

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McDonald (McDonnald) W9186

Mary McDonald f37VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/22/13

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 9]

State of Kentucky County of Franklin: Sct.

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Samuel Todd sole Judge of the Franklin Circuit Court (a court of record) now sitting John McDonald a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged sixty-eight years and in his sixty ninth year he 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated –

He entered the service of the United States about the month of March 1781 as a substitute for one William Smith who was drafted for three months in Captain John Waugh's Company in the County of Culpeper Virginia – Captain Waugh's Company to which he belonged was attached to Colonel James Slaughter's Regiment – was marched from Culpeper to Black Water on the South side of James River to draw all arms, was then marched to Petersburg on the night of his arrival at this place the British landed near it and compel the American forces to retreat. The British took some prisoners of whom was Robert Yancey Captain of the Light horse and acquaintance of his, how many others were taken he has now no recollection – from Petersburg he was marched to the cole mines [coal mines] and remained there until the British burnt Manchester [April 30, 1781] – from thence he was marched to Richmond and remained there until driven off by the British. The Americans there were commanded by General Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg] – from Richmond he went with the troops to which he was attached, retreated up the country to the rackoon ford [Raccoon Ford] on the Rapidan [River] in Orange County where having served out his time he was discharged. He received a written discharge from his proper officer, does not recollect whether it was his Captain or Colonel that gave him the discharge, he recollects it was a printed paper signed by him: which discharge was lost or mislaid a few years afterwards, he has not seen it for upwards of forty years. = Major John Williams was attached to his Regiment whom he well knew. He also knew a Major Dabney then in the service who he thinks was an aid to General Muhlenberg.

About a month after his said discharge he again entered the service of the United States (as a substitute for his father John McDonald, who was drafted for three months) in the said County of Culpeper Virginia and was attached to Captain Cad Slaughter's Company and was marched to Mobbin Hill [Malvern Hills] below Richmond to join the Army, his company was attached to Colonel John Slaughter's Regiment Virginia Militia. He remained at Mobbin Hill some time and was then marched to Williamsburg remained there some time and was moved to a place called the old Entrenchment, towards Little York where he having served out his time was

discharged which was about 2 weeks before the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] – which discharge was lost or mislaid in like manner with his other discharge before named. Whilst he lay at the "Old Entrenchment" he saw and knew General Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette – whilst he served at Williamsburg the French Army lat [sic ?] at that place 2 weeks and marched from there to little York.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John McDonald



[William Hickman, a clergyman, and John Bartlett and Edward Roe gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories propounded by the Court – where and in what year were you born

Ans

. I was born in Culpepper County Virginia in the year 1764.

Question – Have you any record of your age if [so] where is it –

Ans. I have one in my own Bible, placed there many years ago from one furnished me by my Father from the register of the Church where I was born.

Question Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live.

Ans. I was living in Culpeper County when called into service – after I served my last tour as set forth in my declaration I returned to Culpeper County and resided there until the year 1805 when I moved to the State of Kentucky and settled in the County of Franklin where I have resided ever since, save one year I lived in Scott County.

Question. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I served both Tours as a substitute one as substitute for William Smith, the other for my father as stated in my declaration.

Question. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I refer to my declaration as containing the names of all the officers I have recollection of who served where I did to wit Colonel James Slaughter, Colonel John Slaughter, Major Williams, Major Dabney, Captain Yancey of the Horse, the 2 captains under whom I served and Generals Washington and Lafayette: I refer to my declaration as responsive to the latter claim of the interrogatory, as also for answer to the interrogatory "did you ever receive a discharge from the service, if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it." I might add that I did not recollect whether it was my Captain or Colonel that gave me my discharge in either case. I know it was the one or the other of them in both cases.

Question. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution –

Ans. I am known to my neighbors generally and believe that Msrrs. William Hickman, Senior, John Bartlett and Edmund Roe will testify as to my veracity and their belief of my services as a

soldier of the Revolution.

[p 17: On September 19, 1857 Mary McDonnell, widow of John McDonnell a revolutionary war pensioner filed an affidavit in which she states that her name prior to her marriage was Mary Lives; that she married John McDonnell August 15, 1831; that they were married by William Penny, a minister of the gospel at Lawrenceburg in Anderson County Kentucky; that her husband died in the County of Franklin Kentucky 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 1843 [both the date and the month all written over and unclear]; that she is still his widow and applies for the benefits due her under the 1853 act as the widow of a revolutionary war pensioner. She also stated that as of the date of her petition she is 68 years of age. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p. 20: On June 19, 1854 in Franklin County Kentucky, William Wise, 62, gave testimony that John McDonald died in Franklin County January 5, 1843; that John McDonnell was married to the affiant's sister August 15, 1831; that affiant was present at their marriage performed by the Reverend William Penny. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p. 21: Eliza McDonald and Melinda McDonnell gave testimony on September 19, 1857 in Franklin County Kentucky that the Bible record of John McDonnell contains the following entries:

John McDonald was born December the 26 December 1764

John McDonald Col died January 5<sup>th</sup> 1843

The relationship, if any of the affiants to the veteran and/or his widow is not stated

- 1857  
Eliza McDonald  
Melinda McDonald

[Facts in file: The widow died October 10, 1857; Elijah McDonald is referred to as a son of the veteran; Ezekiel McDonald is referred to as a grandson, aged 43 in 1854; the names of the grandsons parents are not stated.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831 for service as a private in the Virginia militia for 6 months.]