

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Walls W8972

Martha Walls

f22MD

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/12/15

[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.]

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In order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress of the 7th of July 1838, entitled an Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows –
State of Maryland: SS

On the twenty-first day of June in the year of our Lord, 1845, personally appeared before the subscriber one of the Judges of the Court of Record for the County of Prince George of said State, Martha Walls, a resident of said County and of said State, aged 83 years & 4 months, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 7, 1838. Entitled an Act granting half pay and pension to certain widows:

That she is the widow of George Walls who was a Soldier and Sergeant in the Revolutionary Service; that he enlisted first as a private from Charles County, Maryland for Six months in the Flying Camp Service under Captain Belain Posey and at the close of this period of service he went on North to join the Northern army somewhere about Amboy in the Jerseys – places of which I have heard him speak in connection with his Services in the Army but never was to remember the particulars as I never expected to apply for a pension or anything of that kind. He did not return after going North to join the regular army there, which I believe was not later than 1777; that he went South with the army down to Little York as Yorktown was then called; that he was present at the Battle of Yorktown and saw Cornwallace [Cornwallis] when he surrendered his sword to Washington [October 19, 1781]¹; that after the British had left he was detailed to cleanse the City & then took the small pox, and lost his discharge; that he was in several other battles, but cannot relate particulars being aged and so sick and feeble; that she remembers hearing him say that they fell all around him and of the officers cheering them on saying stand your ground the day is yours &c; that other times when retreating before the Enemy the chain Shot would down bushes and Shrubs by them just like a Scythe on a grainfield; that she knows he was a Seargeant [sic] from the impressions received from him; that he has often said his duties were to carry out fresh men and relieve the guard from time to time; that he always said he was a Sargeant [sic] in the army; that she was 83 years old the 14th of February last; was married to George Walls in the year 1784; that they were married in Prince Georges County Maryland in the year 1784 by Bishop Clagett; that she has often heard him speak of the officers her husband George Walls served under, but can only remember Capt. Gaither [perhaps Capt.

¹ Cornwallis actually delivered his sword via a surrogate to General Benjamin Lincoln

Henry Gaither] and Colonel Smallwood [William Smallwood]; that she is certain he served under each of these; that he has often spoken of losing some valuable paper or papers at the Hospital where he was carried sick with the small pox directly after the Battle of Little York; that she never expected any use to be made of such information and thought so little of it; that owing to old age and long sickness and feebleness from confinement cannot remember to state the particulars more clearly or fully; said declarant further affirms that she was not married to said George Walls before the close of his services, but the marriage took place prior to 1st January 1794 namely on the 28th of March 1784; that her husband the aforesaid George Walls died on the Eleventh day of May in the year of 1831; that she had often heard him say that in into regular service he did not want to be dragged in that he volunteered; that she firmly believes he was out most of the war.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me

S/ Edmund Key
Martha Walls, X her mark

I hereby certify that the aforesaid Martha Walls widow of George Walls is not able by reason of age, blindness, and infirmity to attend Court for the purpose of giving her deposition or for any other purpose, not having been able to be moved from her bed for a long time without much difficulty. The said Martha Walls a neighbor of mine has been blind many years and bedridden for several years past.

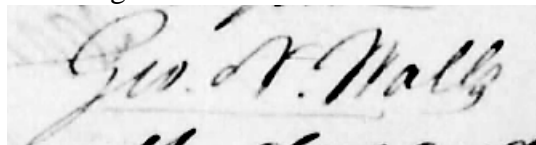
Edmund Key

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Maryland, Prince George's County Court

I hereby certify that on this seventh day of April in the year 1845 personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County, George N. Walls and made oath on the Holy Evangely [sic] of Almighty God that he had from his boyhood up heard his father speak of being in battles of the Revolutionary war; often of the engagement at Yorktown; that at another time when they were retreating, of his having to cross some boggy or murky run where he lost his gun, but on mentioning it to his Captain he had another presented promptly and in a way that seemed to compliment him for his bravery; another time when retreating he described that the chain shot of the enemy on passing as sweeping down or rather off the green briars as rye before a scythe.

George N. Walls

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Geo. N. Walls". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted.

Sworn to and subscribed on this day and year above written, before

R.A. Hyde

I hereby certify that George N. Walls of Prince George County is a neighbor of mine, well known to me personally for his moral worth and excellence; that his testimony is entitled to confidence and credit.

Edmund Key

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Maryland Prince George's County to wit

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of April 1845

personally appeared George N. Walls before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the within enclosed papers purporting to be a family Record was the family record of George Walls that the same identical record has been in my keeping for more than twenty years last past: that the Record is partly in the hand writing of Josiah Wilson who married one of my Sisters a daughter of said George Walls and a part in my own hand writing: that said record is a true and faithful copy made from a family Record originally kept in a large family prayer book which has been destroyed for more than thirty years – that said Record is accurate and genuine.

S/ Geo. N. Walls

[pp 11-13: Family Record]

Deaths

Elizabeth Baden wife of John Baden born September 2nd 1764 died September 25th 1835

Benjamin B Walls, son of George Walls and Martha Walls his wife Departed this life September 16th 1836 age 35 years and 10 days

William B Walls the son of George Walls and Martha Walls Departed this life January 29th 1823, aged 30

George Walls father of the above departed this life 11th of May 1831 aged 79 years and 86 days

Naylor T. Walls [sic, probably Naylor T. Walls] the son of George Walls and Martha Walls Departed this life January 15th 1835 aged 37

Marriages

George Walls married to Martha Naylor on Thursday 28th day March 1784

Margaret B Walls Married to Josiah Wilson on Thursday 30th day of January 1817

Benjamin B Walls Married to Elizabeth Harvey on Thursday 30th day of July 1835

George N Walls Married to Sarah Club January 20th 1824

Births

George Walls born February 14th 1752

Martha Walls wife [of] George Walls born on the 14th day February 1762

Martha Baden Walls daughter of George Walls and Martha his wife born the 30th of January 1787

Jane N. Walls as above born 23 May 1791

William Batson Walls born as above 3rd July 1793

George Naylor Walls born as above 22 day of August 1796

Naylor Davis Walls as above born the 12th of November 1798

Benjamin Baden Walls as above born 6 July 1801

Elizabeth and Walls as above born the 11th day of November 1803

Martha and Walls as above born on the 18th day of March 1807

Martha and Rebecca Walls Daughter of Benjamin B Walls and Elizabeth Harvey his wife born June 10th 1836

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$27.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband service as a private in the Maryland militia.]