

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McDonald W6814

Isabella McDonald

f36NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/8/09: rev'd 10/10/16

[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.]

Georgia Clarke County

On this 13th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before Charles Dougherty presiding Judge of the Superior Court of said County John McDonald a resident of the County of Clarke & State aforesaid aged Sixty-nine 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 under the following named Officers & served as herein stated: He entered the service at Salisbury, North Carolina, on the 12th day of February 1780, under Capt. William Shields, as Capt. -- Joseph Muse as Lieut. & William Cox as Ensign which company was a volunteer company drawn from Col. Joseph Alston's Regiment of Militia. He volunteered for a six months tour and was marched immediately to the Monongahela River & stationed there near a Fort called Fort Johnson, though he never was at the Fort. He remained there until his first term of service expired & then volunteered again for a similar term & thus he kept renewing his service, in like manner until after Cornwallis was taken [Yorktown, October 19, 1781], upon receiving the news of which & hearing the Indians were likely to come in upon the settlements near Pittsburg then called Fort Pitt they were marched to that place & were there stationed to guard the frontiers & prevent depredations by the Indians until the middle of June 1783 at which time he left that place & returned home -- renewing as before stated in his service every six months from the said 12th of February 1780 to the 12th of February 1783 terminating his last enlistment the middle of June aforesaid. His whole length of service was three years & four months -- He was in no skirmishes, his principle duty was guarding & scouting on the frontiers. While at Monongahela, detachments of the troops stationed there were frequently engaged in skirmishes with the Indians, & on one occasion his Capt. (Shields) was severely wounded & his place was supplied by one Avery Dye under whom the Company marched to Fort Pitt.

He was born, as he has been told, in Scotland, & brought from that place a suckling child, on the 21st of June 1764. He has no record of his age anywhere that he knows of, but such as he was informed by his parents which he has retained in his memory, as the fact. He had a discharge but it is long since lost. He has no documentary evidence & knows of no person who can prove his service. He lived with old General Pickens for years immediately succeeding his coming-out of the service, in South Carolina, after which he moved to Georgia where he has lived ever since with the exception of two years which time he resided in Tennessee. He now lives in Clarke County, Georgia.

To the questions propounded to him in pursuance of the instructions he answers to the 1st

He was born in Scotland as he is informed

2nd he has no record of his age

3rd He was living near Salisbury, North Carolina & lived since the war in South Carolina a small time in Tennessee & the balance of the time in Georgia where he now resides

4. I was called into service as a volunteer.

5. I know of no regular Officers -- having been carried to frontier stations, where none acted that I know of. I have stated my services in the body of my declaration.

6. I received a discharge I think from my last Capt. but do not recollect, it is lost.

7. I state John Espey, A. J. Clayton, Capt. Espey.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ C. Dougherty, JIC

S/ John McDowell

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John McDonald". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[A. J. Clayton and John Espey gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 12: On May 28, 1853, in Clarke County Georgia, Isabella McDonnell, 63, filed for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of John McDonald, a pensioner at the rate of \$80 per annum for his revolutionary services under the 1832 Act; that she married him in July 1811; that he died February 25 1848. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Note: The following are listed as the children of John and Isabella McDonald:

Daniel born July 27, 1813

Mary born December 9, 1815

Christiana born October 7, 1822

Thomas Jefferson born June 11th, 1826

Catroan born August 16, 1828

Marie Elizabeth born July 11, year not stated.]¹

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia.]

¹ This information is contained in a letter dated August 25, 1926 summarizing the contents of the file. There is reference in documents in the file to the widow having cut the record of the births of her children from the family Bible, and the cover sheet of the Bible is among the documents in the file. The actual record of those births, however, is not among the documents in the file. There is no indication what, if anything, happened to that record.