

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Asa Searcy W8992

Frances Weatherhead¹

fn49NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/2/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 11]

State of Kentucky Hickman County

On this 6th day of February 1843 personally appeared before the County Court of Hickman County State of Kentucky Francis Weathered, Widow, a resident of the State of Kentucky and said County of Hickman, aged seventy-eight years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress passed for the relief of Widows of the Soldiers of the Revolution and other services, in certain cases made and provided. That she was married to Asa Searcy who was at first a volunteer private soldier in the Army of the Revolution in the Militia service and finally for some time before the close of the war a regular soldier, a private in the company commanded by Captain Joseph T Rhodes of the 10th Regiment, commanded by Colonel Abraham Sheppard. He was a volunteer from the County of Granville, (then called Bute County) North Carolina. From an according to my best recollection of his service, He first went into service at the commencement of the War in his sixteenth or seventeenth year of his age and served first a nine months tour and next a twelve month tour, after which he returned to his Father's in Granville County North Carolina and was present at his Father's Wedding, his second marriage, to my elder sister Elizabeth Jett and in a short time thereafter he went again into the service and I did not see him again until after the close of the War, he returned to his Father's House in the County of Granville and but a very short distance from the home of my own parents. After the close of the war a few years we moved to waters of the Holston River in the State of Tennessee and afterwards emigrated to Madison County State of Kentucky, then a frontier country and during the time we lived there he for about three years acted in the capacity of an Indian spy and also during the time of our residents in the said County of Madison, Kentucky, he volunteered as a private soldier in the Army under General St. Clair and was absent from home some time and when he returned was worn down and almost exhausted with famine and fatigue, stating that they had been defeated in a dreadful battle with the Indians and that he althe [sic ?, altho?] he had escaped unhurt, he had traversed the Wilderness for many miles and most of the time without food and rest. Subsequently he again volunteered as a private in the Army under

¹ A/k/a Frances Weathered, Former Widow

General Wayne, and when he returned home gave a detail of the severe battle in which he bore a part under General Wayne and of the defeat of the Indian Army. His service in the Army of the Revolution was mostly in South Carolina and Georgia. I beg, respectfully to refer to the evidence of Asa Searcy's services furnished by his uncle Major Pleasant Henderson formerly of Chapel Hill North Carolina and since the year 1830 a resident of Tennessee, who was a soldier and an officer in the Militia service of the Army of the Revolution, and whose standing in society has been equal to any as regards moral worth and integrity for proof. I beg respectfully to refer to the Honorable Thomas H Benton of the Senate as well as the Honorable Willie P Mangrum and the Honorable William H Haywood also of the Senate, and to the Honorable James Graham and Rencher [?] of the House of Representatives and others of the North Carolina members of Congress any of whom I and myself can testify to his great respectability. His deposition you will find marked A and as himself a pensioner of the United States, until the 10th of December at which time he died. A reference to his credentials for obtaining a pension, which are I suppose on file in the proper Department is respectfully solicited in connection with his deposition, marked A.

Next I beg to refer to the traditionary evidence in the paper marked the furnished by Alexander Henderson formerly of Newbern [New Bern] and next of Milton North Carolina and next of South Carolina, and now of Holly Springs Mississippi and here again I beg to refer to the members of Congress as above, most of whom will no doubt cheerfully testify to his [indecipherable word] of character. The papers marked C and D furnished by the Secretary of State of North Carolina also herewith respectfully submitted.

In regard to my identity as the Wife and Widow of Asa Searcy and for further confirmation by traditionary evidence in regard to the service of said piece of Searcy in the Army of the revolution and of his participation in battles above mentioned against the Indians I herewith submit the evidence of Hiram Hammonds and Joshua Smith in the papers marked E and M, one living in Graves County Kentucky and the other in Hickman County and State of Kentucky. Also the paper marked N the evidence of Mrs. Susan Dryer of Mills Point Kentucky, the widow of the late Colonel Dryer also [indecipherable word] distinguished himself on the Memorable Battle at Orleans [New Orleans] referred to the Honorable Lynn Boyd [sic, Linn Boyd] member from this district. Also the paper marked R the deposition of Mrs. Rogers the Wife of William Rogers of Caledonia Henry County Tennessee. She further declares that she [has no] record of her marriage which took place in North Carolina. She has been unable to obtain as yet from North Carolina and that in their breaking up and removal from the County of Madison State of Kentucky to the State of Mississippi consequent upon an entire loss of property, the only family record of their marriage and such things usually recorded in families was left and being now old and very infirm her recollection is very imperfect as to those particulars alas [?].

She therefore further declares that she was married to the aforesaid Asa Searcy early in the year of 1783, and that her husband the aforesaid Asa Searcy died in the month of January 1815, in the town of Greenville Mississippi, and that she was afterwards married to Francis Weathered, who died in the fall of the year 1831, and that she is now a Widow and has been a widow ever since the decease of the said Francis Weathered. She further more begs that she may be allowed to send this history of her first husband's service, and although not referred to in the above declaration yet will give further evidence of his long and faithful service in the cause of his country's struggle for independence and of his participation in the Indian Wars and should his service allow sufficient for the granting a warrant for land, she prays that it may be awarded and

in duty bound will ever pray.

Witness my hand and seal

S/ Frances Weathered, X her mark

[fn p. 24: On January 26, 1843, Mrs. Susan Dryer, 63, of Hickman County Kentucky testified, among other things, was a cousin of Asa Searcy, their mothers being sisters



[fn p. 42]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that it appears from a book of settlements of the claims of the officers and Soldiers of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Asa Searcy a private of said line was allowed the sum of 20 pounds 8 shillings and 8 pence by the Board of Commissioners which sat in Halifax in the year 1783 and 1784.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of June 1842.

S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 43]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental Line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Asiah Searcy a private in Captain Thomas T Rhodes's Company of the 10th Regiment which was commanded by Colonel Abraham Shepard enlisted sometime in the year 1781, and that his time was out on the 24th day of May 1782. I have no doubt but he was a 12 months man, and served out his term of enlistment.

Given under my hand this 10th day of October 1842

S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 44: In Hickman County, Kentucky, on January 18, 1843, Joshua Smith a resident of Hickman County 58 years old, gave testimony that on March 27, 1807 in Sumner County Tennessee, he married Elizabeth Searcy, the youngest and only daughter of Asa Searcy and his wife Francis who had but 2 children and the eldest a son named Archibald; that from a family record Elizabeth Searcy, now Smith, was born May 19, 1788 and she was 19 years of age in May next following her marriage; that Asa Searcy died in Greenville in the state of Mississippi in January 1815, his wife Francis then being at the deponent's house in Sumner County Tennessee at the time of her husband's death



State of Tennessee Carroll County: 20th day of May 1842

I Pleasant Henderson² late of North Carolina and now a resident of Carroll County State of Tennessee and a Pensioner of the United States to make upon oath the following statement in regard to the services of my nephew Asa Searcy a Soldier of the Revolution.

Asa Searcy was the son of Reuben Searcy who married my sister and was born in Granville County North Carolina. Early in the commencement of the Revolutionary War said Asa Searcy (then only about 16 years of age) volunteered and was received into the service in the defense of his Country. He served long and faithfully until the close of the war of the Revolution with very little intermission. We served together in the same Regiment in South Carolina & Georgia for six or eight months both going from Granville County North Carolina. When I left service below Augusta in Georgia, he remained in service and it is my firm belief that he became a regular soldier before the close of the War. He returned into Granville County North Carolina sometime after which he married and afterwards removed to the head waters of Holston River then in the present limits of the State of Tennessee and from thence he removed to the State [of] Kentucky. I feel positive in asserting that he was a brave and a willing soldier and while I was in the service with him no one held a fairer standing for steadiness and valor. Owing to my advanced age and infirmity of mind, natural to want of my age I do not recollect the particular Officers and regiments under whom, and in which he served and have only stated such facts as are clearly impressed upon my memory. In testimony of which I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

In presence of
S/ Tepp Henderson
S/ P. Henderson, Jr.

S/ Pleasant Henderson, X his mark

[fn p. 7]

State of Tennessee Madison County

Alexander Henderson of Holly Springs Mississippi at the instance and request of the widow of Asa Searcy, a Revolutionary Soldier makes upon oath the following statement, viz., That he, this deponent, is the son of Thomas Henderson, nephew of Major Pleasant Henderson and of Samuel Henderson Esquire, and cousin of Thomas Searcy all of whom lived neighbors in the County of Rockingham North Carolina³ while this deponent, now 61 years of age, was growing to manhood – all of whom are now dead. That the 3 named Hendersons above were uncles, & Thomas Searcy brother to the aforesaid Asa Searcy. That this deponent has on divers occasions heard these Gentlemen discoursing about the events and occurrences of the Revolutionary war, - of the [indecipherable word] of themselves and their different relatives in those trying scenes, – in which the above named Asa Searcy was held up as a valiant soldier. That he entered the Army at a very early period of the War, – at the age of 16 or 17 years – so young that he was refused admittance in the service by the recruiting Officer Fowk [?] – he first applied, but was soon after accepted on his application to a second—And that in one situation and another he was rarely out of Service during the whole War. That he was severely wounded in some battle in South Carolina or Georgia when the above named Thomas Searcy was sent by this Father after Asa who brought him to his Father's House in Granville County North Carolina.

This deponent has heard have many engagements he was in with the regular British Army

² [Pleasant Henderson S1912](#)

³ Rockingham County was formed in 1785 from Guilford County. Obviously, at the time of the Revolution these families were living in Guilford County in that part that later became Rockingham County.

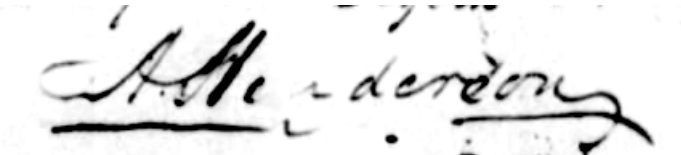
and the Tories (more often against the latter, but has forgotten the number – they were [text broken up and illegible] that he should have escaped with his life.

The deponent knows by hearsay that he was married to a Miss Jett in Granville County NC, and believes the A lady now praying for a Pension is the same, and further this deponent sayeth not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of December 1842

S/ J. H. Davy, JP

S/ A. Henderson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "A. Henderson", with a horizontal line underneath the name.

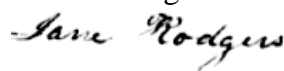
[fn p. 10]

State of Tennessee Henry County: Personally appeared before me Samuel Haynes an Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the said County Jane Rodgers of said County and after being duly sworn Deposeth and saith that she was a half-sister of Asa Searcy Deceased which was in the year of 1815 he died in the State of Mississippi and left a widow Fanny Searcy formerly Fanny Jett. She was sisters to my Mother & my father and Brothers. Asa married sisters some years before I was born. They had two children the youngest of which was older than me. Both born in the year 1788 and I always saw & heard said Fanny called the lawful Wife of said Asa – he having removed to Mississippi I never lived near him. That himself and family visiting my Father's family in 1801 & 2 also in 1806 and staid till 1807. Also in 1812 which was the last time I ever saw him. Her Father & visited him and his wife Fanny Searcy married Francis Weatherhead of Sumner County Tennessee in the year 1815 and became a widow again in the year 1830 and now resides in Hickman County Kentucky and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 6th of January 1842

S/ Samuel Haynes, JP

S/ Jane Rodgers

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jane Rodgers".

[Veteran's former widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843 for the services of her former husband as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]