

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Faris William (Farris) (Margaret) BLWt 29734-160-55 W7238 f60VA
Transcription by Fred Weyler 19May2013
edited [in italics] and supplemented by Will Graves

[p4]

At a court held at the courthouse for the county of Botetourt on Tuesday the 11th day of November 1834. Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832:

State of Virginia, County of Botetourt: ss

On this 26th day of September 1834 personally appeared before me John G Dalton, a justice of the peace of the county court of Botetourt, William Farris a resident of Botetourt County and state of Virginia aged seventy one 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 and served as herein after stated. He cannot remember the precise day of the month but it was about the 1st day of April in the year 1781 that he was drafted in the militia for three months in the County of Cumberland Virginia where he at that time resided his captain was *named* Perkins who lived in Buckingham an adjacent county. He marched in the first place under the said Captn Perkins to Buckingham Ct House and from there to Prince Edward Court House where there was a magazine of ammunition. He remained there for several weeks during which time the company guarded the magazine. He there saw Genl Lawson [*Robert Lawson*] who commanded and who *resided a few miles* from the court house. From *Prince Edward* he marched and crossed James River at Carters ferry and passed through Culpepper and Orange County where they joined the *Marquis Lafayette* from the time they passed the river they were pursued

[p5] by Tarlton [*Banastre Tarleton*] and his cavalry by whom they soon very closely *pressed*. He remembers that they had frequently to *travel* during the greater part of the night on one occasion they had laid down to take a nap and when the applicant awoke *he found* that the Company had all gone and he was left alone. He supposed he slept unusually sound and the rest neglected to awake him. He having got up the next day a short time after, he joined Genl Lafayette he was sent off with others to guard the baggage wagon which was on the way to Charlottesville. When they arrived at Charlottesville the General Assembly was sitting there which was dispersed afterwards by Tarleton after remaining there for some time the applicant was regularly discharged, his term of three months having expired. He then returned home to Cumberland County where he remained only *a few days* when he was again drafted for three months under a certain McDaniel who *acted as Captain the Captain* for some reason not going himself from Cumberland Court House the marched across James River at Carters ferry where they had crossed the time before and from there marched to the *Morbin Hills* [Malvern Hills] now known by the name of Camp Holly. They passed nearby Richmond but did not go through it in consequence of the small pox being there at the time. From the *Morbin Hills* they marched through New Kent Ct House to a place called Johnson's old field where they were stationed for a considerable time. From there they marched across the Pamunkey River at Ruffins ferry. From the ferry a part of the company *among whom was the* applicant was sent to West Point as a guard about 20 miles above York when Cornwallis was then *blockaded* whilst

[p6] at the point Genl Washington and his army from the north arrived at York where Cornwallis afterward surrendered [October 19, 1781]. At West Point the applicant was again discharged the three months having expired for which he was drafted making his whole time of service and for which he claims a pension amount to six months in the militia, having lost his discharges he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service from Cumberland County the applicant moved to Campbell and from thence to Botetourt County where he has lived 35 or 40 years. 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. The applicant states as a reason why he has not before this applied for a pension was owing to belief that it could be done only before a court of record and he was unable to get to court on account of bodily infirmity being as he was thirty miles distant. There is no clergyman living in his neighborhood.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. William Faris x his mark

[routine county confirmation and certification

David Ferguson and George Grise neighbors

John G Dillon JP

Henry W Bowyer, clerk

[p8] Pension certificate to Margaret Farris widow of private William Farris
Issued 12Jun1854 @ \$20 to commence on 03Nov1852

[p 14: On March 6, 1854 in Roanoke County Virginia, the widow, 79, filed for a widow's pension stating that she married William Faris in Amherst County Virginia in 1792 and that her name prior to her marriage was Margaret Wisenbury [or Wisenburg] . She signed her application with her mark.]

[p10] Declaration form for bounty land 08Jun1855 in Roanoke Co VA, to Margaret Faris age 80 Married Wm Faris in Amherst Co. *She states her maiden name was Margaret Wisenbury [could be Wisenburg].*

Wm Faris died 03 Nov 1852 in Roanoke Co.

Wit: E Faris & E Blankenship

Cert: Joseph Pritchard JP

[other papers in the 60 page file regarding the widow for administrative compliance, proof of marriage by family register and by Amherst Co VA record, proof of pensioner's death by Roanoke Co VA record.]

[p 18]

A true copy from the family register of Margaret Farris widow of William Farris

Christopher [Christopher] Farris was born 19th of June 1793

Nancy Farris was born October 3rd 1795

Thomas Farris was born September 15th 1797

Bengamine [Benjamin] Farris was born January 13th 1800

Martin [name could be Mastin] Farris was born March 1802

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount commencing November 3, 1852.]



