

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hezekiah Murphey (Murphy)¹ W5395 Sary [Sarah] f46MD

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/26/11

[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.]

[Note: the digital images of this file's contents as posted on Fold3.com are scrambled. I have tried to transcribe them in their proper order. Use with caution.]

State of Kentucky, Nelson County: Sct.

On this 13th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Nelson County Court of now sitting, Hezekiah Murphy aged 68 years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an Act of Congress passed 15th May 1828 and the supplement thereto passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the month of May or June in the year 1781 in the County of Montgomery in the State of Maryland I was drafted to serve in the militia for 9 months under Capt. Murdock a son of Colonel Murdock. My lieutenants name was James Lingham; my ensigns names I do not remember.

The Company to which I belonged rendezvoused at Georgetown, now within the District of Columbia: from whence we marched to Annapolis and joined the troops at that place commanded by General Smallwood. After remaining at that place for some time, the exact time I do not remember, I suppose from the length of time we must have remained there several months. I do not recollect having performed any other duty there than mustering morning and evening and standing on guard. From Annapolis General Smallwood's command marched through Georgetown, Alexandria, Colchester, Dumfries [Dumfries], Fredericksburgh [Fredericksburg] to Williamsburg in Virginia before the Siege at Yorktown [September-October 19, 1781], then marched to Yorktown and joined General Lafayette's Brigade where I remained until after the taking of Cornwallis during the Siege of Yorktown. I was in several skirmishes, at one time under a French officer, Captain Levash [?], I think he was called. After the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and I believe about the 1st Nov. I enlisted in the Regular Service during the war under an officer near General Washington. The name of the officer I cannot recollect. I understood at the time I would be one of General Washington's life guards. I suppose that is the cause I could not recollect the number of the regiment I should be attached to. On my enlistment I received a suit of Uniform Clothing, a Gun and Cartridge Box & some money the amount I do not recollect.

After my enlistment I marched with the troops northward the same roads that I marched down as far as the Potomac River at Georgetown. There I obtained a furlough for a few days to visit my father's family who then lived in Montgomery County, State of Maryland. The same

¹ BLWt26974-160-55

officer with whom I enlisted gave me the furlough. After my visit to my father's I started to join the army at the appointed [place] in company with some baggage wagons and French troops and on the road between Baltimore and Philadelphia I was taken sick and unable to travel. In this condition I was taken in a baggage wagon returning from Philadelphia and going to Fredericktown. The driver was by the name of Wolf who persuaded me to return to my father's and be nursed. I reached home very sick and continued sick about two years and in a lingering condition about one year longer before I recovered. The Army has disbanded so that I had no opportunity of obtaining a discharge.

Interrogatories put by the Court

What have you done with the furlough that you obtained at the crossing of the Potomac?

Ans. Lost or mislaid long since. My impress[ion] is that it was washed up in some of my pockets while I was sick.

Q. Where and in what year were you born?

A. In Montgomery County in the State of Maryland in the year 1765 or 1764 there being some difference of opinion among my friends.

Q. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A. I have none except as I made myself from the information of others.

Q. Where were you living when you were called into service, Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

A. I lived when called into service in Montgomery County in the State of Maryland. 1788 I went to Loudon [Loudoun] County Virginia where I lived the greater part of my time until 1793. I then returned to Montgomery County in the State of Maryland. Then removed with my father to Kentucky and settled in Nelson County where I remained except at short intervals until the fall of 1831. I then moved with my family to the State of Missouri and settled in Lincoln County where I am now living but at this time on business in Nelson County, Kentucky where I have some proof of my service in the Revolutionary War.

Q. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute?

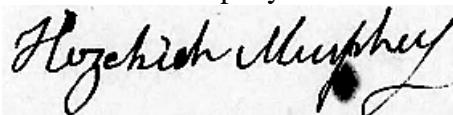
A. I was first drafted then enlisted in the Regular Army as I have stated in the body of my declaration already made.

Q. State the names of some of the principal officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A. Colonel Murdock, Captain Murdock & Lieutenant Lingham also General Smallwood, all militia officers, marched with the troops from Annapolis to Yorktown & there joined General Lafayette's Brigade. I also recollect General wane [Anthony Wayne] at this Siege of York. I recollect at the Siege of York we entrenched every night and kept getting closer [to] the enemy. I also recollect when standing guard my orders were to dodge the Cannon ball of the enemy by seeing the flash of the cannon in the night time

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.

S/ Hezekiah Murphey

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hezekiah Murphey". The ink is dark and the signature is written on a light-colored background.

State of Kentucky, Nelson County

The deposition of Philip Murphey² taken before Elijah Davis a justice of the peace for and in the County of Nelson.

The deponeth [deponent] aged about 71 years after being duly Sworn deposeth and sayeth that he is well acquainted with Hezekiah Murphey (who has subscribed to the foregoing declaration taken in the Nelson County Court, State of Kentucky on the 13th of November 1832) and know him to be the Same who was drafted to Serve a tour in the militia in 1781 in Montgomery County in the State of Maryland and that he served in the Revolutionary War as Stated in his declaration. I was a Soldier at the time in another Company and knew him in the army. I saw him in the army when on his march to Yorktown Virginia & that I verily believe he was at the Siege of Cornwallis as Stated in his declaration.

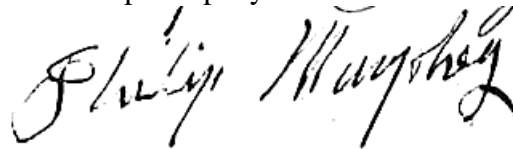
I recollect he Came home on Furlough equiped and in regimentals and called himself a Regular Soldier. Although I was not present at his enlistment I had not at the time any doubt of the fact nor have I any at this time. I am not certain that I saw the furlough but my impression is that I did

After a short stay at his Fathers he Started to join the troops that passed on Northward a few days before. Sometime after returned home Sick and remained sick I think for about two years

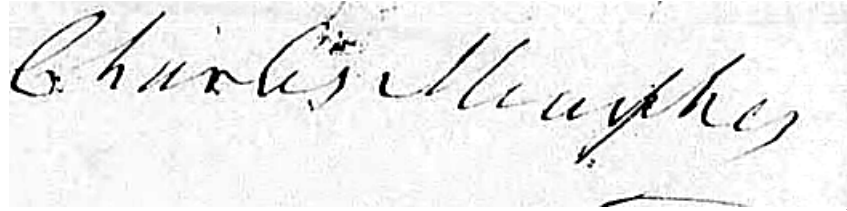
I remember his friends despaired of his ever recovering. I recollect he was in the neighborhood generally considered a regular Soldier. He professed himself to be such. And further this deponent Sayeth not

28 Mch

S/ Philip Murphey



[f p. 13 & 16: another brother of the veteran, Charles Murphey, 66, gave testimony in support of his brother's application, but Charles does not claim to have served in the Revolution himself.



[f p. 16: Samuel Carpenter & Isaac Taylor, a clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 45]

State of Missouri County of Lincoln: SS: Be it remembered that on this 27th day of February in the year 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace within and for the County Hezekiah Murphey who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service in the revolutionary war, but according to the best of his recollection he served six months in the militia, and afterwards about the first of November A.D. 1781 he enlisted as a regular soldier for and during the war, and was in actual service seven months as a regular

² I could not find a federal Revolutionary War pensioner by this name.

soldier when he was unable to join the Army again because it was disbanded and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn and subscribed to this 27th day of February A.D. 1833

S/ Charles Wheeler, JP

S/ Hezekiah Murphey

[f p. 19: On November 14, 1855 in Lincoln County Missouri, Sary Murphey, 74, made application for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of Hezekiah Murphey a pensioner of the United States for his service as a private in the revolution; that his pension certificate was surrendered at the time of his death; that she married him April 17, 1794 in Nelson County Kentucky; that her name prior to her marriage was Sary Cotton; that her husband died July 31st, 1842. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 25: On April 30, 1855 in Lincoln County Missouri, the widow, 78, filed for her bounty land entitlement. In this application she states that she was married in Nelson County Kentucky by Isaac Taylor, a Baptist Minister.]

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