

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Rankin W8543

Mary

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/7/12

[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.]

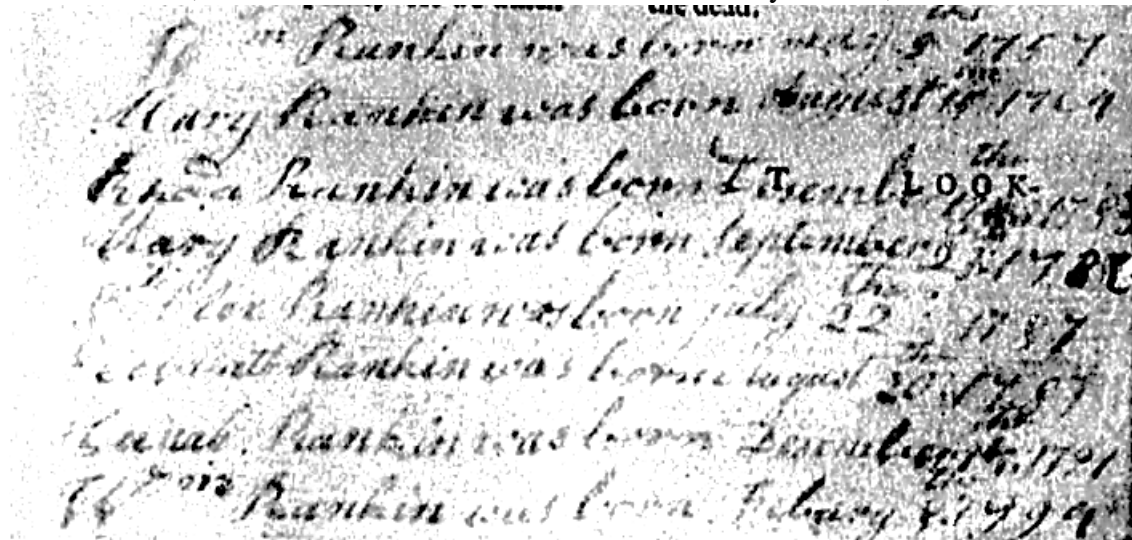
State of Kentucky Woodford County: SS

On this the first day of March 1843 personally appeared before me James H. Elliott an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County & State aforesaid Mrs. Mary Rankin resident of said County of Woodford and State of Kentucky aged near eighty years, and who is by reason of bodily infirmity prevented from appearing in open Court and who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and Pensions to certain widows" That she is the widow of William Rankin who was a soldier of the Virginia Continental line and belonged to the Infantry and served three years as a volunteer in one tour, the time he volunteered to serve, and was in Captain Andrew Wallace's Company under Colonel James Wood in the 12th Virginia Regiment under Major General Green [Nathanael Greene] – and she also declares that she cannot state all his captains nor the one under whom his service terminated as some of his officers were killed – She further declares that he would frequently speak of his officers and in high praise particularly of Colonel Campbell General Morgan and General Green. She also declares that she cannot state the month in which her husband entered the service in the month in which his service ended – but knows his service expired the year before she was married to her said husband. And her marriage took place the 31st day of January 1783, and therefore he must have left the service sometime in 1782 and to have served three years must have commenced sometime in 1779 which is in accordance with the best of her recollection. She further declares that her said husband was in several Battles and particularly was in the Battle fought at Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] in the South and fought in the spring of 1781. She has often heard her aforesaid husband speak of said Battle besides many others in which he was engaged – She further declares that he resided in Augusta County Virginia when he entered the service and entered as a volunteer and she knows he set out from Augusta County Virginia and was afterwards in the South and he went from Augusta County Virginia and joined the Army. She further declares that she has no documentary evidence in support of her claim further than a leaf from her Bible which she herewith files in which shows that her said husband was born the 3rd day of May 1757 and that she declarant was born the 15th day of August 1764 – and that her oldest child Rhoda Rankin was born the 14th day of December 1783 not quite eleven months after she and her said husband were was married – and which also shows that Mary Rankin was born September the 23rd 1785 – and which also shows that her oldest son John Alexander Rankin was born the 22nd July 1787 and also shows that Elizabeth Rankin another one of her said daughters was born the 20th day of August 1789, and also shows that Hannah Rankin was born December the 17th 1791 and also shows that another

one he being the youngest of her sons¹ was born the 8th of February 1794 – She also expressly declares that the hand write [handwriting] of said leaf herewith filed is the hand of her said husband and that he wrote the same in her presence and by her side. She further declares that she was married to the said William Rankin on the 31st day of January 1783 and that her husband died the 11th day of June 1798. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the 1st day of January 1794 viz. at the time above stated. Sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year aforesaid.

S/ J. H. Elliott, JP

S/ Mary Rankin, X her mark in



A handwritten list of names and birth dates, likely from a military record or pension application. The text is written in cursive and includes the following entries:

- Rankin was born ... 1757
- Mary Rankin was born August 17 1769
- Anna Rankin was born ... 1783
- Mary Rankin was born September 31 1783
- John Rankin was born July 22 1787
- Robert Rankin was born August 20 1787
- General Rankin was born ... 1791
- William Rankin was born February 8 1794

[f p. 4]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 13th day of June 1783, in the name of William Rankin, as a Soldier of Infantry for £64.13.8, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Colonel Gibson and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
22nd day of February 1845.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband's service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

¹ William Rankin