

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McCann ¹ W5361

Biddy McCann

f55SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/5/09: rev'd 7/29/16

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

[p 9]

State of Tennessee Lawrence County Circuit Court August Term 1832

On this 28th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Lawrence County Tennessee now sitting John McCann aged about seventy-five years a resident citizen of the said County of Lawrence and State of Tennessee 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 under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he turned out volunteer under Capt. Hickingbottom [sic, probably either James Higginbotham or John Higginbotham, both of whom were militia officers in the Amherst County Virginia militia] in Amherst County State of Virginia he does not recollect whether he turned out for three or six months nor the date except that he was about nineteen years of age and was discharged in the fall of the year when grapes were ripe that he was sick and wanted grapes and was unable to walk to get them -- that he then removed to the State of South Carolina near Kings Mountain and the line between South & North Carolina -- that about the month of July 1780 immediately after the battle of Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780] he turned out under Capt. Jenkins [William Jenkins] that he continued to serve under Jenkins from July until about a week before the Battle of King's Mountain [October 7, 1780] when Jenkins was taken prisoner and nearly his whole company by a part of Ferguson's [Patrick Ferguson's] troops and carried prisoner to Ninety Six that he made his escape and was at home at the battle of Kings Mountain owing to the captivity of his commander and the dispersal of his troops so that his company did not join Campbell [William Campbell], Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] and Shelby [Isaac Shelby] the officers he chiefly recollects who commanded at Kings Mountain as soon as the remnant of Jenkins' company collected they joined Capt. James Wilson and with him left South Carolina and went to Dan River North Carolina where he put himself under the command of Capt. Bostick an officer of North Carolina and marched under said Bostick [perhaps Absalom Bostick of the Surry County North Carolina militia] and joined the Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] before the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] and continuing to serve until after the Battle but was not in the engagement having joined Major Winston [Joseph Winston] to bring on the engagement and having been sent by him for provisions for said company at the time the engagement commenced and immediately after the battle he was discharged in Guilford. He then removed to

¹ BLWt29050-160-55

Albemarle County State of Virginia and after the British marched through Albemarle he was drafted for three months in said State and County about the month of April before the taking of Cornwallis at York [Yorktown, October 19, 1781]. His Capt. was Kelly Douglas and he marched under him from Albemarle to Culpeper Court House where he joined the troops under General Lafayette he did not reach the Main Army under Washington until after the surrender of Cornwallis and he then aided in guarding the prisoners until he was discharged at the Barracks in Albemarle at the end of his term that he has no record evidence of his service having lost all his discharges and he has no living witness of his actual service now on his power and knows of none in this country except a Mr. John Dalton² who resides in East Tennessee 170 miles distant whose testimony he will yet endeavor to procure that he cannot state the precise time he was in actual service not being able to recollect the precise time he entered the service and was discharged each time but he knows he was in actual service as long as one year he believes longer but as he is not certain and his memory very frail he states it to be one year he believes his discharge was signed by Heckenbotham [sic] and Douglas he received none from Douglas [sic, Jenkins?]. He hereby relinquishes all and every claim or claims whatever to pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the State or territory or agency therein sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.
Sworn to in open Court the 28th of August 1832.

S/ John McCann

S/ Wm McKnight, Clerk

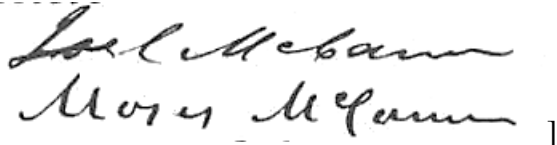
[Bradley Holford, William E. Kennedy and Joseph Holford gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[William McKnight, clerk, certified that the above was a true copy of the records on file in the office of the clerk of Lawrence County Tennessee.]

[p 45: On July 4th, 1833 in Lawrence County Tennessee, Noah Parker, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 7: On September 5, 1853, in McNairy County, Tennessee, Bidy McCann, 66, filed for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of John McCann, a pensioner under the 1832 act for his services in the revolution at the rate of \$40 per annum; that she married him on November 1, 1811; that he died February 3, 1841; that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 36: On November 25, 1853 in McNairy County Tennessee, Joel McCann and Moses McCann gave testimony that they have known the veteran and his widow for 25 or 30 years; that the veteran and his wife lived together as man and wife. The relationship, if any, of the affiants to the veteran and/or his widow is not stated.


Joel McCann
Moses McCann]

[p 14: (In her bounty land claim filed in 1855 also in McNairy County Tennessee, Bidy said her name prior to her marriage was Bidy Belcher; that she was married by a justice of the peace in White County, Tennessee.)

² [John Dalton S1755](#)

[p 39: Pledge of Allegiance to the United States given by the widow in McNairy County Tennessee on July 15, 1869]

[p 40: On November 15, 1869 in McNairy County Tennessee, the widow, aged 81, a resident of Purdy, McNairy County and State applied for the reinstatement of her pension as the widow of a revolutionary war. She signed this document with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the Virginia and South Carolina militias. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]