

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Williams W4390

Mary

fn38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/22/11

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia and County of Chesterfield to wit

On this 10th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of Chesterfield John Williams a resident of Virginia in the County of Chesterfield and State of Virginia aged sixty-eight years on the first day of June next, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision may by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered in the State Troops of the State of Virginia at Richmond in the spring of the year (he believes the month of May) 1780 with Captain James Price and served as he believes in the 3rd State Regiment, commanded while at Richmond by Colonel Thomas Adams. The field officers he does not recollect and the company officers of the company to which he was attached were Captain James Price and Lieutenant James Gates. The Ensign he has forgotten nearly, but thinks his name was Wheeling. The deponent here states that he was discharged in Richmond by Captain Price after the taking of Cornwallis at Yorktown having served longer than he enlisted for. He entered for but one term of two years and served some considerable time longer. He was a resident of the County of Henrico at the time of his enlistment and resided there for many years after the close of the war. For the last thirty-five years or thereabouts he has been a resident of the County of Chesterfield. He never was in any other action and that at the Siege of Yorktown where he was, and was present at the taking of Lord Cornwallis. He was marched from Richmond by Captain Reuben George with some other Companies, all commanded by Colonel Miles Selden to Yorktown. Nearly the whole of his term of service was spent in Richmond where he was attached to the laboratory and was constantly employed in making of cartridges and molding of bullets and buckshot. Captain Price commanded the men engaged in this business. After the siege of York we were marched back to Richmond by Captain George, and Captain Price again had command of us at Richmond. The deponent does not recollect whether Colonel Selden was a Colonel or Major when he commanded them and marched them to Yorktown. He was a little over sixteen when he enlisted. 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 of any State.

That he was born the first day of June 1764 near the City of Richmond in the County of Henrico, according to the information [from] his parents & a memorandum made in a family Bible which descended to his brother = that he received a written discharge which has been lost or mislaid. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Williams, X his mark

[fn 18: on January 19, 1833, James Valentine gave testimony that he was 14 years old towards

the latter end of the revolutionary war; that he was well acquainted with John Williams and that John Williams served at least one year guarding the magazine at Richmond and making cartridges; that the deponent knows of the service of Williams by virtue of the deponent's brother (not named) having served with Williams under Captain James Price at Richmond.

Gas. Valentine]

[fn p. 33]

State of Virginia Chesterfield County Sct.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for the County of Chesterfield in the State of Virginia, John Williams who being duly sworn, depose & saith, in amendment of the Declaration made by him before the Court of the said County on the 10th day of September 1832, that from age & the consequent 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 one year and 8 months as a private in the Virginia troops: that he never served with any Continental troops except at the siege of York when he was attached to the main Army under General Washington, & he remembers distinctly General Wayne's having some command during a court of the time: that he apprehends he is not able to procure the evidence of any clergyman as to the tradition of his service, as none resides in the neighborhood where he and he now lives or in that from which he removed in the County of Henrico; that he resided in the last mentioned County until about 35 years ago when he removed to Chesterfield where he has lived ever since.

S/ John Williams, X his mark

subscribed & sworn to before me this 22nd day of January 1833

S/ John Gregory, JP

[Henry Hancock and Daniel Belcher gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 31: On February 26, 1838 in Chesterfield County Virginia, John Williams, identifying himself as the same person who served under Captain James Price in the Regiment commanded he believes by Colonel Thomas Adams in the Revolutionary War, filed for a new pension certificate saying his old certificate had been destroyed in a fire on December 3, 1837.]

[fn p. 12: On May 23, 1853 in Chesterfield County Virginia, Haley Cole made application under the 1848 act as the administrator of the estate of Mary Williams deceased the widow of John Williams a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$66.66 per annum; that John Williams the veteran died September 8, 1842; that John Williams married Mary Bottoms in Chesterfield County Virginia in 1797 or 1798; that they were married by the Reverend Eliazer Clay; that Mary Williams died October 10, 1853 without having applied received any pension; that the following all the names of the children of the said John Williams and Mary Williams his wife who were living at the time Mary Williams died in 1853: Samuel Williams, Pleasant G Williams, Sarah Vest, wife of James Vest, and Martha S. Snellings, wife of Peter Snellings; that Sarah Vest and her husband James have both died since the death of Mary leaving the following children: Richard F. Vest, Thomas J. Vest and John W. Vest.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$66.66 commencing March 4th, 1831, for 20 months service as a private in the Virginia service. Veteran's widow's heirs were pensioned in right of the widow for a like amount commencing March 4th, 1848 and ending October 10th, 1853.]