

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

Pension Application of William Alexander W4623

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 Feb 2011.

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Pennsylvania; County of Mercer} SS.

On this twenty fifth day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court, Before John Bredon President and the associate Judges of the Court of Common pleas of Mercer County now sitting, William Alexander, a resident of Coalspring Township in Mercer County, State of Pennsylvania, aged in his 76th year, who being 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 under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. viz – In the month of May 1777 he entered the service in Capt. Resen Virgens [sic: Reain Virgin's] Company at Shepherds Fort on Big Wheeling Creek in Ohio County State of Virginia and continued for one month and was discharged in June. The Indians being Troublesom we were engaged in guarding the frontier of the settlement – Again in September same year he volunteered to defend the Fort at Wheelen [sic: Wheeling] under the same Captain, and was one month in the service. the indians were very troublesom, immediately after he was discharged, say two days, the indians attacked the Fort and there ware fifteen men killed, but the Fort was defended. Col. Shepherd commanded. Agin in Nov'r. 1778 the same Fall of Gen'l. [Lachlan] McIntosh's Campaign, he was called under Liet. Joseph Alexander to defend the Wheelen Fort, and was in the servece one month when he was discharged. Again in March 1779 this deponant with many others volunteered, and chose David Williamson our Captain at Fort McIntosh at the mouth of Beaver [at present Beaver PA] and marched with Gen'l McIntosh to the Tuskarawis where he had built Fort Lawrence the year or fall before [sic: Fort Laurens, built on Tuscarawas River near present Bolivar OH Nov 1778 - Jan 1779]; staid a short time and returned, a little less than a month ["25 days" interlined] at that time in the service, the days less not exactly recollected. The cause of our going out at this time was that Fort Lawrence was Beseiged by the Indians and Gen'l. McIntosh went out to releive the Fort & supply them with provisions the Indians however were dispersed when we arived, which was the reason we returned so soon. Col. [John] Gibson commanded at Fort Lawrence at that time; and the garison remained there for some time a few months, and then vacated the fort.

Again in June the same year he was drafted in Capt. Wm. Leets [William Leet's] Company and served one month at Vanmeters Fort on Short Creek [near present Clinton WV] at the end of the month was discharged. Again in September same year 1779 he was drafted under Lieut. Hoglan to keep station at Ramsey's Fort on Buffalow Creek [sic: Buffalo Creek near Wellsburg WV] and served one month, at one time what men could be spared from the Fort made trip or excurtion on the Indian side of the [Ohio] River, but made no discovery at that time. Again in September 1781 he entered the service, a substitute for William Brownlee, at West Liberty, in Ohio County Virginia under Ensign Obediah Holms, and served one month, and was discharged when his time was up. Some time in this summer there was a large Body of Indians crossed the ohio River below Wheelen and went a considerable distance from the River along the side of the settlements, where they had not been in habbit of doing mischief and killed several persons took some prisoners and drove off Horses &c. Again in 1782 the 26th of May he voluteered in Capt. Leet's Company and found his own Hore, went in Col. Crawford's Campaign against the Indians [William Crawford's campaign against Shawnees, Wyandots, Mingoies, and Delawares at Sandusky OH], (the history of which is well known) Suffered a great dale but was fortunate enough to get home safe; for which he claims one month. Again the 1st of October same year he entered the servece as first Sergeant and had the care of the Garrison, he served one month and then returned home. he was also out several short Tours, when the Indians would come in and do mischief. they would pursue and try to overtake

them but he cannot now recollect the times when nor the length of service, and therefore makes no account of them.

Making in all not less, but more than nine months in the service during the Revolutionary War. States that his services being rendered on the frontiers of the settlement where the people were in the Forts there were but few Regular officer or Troops with them Except those he has mentioned, and at the time he had went into the Indian Country There were Regular Troops. There were Gen'l Macintosh, Col. Gibson in Fort Lawrence Col. Crawford. Col. [John] Macintosh son of the Gen'l. Capt Resin Virgin, Capt. Williamson Capt Leets Cap. Binderback Col. Shepherd, Lieut. Haglin Ensign Holms and others &c Says he has no documentary evidence of his service, That he knows of no living Witnesses in any reasonable distane that can prove his servises except those he has procured.

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 nor never was.

Quest Where &c – Says he was born in Chester County Pennsylvania, in February 1757. Says he has no record, but has often seen his Fathers family record often in which his own Birth was recorded. He was living in ohio County Virginia (Then but it is now Washington County Penn'a. as the line was disputed, but now settled by the two States Says he was sometimes drafted, sometimes volunteered and one month a substitute for Wm. Brownlee. Says he lived in Washington County about twelve years after the Revolutionary War, then moved to Mercer County Penn'a. where he has lived ever since and now lives

[signed] W,m Alexander

[John Alexander, 68, also of Coalspring Township, certified his brother's services. James Huston deposed that he had served with William Alexander in McIntosh's relief of Fort Laurens and in Crawford's Campaign.]

State of Pennsylvania } SS
Mercer County }

Personally appeared before the subscriber a Judge of the Court in and for the County aforesaid William Alexander an applicant for Pension who being duly Sworn according to law did depose and say, that, by reason of old age, and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of time of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the Periods mentiond in his declaration, and in the Tabular, prented form accompanying this depositions [not found], Amounting in all to seven months and twenty five days as a private and one months as a Sergeant. for which, or such service he claims a Pension

Sworn and subscribed before me this 1st day of Aug't 1833

[signed] W.m Alexandr

A. Brown

State of Pennsylvania } SS
County of Mercer }

Be it known that upon the twelfth day of March 1839 Personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for Mercer County James Huston of Mahoning Township in Mercer County aged about seventy six years who being duly sworn according to law, did depose, and say that he seen William Alexander in Syndusky campaign of which Colonel Crawford was commander, That said deponent and Alexander was in the same company under the command of Capt. Leet, and camped and mesed together, That said campaign was to stand for two months altho they ware but one month out they drew due bills for two months, Said deponent has lost his record of the year and cannot recollect the year. That previous to the foregoing campaign said deponent and Alexander was in a campeign under Capt. Williamson (afterwards Colonel) General McIntosh commander intended for the reliefe of fort Lawrence on the tukarasee a branch of the Muskingum river camped and messed together That said deponent lived a neighbour to said Alexander and believes he was out a number of times that he

was not along with him.

Said deponent further states that he was well acquainted with William Alexander and Elizabeth his wife before they were married, and ever since, until the death of William Alexander, and believes the said Elizabeth to be his widow

[signed] James Huston

NOTE: On 26 Dec 1838 Elizabeth Alexander, 73, applied for a pension stating that she was married by Rev. John McMillan in Washington County PA to William Alexander on 24 Apr 1787, and her husband died on the morning of 4 Sep 1835. Joseph Alexander, 60, also of Coalspring Township, brother of William Alexander, deposed that he had been at the wedding. He also stated that the maiden name of Elizabeth Alexander was Elizabeth McClelland. Rev. Samuel Tait deposed that Elizabeth Alexander was a member of the Presbyterian Church. On 3 Aug 1839 her son, Elias Alexander of Coalspring Township, certified the family record written by William Alexander and transcribed below. On 30 Aug 1845 and on 17 Mar 1849 Elizabeth Alexander applied under later pension acts.

William Alexander his Book and Hand Rite.

I was Born in the year of our Lord 1757 on February 17th

My beloved wife Elizabeth was born in 1765 on November 5th and we were Married in 1787 on the 24th of Aprile and

Margaret our first born Daughter was born on the Second Day of the Week January the 14th 1788

Mary our Second Dauter was born on the Second day of the week Jan the 4th in 1790

Elizabeth our third Dauter was born on the Second Day of the Week Jan the 9th in 1792

John our first Son was born on the 3^d Day of the week in Feb 25th 1794

William Second Son was born on the 7th Day of the Week December the 26th 1795

James Third Son was born on the 3^d Day of the Week Septembr the 25th 1798

Elias Fourth Son was born December the 25 1799 on the 5 Day of the Week

Esther Fourth Dauter was born May the 20 1803 on Friday

Joseph Fifth son was born January the Twenty ninth 1806 on Wednesday night

Ebenezer Sixth Son was born July the 23 on the 2 Day of Week A.n. Dom. 1810