

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Florence William	VA	W25599
	Elizabeth	BLWt34279-160-55
Transcription by Frederick Weyler		14Aug2013

[p2] Indiana certificate 22112
William Florence of Hendricks County
Private of Captain Hawkins in Col Slaughter's Virginians for 2 years
Issued 26Sep1833 @ \$80/annum

[p4] Indian certificate 5470
Elizabeth Florence widow of
William Florence
Issued 15Sep1855 @ \$80/annum

[p6] synopsis of service

1778 3 months	Capt Browning	Col Slaughter	Prince William County
1778 6 months	Capt Hankerson Reed	Col Green	
1780 1 year	Capt Terrell	Col Green	Gen Muhlenburg
3 months			
4 days			

[p20] The State of Indiana, Hendricks County

On this 15th day of April A.D.1833 personally appeared in open court before the honorable Bethuel F. Morris President, Thomas Lockhart and Elijah Anderson his associates, judges of the Hendricks Circuit now sitting, William Florence aged seventy two 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 7 1832.

That in Prince William County, Virginia about the last of March in the year 1778, being the Spring after the battle of Brandywine. He was drafted for three months and entered as a private soldier into a company commanded by James Browning, Henry Falls was his Lieutenant and Henry Carter was his orderly sergeant. This company was attached to a regiment of Virginia militia under one Colonel James Slaughter. That the declarant met with the other soldiers raised under this draft at Prince William Courthouse from which they immediately marched to Alexandria. At this place and in the neighborhood thereof he continued until his term of service expired when his company was marched back to Prince William Courthouse and he was there discharged, having been in the service 3 months. He was in company with no regular soldiers during this term, the principle part of the regular army being then in the middle or northern states. The party to which he belonged was raised to guard the country against the

[p21]

incursions of the British. He was in no engagement during this term of service.

That to the best of his recollection it was in July or August in 1778 that he was again drafted at Culpeper County for six months and was first paraded at Culpeper Court house in a company under Captain Hankerson Reed, one Gaines was his Lieutenant and Lewis Corbin was orderly sergeant. Five hundred men raised at the same time with this declarant were at Culpeper Court house aforesaid put under Col. John Green of the Virginia Militia & marched immediately

to Richmond a distance of about 120 miles. At Richmond the declarant continued but a short time & was marched down the river to a little place called Wiltin, at which he sentenced about eleven days & was here in a slight engagement with a small party of British, a few of whom had landed for the purpose of procuring provisions water &c. Those who had landed in a skiff [sic] 3 or 4 in number were all killed. From Wiltin he was marched up the river to Sandy Point and was kept at the last mentioned place and other posts on the Potomack [sic] until his term of service expired and was then marched home to Culpeper County where he was discharged. His discharge was signed by his captain. He was in company with no regular soldiers nor in any engagement except as stated.

[p18]

At Culpeper County aforesaid in the year 1780 being between 14 & 16 months previous to the surrender of Cornwallis he enlisted into the service of the United States for 18 months. He entered a company commanded by Edward Terrill, Lieutenant William Powell, Major Welch was his major and he belonged to a regiment under Col John Green above named. About 1500 men were marched under the above named and other officers from Culpeper & Orange Court House to two miles below Williamsburgh where they lay a few days & were here put under the command of General Muhlenburg and was soon after marched to Richmond, thence to Manchester, thence to Petersburg and was here in a slight engagement under the command of Genl. Muhlenburg. There were about 500 Americans engaged in this action none of whom were killed on the ground but nine men were wounded, seven of whom died on the ensuing day. He does not now recollect how long he had been in the service at the time of this engagement but recollects that the weather was extremely warm at the time.

He was marched to York Town a short time before the siege of that place was commenced and assisted in erecting the fortifications and breast works from the first to the last of the siege of York Town. He well recollects that he assisted in throwing up the last fortification which was completed about the time the British army surrendered. He was marched as one of the guards over the prisoners taken at York

[p19]

Town to the Winchester Barracks where in a short time he received his discharge and then returned home being two or two and a half months before his term of service would have expired. He thinks he received pay for 18 months & that in Continental paper. He was in the service under this engagement fifteen months at least.

For answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department the declarant says:

1st He was born in Prince William County Va. in 1761,

2^d He has no record of his age.

3^d Was living in Prince William Co. Va. when he was drafted for his first tour & in Culpeper Co when he entered on his two last tours. Settled in Kentucky about 39 years ago thence in 1829 he removed to Hendricks County above where he now resides.

4th The first time he entered the service he was drafted for 3 months. The 2^d time was drafted for 6 months & for the third tour he enlisted as stated above.

5th For the names of his officers and the general circumstances of his service he refers to the preceding part of this declaration.

6th He received a discharge from each of his tours of service which were handed to him by his captains respectively but by whom they were signed he is now unable with certainty to state. These discharges have been long since lost or destroyed & in what manner he is unable to say.

7th He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can

[p22]

procure who can testify to his service but he is well acquainted with William Pope a clergyman residing in his neighborhood and with John Downs a respectable person residing in the same place who can testify as to the declarant's character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the revolution.

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 any agency of any state or territory.

William Florence x his mark

[routine supporting statements and certification 15Apr1833

S. T. Hadley, clerk

Wm Pope, clergy

John Downs, neighbor

Jacob Kennerley, neighbor

John Tipton

[p26]

Marriage bond 07Oct1829, William Florence to ELizabth Hufford in Woodford County, Kentucky.

[p7-17]

Various papers to secure the widow's pension.