

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of William Campbell W3770

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Nelson County to wit.

On this 28th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the county court of Nelson, now sitting, William Campbell, a resident of the County of Nelson and State of Virginia, aged 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a militia man from the state of Virginia, in the summer of the year 1779 the name of the Captain under whom he served he does not now recollect, his name having entirely escaped his memory. he marched from the County fo Amherst to a place at that time known by the name of the Holly Springs about ten miles below the City of Richmond; where he remained untill he was discharged from that tour of duty which was for three months. He then returned home to the County of Amherst where he remained three or four months when he was again called upon to perform militia duty and went as a militia man under Captain Richard Ballinger, and was marched to Hoods Fort on James River about fifty miles below the City of Richmond, where he remained for the term of six months. There was at that place only a Captains Company employed as a guard. At the end of that service he again returned home. And after some short time he again entered the service and marched under the command of Captain John Loving, from the County of Amherst to the lower part of the State of the State of Virginia where he was marched to several different positions and finally to York where he bore his part in that memorable battle [sic: Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis on the 19th of October 1781. he was engaged in this last service nearly six months. shortly after the battle of York and the surrender of Cornwallis he was regularly discharged & returned home. he obtained a certificate of discharge given him by his Captain, but not regarding it as of any great value, it has been since lost or mislaid and cannot now be found Besides the Captains above mentioned under whose immediate command he was, he recollects Colonel Coxe and General [Robert] Lawson, under whom he served at the siege of York. He well recollects as all the soldiers engaged in that service must do the commander in chief General Washington & General Lafayette – that he was born in the year 1754 in the County of Albemarle in the state of Virginia, and removed to the County of Amherst when very small that he now resides in the County of Nelson which was taken from the county of Amherst and has resided ever since – that he has no record of his age – that he was engaged in no other battle besides that at York. that he has no documentary evidence to establish his service – that he knows of no persons other than those whose certificates are hereto attached who know of his service – most of those who served with him being either removed by death or residing in places unknown to him.

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 and subscribed to the day and year aforesaid William Campbell

And the Court proceeded to propound the several interrogatories directed by the war department to the petitioner in the order in which they are given whose answers are hereto attached Viz:

To Question 1st He answers and says he was born in the County of Albemarle in the State of Virginia in the year 1754.

To Question 2nd. He says he has no record of his age.

To Question 3rd. He says he was living in the County of Amherst, but in that part which forms the County of Nelson, the County having since been divided he lived in the County of Amherst untill the division and has lived in County of Nelson since said division and now resides there.

To Questions 4th He says he was drafted in the several tours of duty he performed.

To Question 5th He says his memory is bad, and cannot remember now any of the officers whom he once knew. he recollects General Washington, General Lafayette, General Lawson, Colo Coxe and Capt Loving and Capt. Ballenger

To Question 6th He says he received a discharge which was given him as well as he no recollects by his captain, but it is now lost.

To Question 7th He refers to Jesse Wright, Edward Demasters [Edward De Masters, pension application W2651], John Campbell [W18869] Henry Campbell [W6615] and Phillip Ryan [S7438], Thomas Massie and Edmund Massie whose affidavits are hereto attached.

[Edward De Masters certified that on his march to the South in 1781 he saw Campbell at Hoods Fort. Henry Campbell certified that he served in the same company with his brother, William Campbell, during the Siege of Yorktown.]

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid William Campbell who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age, the lapse of time and the loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: In my first tour I served as a private three months. In my second tour I served as a private six months and In my third and last tour I served as a private not less than five and a half months making in the whole not less than fourteen months and a half at the least.

NOTE: On 31 Oct 1839 Sarah Campbell, 70, applied for a pension stating that she married William Campbell on 22 Dec 1785, and he died 16 April 1836. On 23 Oct 1841 at age 73 she stated that her marriage was officiated by a Parson Burgher. On 28 Aug 1843 she was said to be 76, and on 17 Aug 1848 she was said to be 80. Sarah Campbell, the widow of Henry Campbell, stated that the marriage of William and Sarah Campbell was celebrated by Benjamin Burgy, a Baptist minister. The file includes a part of a family record transcribed as follows:

William Campbell and Salley Campbell their Issue

James Campbell born October 7th 1786

Nansey Campbell born December 25th 1788

[several illegible words] Campbell born

[page torn]lliam Campbell

[other side of page] William Campbell bornd August 17th 1896 [Repeated and both entries crossed out.

Apparently written a third time, but page torn.]