

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Swallow W61
Transcribed by Will Graves

Catherine Swallow

f47PA/VA
rev'd 2/8/17

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

[p 11]

State of Tennessee, Overton Circuit Court September Term 1832

On the 24 day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court, it being a court of record, before the Honorable Nathaniel W. Williams, Circuit Judge in and for the said court in the State of Tennessee Andrew Swallow, a resident of the County of Overton and State of Tennessee aged seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to the laws of the land doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of congress passed June 7th 1832. He entered the service of the United States as a private soldier under the following named officers and served as a private soldier.

He states that as he now recollects in the spring of 1778 he was hired as a substitute for a man by the Read in Park County [probably Berks County, PA] in the State of Pennsylvania for the term of two months. Cannot state the Captain's name during this time; he was in the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777]. Cannot recollect his officer's name. He was a rifleman.

Soon after he returned home in the same year he again hired for two months as a substitute for a man by the name of Miller. Marched down near Philadelphia and continued in the neighborhood of Philadelphia until his time of service was out. He was in no battle. Cannot recollect the name of his officer.

Soon after he returned home he enlisted as a waggoner for one year; during this term he went into Connecticut; spent good part of one Summer in that state, and the Army of the United States was then at what was called White Plains. He states that he served out the whole year as a waggoner. He set out on this tour in the spring of 1779 [could be "1778": date written over], and was principally engaged in hauling ammunition. He just set out with the waggons from a little town in Pennsylvania called Reddin [Reading Pennsylvania] and drove to the Army at the White Plains aforesaid and kept in readiness with the army. His Captain was by the name of Archibald and his general waggon master was by the name of Turner. He states that he saw General Washington very frequently. He states that he served out this year as a waggoner.

He removed to Virginia in the Spring of 1780 & settled in the county of Wythe. The succeeding fall he volunteered; went with seventy six men into the State of North Carolina. His Captain was named Buchanan. The understanding was when he set out that they were to join General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] but for some cause unknown to him did not do so, but returned home in about one month during which time they had a small engagement with some Tories, killed seventeen or eighteen Tories & had one killed. He understood when they set out that they were a volunteer company not called for. This engagement was near the Adkin [sic, Yadkin] River.

He the next February he volunteered. Col. Preston set out to raise volunteers and got about one hundred and fifty men, went to Guilford County, North Carolina. Joined General Greene for some time. He with some more left the Army to pursue some Tories, had a little engagement with them at

Hawe [sic, Haw] River but was obliged to retreat and was pursued by the British. This concludes his service as a soldier and he has found it impossible from old age and a bad memory, to give minute descriptions and more especially names and has been as explicit as he can from his present recollection. He has no documentary evidence of his services nor does he know any one by whom he can prove them.

He hereby relinquishes all claims whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any clerk.

S/ Andrew Swallow, S his mark

Sworn to in open court the 14th day of September 1832.

S/ Geo W. Sevier, Clk.

by S/ E. N. Cullom, DC

1st--Where and in what year were you born?

A: In Parks County [probably Berks County, PA] in the State of Pennsylvania and in the year 1760.

2nd--Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A: I have no record of my age.

3rd--Where were you living when called in the service? Where have you lived since and where do you now live? Answer: I was living in Park County, Pennsylvania, removed to Wythe County, Virginia. Moved to North Carolina and from that place to Overton County, Tennessee where I now and have ever since lived.

4th--How were you called into the service: Were you drafted? Did you volunteer and were you a substitute and if so when?

A: As before stated I was twice a substitute. Once for a man named Read and once for Miller. Next as a waggoner and my last tour as a volunteer.

5th--State some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A: Owing to the badness of memory I can tell very few names. I knew Col. Preston and frequently saw General Greene and Washington.

6th--Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

A: I never got but one discharge and that is lost. I cannot recollect that name.

7th--State the name of some of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for verity and their belief of your service as a soldier in the Revolution.

A: George Christian, Esq., Richard Copeland, Col. Stephen Copeland, Josiah Copeland, Fredric Deck, Col. John Gore & Isaac Gore, Esq.

S/ Andrew Swallow, X his mark

Sworn to in open Court 24th September 1832.

S/ Geo W. Sevier, Clk.

by S/ E.N. Cullom, DC

[Henderson Bates and George Christian gave the standard supporting affidavit. They also stated that the only clergyman in the veteran's neighborhood known to them is sick and unable to come to court.]

[p 17: James McDonnald, a clergyman, gave a separate standard supporting affidavit on October 8, 1833.]

[p 18]

State of Tennessee Overton County

This day personally appeared Andrew Swallow before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace who being duly sworn deposed 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 services but according to the best of

his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades to wit in the year 1778 he served two months as a private substitute also in the year 1778 he served two months more as a private soldier making four months that year, he further states that in the spring of 1779 he enlisted as a wagoner and served twelve months as a Waggoner in the year 1779 making sixteen months service; and further he states that in the year 1780 he again enlisted as he understands as a wagoner and served nine months in the year 1780 making twenty-five months. Given under his hand and seal this 2nd day of September A.D. 1833.

S/ Andrew Swallow, X his mark

[p 44]

The State of Tennessee Overton County Circuit Court: February Term 1834

This 4th day of March in the year 1834 Andrew Swallows [sic] an applicant for pension personally appeared in open Court the same being a court of record and after being duly sworn according to law made the following statements by way of addition and amendment to his original declaration filed in this court on the September 1832.

This applicant would state that he is greatly afflicted with the Palsy, and this with his old age and defect of recollection, puts it wholly out of his power to deal in much details.

As to his first tour of service, it was as he now recollects 1777. About one week before the battle of Brandywine, the company to which he belonged reach[ed] Wilmington and continued there until after the main Army marched through, commanded as he understood by General Washington two days before the battle, He learned that they were to be placed under command of General Morgan, but were not. He was placed on the right wing of the Army on a hill, and remained in that position until the battle was over. Then returned towards Philadelphia, stopped at Bunkers hill and remained there until his term of service was expired. – During which time Philadelphia was taken. He states he served out his full term of two months, and received a written discharge from the Captain.

As to the second tour – Soon after his return home and in the same year he again hired as a substitute for a man by the name of Miller, to serve a tour of two months and set from the same County of Parks under the command of Captain Leshar marched to a place near Bunkers Hill and there joined Washington's army. The British at this time had possession of Philadelphia. He states that he continued in that neighborhood, until his term of service of two months was expired – He states he was in no battle received a written discharge from Captain Leshar.

As to his services as a wagoner, He states cannot comply with the requisitions of the war department, as he knows of no living witness by the he can prove the service.

As to his fourth term of service under command of Captain Buchanan he can say little more, he served at least one month. He states he received no written discharge.

As to his fifth tour of service under command of Colonel Preston, cannot state the time of service with any degree of certainty. It was more than one month. Received no discharge.

He would state that his former declaration making over two years, the longest time for which he could be allowed pay, he therefore omitted other services which he [was] informed will entitle him to pay. He states that in the spring of 1781 as he now recollects, He joined a company commanded by Captain Ward (as he recollects the name) in the County of Wythe in the State of Virginia, and marched to the frontier against the Indians, and guarded at a Fort on the head of Clinch River. The Company went about through the neighborhood in small divisions. He states he served out a tour of 2 months. Received no discharge – Another company came to the Fort and the company to which he belonged was sent home.

He states that he has lost all his discharges. He states that during the times of service of which he has spoken & detailed he was not engaged in any other support.

He states he can furnished the department with no better evidence than that of a good name. And must submit his claim to the department with that evidence.

Sworn to in open Court the 4th day of March 1834

S/ George W Sevier Clerk

By E. N. Cullers DC

S/ Andrew Swallows

[p 9: On February 13, 1844 in Overton County Tennessee, Catherine Swallow, aged 89, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Andrew Swallow a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$26 per annum; that she was married to Andrew Swallow in the spring of 1785 to me: that her husband died September 30, 1843; and she signed her application with her mark.]

[p 8: the following is what appears to be a transcribed portion of the family record of the veteran and his widow taken from what appears to be the German (or some other language I'm not sure of) which record appears in the original on pp 4-5:

Andrew Swallow was born April 17, 1760

Catharine was born the 10th day of May 1755

Ruben was born the 2nd day of March 1783

Jacob was born the 11th day of February 1786

Magdalena was born the 19th day of January 1788

Elisabeth was born the 18th day of January 1790

Isack was born the 7th of February 1792

Catherine was born the 15th day of January 1794

Rachel was born the 18th day of February 1796

Jemima was born October 23, 1800]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for his service as a private 8 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]