

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Powell W4054 Rachel Powell NC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 Nov 2014.

State of North Carolina }
County of Wilkes } SS.

On this 29th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & quarter sessions of the County of Wilkes & State of North Carolina now sitting William Powell a resident of the County of Wilkes & State of North Carolina, 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 7th 1832.

That he was born on the 12th day of May 1760 in the County of Prince Edward & State of Virginia, of which fact however he has no record, but received his information from his Mother. His father removed when this deponent was very small to the County of Bute (now Warren) in North Carolina, and where this deponent lived until he was drafted for a three months tour, and entered the service of the United States in the said County of Bute [sic: dissolved in 1779] in the month of March 1780 under the command of Captain Thomas Christmas – as soon as the company was organized, they rendezvoused at Halifax C.H. N.C. where they were stationed for about two weeks, and then marched to Tarboro', where they were also stationed for about two or three weeks. after leaving Tarboro' they were marched about from place to place through the lower part of the State, until their term of service expired – when they were discharged & returned home. After remaining at home about three or four months, this deponent was again drafted for a three months tour, and marched under the command of Captain John Jones to the Town of Tarboro' – which place he reached about the month of October. after being stationed at Tarboro' for a month or six weeks, they marched to Cross Creek or Fayetteville where they were joined by another company of militia, (the officers of which are not recollected) and where they were stationed about a month – when both companies were marched to Peacocks Bridge on Great Contentnea Creek [in present Greene County], where they were stationed until their term of service expired – when they were discharged & returned home. In these two tours the company to which this deponent belonged did not join nor was not attached to any particular regiment, but was marched from place to place in order to be in readiness to cooperate with other companies in a similar situation, to protect the low country from invasion by the British, which at that time was apprehended.

In the month of July 1781 this deponent was again drafted for a three months tour, and marched under the command of Captain William Turner to Kingston [sic: Kinston] in North Carolina where they joined Colo William Jones & after being stationed there for five or six weeks, marched direct to Wilmington where they were stationed until they heard of the Capture of Lord Cornwallis in the latter part of October [19 Oct 1781] – and after the rejoicing on that occasion had subsided, they were discharged and returned home.

This deponent has no documentary evidence to prove his services, although he is confident in the belief that he received written discharges from his captains for each term of service, but cannot tell what has become of them. He continued to reside in the County of Warren until about the year 1792 when he removed to the County of Surry in N.C. and there resided for about four years, when he removed to Wilkes County, where he has resided ever since, and where he now resides. He further states that he knows of no person by whom he can prove his services but refers to the Rev'd Thomas Fletcher and Thomas McNeill who are well acquainted with him, and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services 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 the agency of any state. Sworn to, & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

William hisXmark Powell

NOTES:

On 9 May 1855 Rachael Powell, 79, applied for bounty land stating that she married William Powell in Wilkes County on 1 Jan 1794, and he died 29 May 1834. On 22 Nov 1857 Rachael Powell applied for a pension, giving her age as 77, the date of her marriage as 9 Jan 1793, and the date of her husband's death as 28 May 1834. Her application included a copy of a bond signed on 8 Jan 1793 by William Powell and Nathaniel Judd for the marriage of Powell to Rachal Smith.

On 8 Nov 1858 Rachel Powell was said to be 85.

On 2 June 1866 Rachel Powell was about 96 and living with John Powell on Lewis Fork in Wilkes County when she applied for restoration of her pension, which had been suspended during the Civil War, during which time her means of subsistence had been "not any but gifts of her Friends." On an application for an increase in her pension dated 18 June 1869 she was said to be 97. A typed summary in the file states that she died on 3 July 1871.