

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James M Williams W6505

Wilmoth

fn62VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 9/20/11

[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.]

State of Virginia, Pittsylvania County, to wit,

On this Sixth day of September 1832 personally appeared before me Stokley Turner a Justice of the Peace for the County of Pittsylvania and State aforesaid James M Williams a resident of said county and state aforesaid, aged 69 years, 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 as a volunteer, and marched from Peytonsburg, in the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia, in a Company which was commanded by Capt. Stephen Coleman in the month of February 1781 to Halifax Old Court House, and from there we crossed Dan River at Irvin's Ferry [John Irvine or Irvin maintained a ferry across the Dan River in Halifax County, Virginia] and soon after joined Genl.' Greens [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army and marched in the State of N. Carolina and continued with him until some time in the month of March 1781. Capt. Coleman and the most of his Company were discharged at the high rock in Rockingham County N.C. after which I entered the Service of the United States as a substitute for my Brother John Williams who was a drafted soldier in Captain William Dix's Company, attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Nathaniel Cock [Nathaniel Cocke] in Genl' Stephens' Brigade [Edward Stevens], Genl' Stephens was wounded in the Battle at Guilford. The Americans were defeated and retreated to Troublesome Iron Works and rendezvoused at that place. I marched from there in the said company with Capt. Dix. Commanded by Colo. Cock, Genl' Greene - & I believe Genl' Lawson [Robert Lawson], to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River where many of the Militia were discharged. I was discharged near that place, about the last of March 1781 Then joined Captain Morton's Company - and came as a guard with some British Prisoners that were taken at the said mills to Halifax Court House and delivered them to the Jailer of Halifax County Virginia. The time of service rendered was at least 6 or 7 weeks. My discharges are lost and cannot be found I have no documentary evidence but the service rendered is proved by Robert Ferguson¹ and ___ who were soldiers with me in the service at the same time.

In the month of July 1781 I enlisted with William McCraw, Deputy Quarter Master for the Southern Army at Peytonsburg, Pittsylvania County Virginia for twelve months and was employed the whole time as a carrier of Public Dispatches & after the term for which I enlisted, had expired, I still remained in the public service for some time. I was employed to take 56 horses from the County of Cumberland in the State of Virginia and carry them to Ashley Hill, in the State of South Carolina. I did so, and delivered them to Edward Carrington, who was Quarter Master General, for the Southern Army. The whole time of service rendered in the Revolutionary War was at least fifteen months. I have no discharge that can be found but the service rendered under this enlistment is proved by Robert Ferguson who enlisted in the service with me.

I was born in the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia in the year 1763.

My age is recorded in a Family Bible that is now in my possession.

¹ [Robert Ferguson W7262](#)

I lived the County of Pittsylvania when I entered the service of the United States, I lived in the same county when the war ended, and have lived in that county ever since.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ J.M. Williams



Sworn to, and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Stokley Turner, JP

[fn p. 27]

I Robert Ferguson of the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia do hereby Certify and Solemnly Swear, that in the spring of 1781 I was a Soldier in Captain William Dix's Company of Militia in the Service of the United States when the Battle was fought at Guilford in the State of North Carolina, and that James M Williams was a Soldier and Served in the Said Company under Captain Dix in General Green's Army: I also Certify and Solemnly Swear that in the month of August of the same year 1781 I enlisted with William McCraw Deputy Quarter Master in the Southern Army, at Peytonsburg, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and Served as a Waggoner in the United States Army until the end of the War, and that James M Williams also enlisted with the said William McCraw and Served as a carrier of the e-mail, and other public dispatches for twelve months – and that the said James M Williams was honorably discharged from the said Service, Given under my hand this 22nd day of August 1832.

S/ Robert Ferguson, R his mark

[On October 14, 1840, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, Wilmoth Williams, 73, filed for her pension as the widow of James M. Williams; that she married him December 2, 1784; that he died January 12, 1838. They had a son named Thomas Williams. Other facts in file: the widow was born in October 1768 and was the daughter of Catharine Walker.

fn 37: ]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$44.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 13 months and 14 days service as a private in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned for a like amount commencing January 12, 1838.]