

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Matthew McPherson <sup>1</sup> W5362

Elizabeth McPherson f44NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/26/09: rev'd 2/5/17

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

[p 18]

State of North Carolina Iredell County: Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions August Term 1832

On this twenty fifth day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before H. Redman, Wm McFect & Jos. W. Murdoch the Court of Iredell County now sitting Matthew McPherson a resident of the County of Iredell and State of North Carolina aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to law does 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: -- This applicant maketh oath that the first campaign in which he was engaged, was in the year 1775. That he entered the militia service in December under the command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], Col. Locke [Francis Locke] & Capt. Graham [John Graham] being his officers -- That he went to South Carolina near Ninety Six marched from Rowan County North Carolina through Charlotte NC; that he served in this Tour six weeks to the best of his recollection. That he was discharged in January 1776. This applicant further states that he served a second campaign under the aforementioned officers. That he left home in February or March 1776. That the soldiers rendezvoused at Salisbury North Carolina and marched from thence through Guilford County North Carolina to Fayetteville North Carolina against the Tories, that he was in the service at this time six weeks. This applicant further saith that he served a short expedition as a volunteer against the Cherokee Indians at the head of the Catawba River North Carolina under the command of Capt. Graham that at this time he was in the service two weeks, that he entered it in July 1776 -- this applicant further saith in the first two campaigns above mentioned that the Country [sic, county?] was divided into classes and that he went into the service under this arrangement -- This applicant further saith that he served of another campaign under General Rutherford, Col. Locke and Capt. Graham, that he entered the service this time in the month of July 1776 leaving home within two days after his return from the last mentioned expedition. That he served at this time three months. That he marched from Rowan County North Carolina directly to the Cherokee Nation crossing French Broad River, Pigeon River &c -- and that on this expedition the North Carolina Militia were joined by a company of Catawba Indians -- This applicant further saith that he served another short tour of two weeks against the Tories, in Lincoln County North Carolina in the month of May or June 1779. That he marched from Third Creek in Rowan County North Carolina directly to Lincoln County North

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt26055-160-55 Canceled BLWt34837-160-55

Carolina under the command of Capt. Wilson [William Wilson]. That he served another short tour of a week under the command of Major Davidson [probably William Lee Davidson] & Capt. Houston [William Houston]. That left home on the 10th of June in the year 1780. This applicant further saith that he served another Tour against the Tories in Lincoln County of about two weeks continuous, that he was under the command of Major Davidson & he does not recollect the name of the Captain if there was any. That he served another Tour in the [year] 1779 and in the month of June, near Salisbury North Carolina of a week continuance, that at this time he was engaged in guarding some Tories Prisoners some of whom were afterwards executed. This applicant further saith that he was out in another expedition in the County of Mecklenburg, under the command of General Davidson [William Lee Davidson], Col. Locke and Captain Ramsy [sic, Ramsey?]. That he marched directly from Rowan County North Carolina to the County of Mecklenburg North Carolina. That he rendered this service in the fall of 1780, and that he served three months.

This applicant further saith that he served in another campaign that he left home the last of September or first of October 1781 that he marched thence directly to Wilmington North Carolina, under the command of General Rutherford, Col. Locke & Capt. Bell [William Bell], that he served eight months and a half, and that during the rendering of this service the applicant resided in the County of Rowan and State of North Carolina and that he now lives in the County of Iredell North Carolina which has been stricken off from Rowan since the American Revolution.

Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Matthew McPherson



[Theophilus Falls & John McPherson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1<sup>st</sup> Answer I was born in Rowan County North Carolina in the year 1758

2nd Answer I have a record of my age at home

3rd Do. I sometimes volunteered and sometimes was drafted

4th Do. I was living when I was called into service Rowan County North Carolina I now live in Iredell County North Carolina

5th Do. To this Question this affiant cannot answer -- but the names of the militia officers I have stated in my own declaration as above

6th Do. I never received a discharge in writing

7th Do. I mention as persons well acquainted with my services & character & services

Theophilus Falls & John McPherson.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

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North Carolina Iredell County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for said County Matthew McPherson, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as 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.

For six weeks as a private – that he was in the service at another time six weeks. That he served another Tour of two weeks as a volunteer. That he served at another time three months.

That he served another short Tour of two weeks. That he served another short Tour of a week. That he served another Tour of a week. That he served another Tour of a week's continuance. That he served another campaign of three months. That he served another campaign of one month and a half and for such service he claims a Pension.

This applicant refers the department to his declaration which is herewith returned as containing the time precisely which he served that is he served at least the periods contained in his declaration as amended and also in these amendments stated and that he is confident that he has not overstated the time. That he rendered all this service as a private. This applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any State or if any only that of the agency of the State of North Carolina.

This applicant states that there is no Clergyman whose evidence or affidavit he can procure as to his services.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1833

S/ William Harbin, JP

S/ Matthew McPherson

[p 14: On December 31, 1850 in Iredell County North Carolina, Elizabeth McPherson, aged 79, filed for a widow's pension as the widow of Matthew McPherson; that she was married to him on September 28, 1797; that her husband died August 5, 1843; that she has no family record showing either the date of her marriage or the births of her children but that her first child was born July one, 1799 her 2<sup>nd</sup> child was born August 11, 1801; her 3<sup>rd</sup> child was born September 15, 1803; her 4<sup>th</sup> child was born November 29, 1806 and her 5<sup>th</sup> and last child was born January 4, 1809. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 16: Copy of a marriage bond issued in Iredell County North Carolina dated September 26, 1797 issued to Matthew McPherson and Samuel Fleming conditioned upon the marriage of Matthew McPherson to Elizabeth Wilson.]

[p 6: On August 21, 1855 in Iredell County North Carolina, Elizabeth McPherson, aged 83 years, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 34: this page contains a digital image of an actual bounty land warrant issued for 160 acres to the widow of this veteran.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$39.88 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months and 28 days in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]