

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Francis Adams W8313                      Nancy Adams French  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 12 Sep 2015.

State of Kentucky    }  
Mercer County viz } For the purpose of obtaining the Benefits of an act of Congress for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the army of the revolution approved the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1828 I Francis Adams of the County of Mercer and state of Kentucky do hereby state on oath that I enlisted in the continental line of the army of the revolution in June of the year 1780 as a Private soldier and was attached to the Regt of the duke DeLutzen [sic: Armand-Louis de Gontaut, duc de Lauzun] under the command of Genl LaFayette [see endnote] and aided in the capture of Lord Cornwallis. That I enlisted for and during the war and continued as a faithfull soldier to the end of the war having taken the oath of allegiance to the U. States That I came to America with count Rochambeau in June 1780 [sic: arrived at Newport RI on 11 Jul 1780] and was placed under the command of Genl La Fayette in Virginia previous to the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and capture of Lord Cornwallis, and at the close of the war I was a private in the s'd Regt I also declare that I received no pay or Certificate whatever for my services having shortly after the war removed to Kentucky and I further declare that I was not on the pension list of the U States on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1828

Witness my hand this 8<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1830                      Francis hisXmark Adams

[A note in the file indicates that Adams's claim was not allowed under the act of 1828.]

State of Kentucky    }  
Mercer County viz } On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared Francis Adams a revolutionary soldier before me a Justice and Judge of the county court of Mercer (a court of record) aged 81 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832 viz I Francis Adams state that I am now 81 years of age and a resident Citizen of the united states in the revolutionary war and in July 1780 at the White Plains I enlisted as a soldier during the revolutionary war and was appointed Trumpetter in Capt Erlangs[?] company and in May 1781 I marched from the white plains to Philadelphia, Alexandria & was there attached to Col Washingtons horse [see endnote] and then marched to Little York where I aided in Capturing Lord Cornwallis and after he was taken we marched to Charlotte court house where we were stationed and after the war closed I was Discharged in Fauquier county Virginia where I resided until the year 1791 when I removed to Kentucky and settled in Mercer County where I have resided ever since and am now so infirm that I cannot conveniently attend court. I farther declare that I hereby relinquish all claim that I may have to any pension or annuity except the present, and I am not now a Pensioner of the U States or of any state. Witness my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832.

Francis hisXmark Adams

NOTES:

Gen. Lauzun was not under the command of Lafayette. He arrived with Gen. Rochambeau at Newport RI on 11 July 1780 and like other French troops remained under Rochambeau's command. Lafayette was a Major General in the Continental Army and commanded American troops.

Lt. Col. William Washington's 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons was in South Carolina throughout 1781 and did not serve at the siege of Yorktown. The 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons under Col. Anthony Walton White did serve at the siege of Yorktown under the command of the French General Armand-Louis de Gontaut, duc de Lauzun. It is unlikely, however, that the French troops under Lauzun were attached to any American regiment. I could find no record of a Capt. Eslang or Erlang. The Pension Office generally did not grant pensions to foreign soldiers unless

they served under American officers.

Both of Adams's applications were certified by George Philips (pension application S31908), who claimed to have served with Adams.

On 16 Oct 1832 Francis Adams was issued a certificate for a pension of \$120 per year for two years service.

On 16 Oct 1838 Nancy Adams, 84, applied for a pension stating that she married Francis Adams in Fredericksburg VA "about two months before the capture of Lord Cornwallis and his army at little York," and that her husband died 11 Jan 1837. Her application was supported by Susannah Cummins, aged 48, the fifth child of Francis and Nancy Adams.