776 (I cant tell in what month) I enlisted at the town of Lancaster for one year, was attached Capt Romains company of artilery in which a man by the name of Jones was Lieutenant. my company march to Philadelphia. there drew our clothing. from there we went to Albany by the way of New York thence across the country to Lake George and from there to Ticonderoga St. Johns [St.-Jean, Quebec] & Chambelee thence down the St Lawrence On our way to quebeck was [illegible word] one or two days travel from the latter place when news was received that the British army from quebeck was on their march to meet us. we returned to Ticonderoga staid there the balance of the Summer, and part of the succeeding Winter, and [two illegible words] Gen'l. Wayne told us to make our way home in any way we pleased. I cant recollect when we left Ticonderoga, but it was still cold weather. we got home in the best way we could. we were not marched home under the direction of officers. – I was enlisted for one year as before stated but I am shure it was fifteen months from the time of my leaveing Lancaster until I returned to that place. I was drafted in the Militia & hired a substitute. this completes the sum total of my services. Capt. McCluney wrote my declaration. I told him that I had been fifteen months in services.

In witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name July 12 1835.

Witness/ W McCluney

a copy

William Stephens

W. G Singleton

NOTES:

On 26 Dec 1832 William Stevens was issued a certificate for a pension of \$62.50 for 15 months of service.

On 27 Sep 1838 Margaret Stevens, 83, of Monroe County VA, applied for a pension stating that she married William Stevens on 18 June 1780, and he died on 10 Jan 1838. The file includes a copy of the record of the marriage of William Stephan and Margaret Stolz, both of Hempfield Township in Lancaster County PA, by Rev. H. Muhlenberg D.D. of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of the Holy Trinity in the city of Lancaster on 18 June 1780. On 2 Sep 1838 Elizabeth Ray stated that Margaret Stevens was the daughter of Jacob Stultz.

Some images on Fold3.com are not clear enough for transcription.