

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William McKelvy [McKelvey] W3  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Mary McKelvy f68SC  
rev'd 3/22/09 & 1/20/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 13]

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832 personally appeared in the open court of the Circuit Court of Rutherford County before the Honorable James C. Mitchell Judge of the court aforesaid William McKelvy a resident of the County aforesaid aged about Seventy-Eight 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 7<sup>th</sup> in this of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he entered the service and went into Captain Baulding's [sic, Baulden, Bauldin, Baldwin ?] Company in 1776 or 1777 as a volunteer as a mounted horsemen. That Cornol Pickens [Colonel Andrew Pickens] was his Colonel. General Lyncoln [Benjamin Lincoln]<sup>1</sup> was his General in the South Carolina Line. That he joined Captain Baulding in the upper part of Georgia – from thence we marched to Altamaha River, crossed the same designing to go to Augustine [sic St. Augustine] but never reached there, but turned back, crossed said Altamaha River again and went on to a place called the Midway meeting house in the State of Georgia where he was verbally dismissed by Captain Baulding; that his first tour was five or six months. That during the tour aforesaid he was in no general Battle but in several small skirmishes with the Tories. And in few months afterwards he entered the service again and went into Captain William Wilson's Company as a volunteer and mounted horsemen under Colonel Pickens. That his General was Lincoln in the South Carolina Line. That he joined Captain Wilson at a place called Ninety-six in the state last aforesaid and from thence we marched to a place called the Twin sisters in the same State last aforesaid and there he was verbally dismissed by Major Nobble [probably Alexander Noble]. That his second tour was one month perhaps more but owing to the great lapse of time which has since passed by he does not now recollect the precise time. That a few months afterwards he went into service again as a volunteer and mounted horsemen in the South Carolina Line. That Colonel Pickens was his Colonel and Lincoln was his General. That he joined said Company in the upper part of South Carolina and then marched to a place called Stono in the State of South Carolina and at the place last mentioned he was in that battle called the Stono battle [June 20, 1779] against the British and not long afterwards he went home being verbally dismissed by his Captain. That his third tour was two months as well as he now recollects, that owing to his age he cannot recollect the precise time he served but he believes it was at the least four years from the time he first went into service to the time he was finally discharged and that he was in actual service eight months. His age was not put down he

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<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Lincoln did not assume command of the Southern Division of the Continental Army until September 1778.

cannot positively recollect how old he is. That during his three tours of service aforesaid he was acquainted with General Lincoln, with Colonel Pickens, with Major Nobles, with Captain Baulder, with Captain Wilson. That he was born in 1744 as well as he recollects in Ireland. That he was brought to the United States when a little boy to the City of Charleston in South Carolina and then he was carried by his father to the upper part of South Carolina where your declarant remained until he went into the service of his country. That at the time when the Revolutionary War ended he lived in South Carolina and after the end of the Revolutionary War he removed and settled in one of the North States and lived there a few years then removed to Virginia, lived there several years, then removed to the State of Tennessee Smith County on Goose Creek and afterwards to Kentucky then to the State of Tennessee then to Giles County then back to Rutherford County where he has resided ever since. That he has no record of his age nor does he know whether it was ever entered down or not. That he hereby relinquishes his every claim 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 in the United States. That he has no documentary evidence nor [sic] he knows of no person whose evidence he can procure who can testify to his service. That he is well acquainted with Dr. James [illegible], John [illegible] Esq., Benjamin Lillard and William McKelvy and others. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William McKelvy, X his mark

Sworn to in Open Court 10 October 1832

S/ Wm Ledbetter, Clerk

[John L. Jetton and Swinfield Barton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 52 Additional Declaration relative to William McKelvy's Pension Claim

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That he entered the service and went into Capt. Baulding Company in 1776 or 1777 as a volunteer] that Col. Pickens was in the South Carolina Line. That he joined Capt. Baulding in the upper part of Georgia from thence he marched to Altamaha River crossing the same designing to go to Augustine [St. Augustine] but never reached there but turned back crossed said Altamaha River again and went on to a place called the Midway meeting house in the State of Georgia where he was verbally dismissed by Capt. Bauldin that his first Tour of service was 5 months as well as he now recollects. In a few months afterwards he entered the service again and went into Capt. William Wilson's Company as a volunteer and mounted horseman under Col. Pickens, that his General was Lincoln in the South Carolina Line & that he served under Capt. William Wilson as a volunteer as aforesaid one month which was his 2nd tour of service. That a few months afterwards he went into service again as a volunteer and mounted gunmen. That when his first declaration was written he did not recollect his Capt.'s name but on thinking more about the matter he now recollects his name was Colwell [Caldwell?] That his Col. was Pickens, and his General Lincoln of the Continental line. That he served under Capt. Colwell as a volunteer as aforesaid 2 months which was his 3rd tour. That he served in all 8 months. That through mistake it was stated in my old declaration that I was a volunteer gunmen under Capt. Bauldin my first Capt. But in fact and indeed I was not a mounted horseman under Capt. Bauldin but a footman.

Sworn to in open Court 1 April 1833

S/ William McKelvy, X his mark

[Randolph B. Hall, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p6: On August 9 1848, Mary McKelvy, 75, a resident of Gibson County Tennessee, filed for a widows pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William McKelvy who was a pensioner at the rate of \$29.16 per annum; that she married him in the winter of 1789 in the

Cumberland County Virginia; she recalls the year of her marriage by reference to the birth of her first child, Elizabeth, who was born about 2 years after the time of her marriage; that she is completely illiterate and cannot remember the dates of the year or day of the month; that her husband William died August the 11, 1834 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 8 family record]

Ages of the children of William & Mary McKelvy

Elizabeth McKelvy born February 5th 1791

John McKelvy born August 7th 1793

William McKelvy born January 20th 1796

Katharine McKelvy born August 15th 1799

Willis W. McKelvy born February 27th 1801

Mary McKelvy born August 12th 1803

James McKelvy born February 26 1805

Hugh McKelvy born November 4th 1808

[p 10: On August 9, 1848 in Gibson County Tennessee, Hugh McKelvy gave testimony authenticating the above family record. His relationship, if any, to the family is not expressly stated although it is likely he is the child of the veteran and his widow.

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[Facts in file: Veteran married Mary Mason in January or February 1789 in Cumberland County, Virginia; [p 49] in 1850, one Jonathan M. Wallace, of Gibson County, Tennessee, gave an affidavit in which he stated he served with John McKelvy in the War of 1812 and in the battle of New Orleans, January 8, 1815.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$29.16 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 3 months in the cavalry and for 5 months in the infantry, all in the South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]