

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Peter McDonald W9554 Catharine McDonald f88VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/23/13

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

State of Indiana County of Clark: SS

James McDonald of the said County aged sixty-two years being sworn does on his oath make the following declaration (viz.). He is one of the sons of Peter McDonald and Catharine McDonald his wife both of whom are now dead (viz.) the said Peter McDonald died in this County on the 18th day of March A.D. 1825 leaving the said Catharine his widow who survived him and continued his widow and also died in the same County on the 14th day of January A.D. 1841 leaving at her death the following named her surviving and only surviving children (viz.)

1. Mary McDonnell
2. John McDonald
3. Sarah intermarried with Andrew Mitchell
4. James McDonald this declarant
5. Permely intermarried with David Coffle
6. David McDonald

For Record of birth see my annexed statement as also my statement in relation to the marriage of said Peter and Catharine.

The said Peter McDonald in his lifetime had the reputation of having been a soldier in the service of the United States in the War of the Revolution.

The following is my recollection of what I have often heard him tell of his services in connection with the War of the Revolution (viz.)

He was born at Cape May and lost his father when he was a boy, & his mother married a second husband named McLaughlin and settled in Berkley [Berkeley] County Virginia and in that County my father enlisted in the Eight Regiment of Virginia Infantry. I do not remember how long he enlisted for whether he served more than one enlistment. I do not remember the name of his Captain. I have heard him speak a great deal of Captain Savage and that he was living with the said Savage when he was married I remember that a son of Captain Savage came to see my father here in this County and stayed a day or two with him. He was on his way moving to Missouri as he told us; this was at least forty-two years since.

I have heard him speak frequently of Colonels Bowman, and Markham and of Major Darke and General Scott.

I have often heard him speak of his fellow soldiers but the only name I now remember was one he called "Ned McCarty" who was in the same company I believe perhaps the same mess. From the familiar manner in which he always spoke of him.

I have heard him say that he was marched to South Carolina soon after his enlistment under command of General or Colonel Lee. I have heard him say he was " Battle of Brandywine" [September 11, 1777], and recollect one instance in connection there with (viz.) He did not know

that the American Army was retreating until the above named Colonel Bowman caught hold of him and turned him round.

I have heard him say that he was at the Battle of "Germantown" [October 4, 1777] and was taken as a prisoner there by the British forces. His statement of it was this (viz.) The above named Marham [sic] was our Colonel but he gave up the command to Major Darke above named who advanced and brought on the attack. General Scott was there General at this battle. Darke led his command too far in pursuit of the enemy and they found that they were cut off from the main Army and had to surrender as prisoners of war. They were taken to Philadelphia and I have frequently heard him say that he was kept in prison there for eight months and twelve days. He was about the expiration of that time exchanged.

I have heard him say he was at the "Battle of Monmouth." [June 28, 1778]. I do not remember where he was discharged from the service; but have heard him speak of his discharge although I do not remember of ever seeing one. My Father moved to Kentucky after the War and lived near where the City of Louisville now stands until about the year A.D. 1794 when he moved to this county where he remained until his death. I always believed his statements to be true.

I do not know of any person living by whom I can prove any of his services. I never knew any of his fellow soldiers as such. I make this declaration in behalf of myself and the above enumerated eight years for the purpose of obtaining the pay or pension money or bounty land to which we may be entitled by virtue of the facts set forth in my above declaration under any law or laws. Resolution or resolutions of the Congress of the United States to the benefit of which the Secretary of the Interior may deem us entitled. Witness my hand and seal and Clark County Indiana on this 11th day of October 1852

S/ James McDonald



[pp 9-10: what appears to be some sort of family register informally kept:

Kity Mitchell was born July 21st 1812

Mary McDonald was born in the year of our Lord January the 6th 1784

John McDonald was born in the year of our Lord October the 25th 1785

Sarah McDonald was born in the year of our Lord September the 28th 1787

James McDonald was born in the year of our Lord November the 13th, 1789

Catharine McDonald was born in the year of our Lord August the 29th 1791

Daniel McDonald was born in the year of our Lord September 6th 1793

Elizabeth McDonald was born in the year of our Lord August the 20th 1795

Rachael McDonald was born in the year of our Lord April the 4th 1798

Permely McDonald was born September 15th 1800

David McDonald was born April the 18th 1803

Peter McDonald in the year February 18th 1806

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State of Indiana County of Clark: SS

James McDonald of the said County being sworn does on his oath say that the annexed and foregoing copy of the births of the children of his father and mother Peter and Catharine

McDonald was written by him the same James at least 42 years since while he was going to school; and that at that time he copied the same from the original Family Record of his Father the said Peter McDonald, which original Family Record I believe has been lost or destroyed for at least 30 years from the fact that about that time my father the said Peter called on me for a copy of it and told me that he had lost his Record. I do not now remember how. I gave him a copy but I do not now know where that copy is.

I do not now remember that I ever saw any record of the marriage of my father and mother the said Peter and Catharine McDonald but I have always heard and believed that they were lawfully married in Berkeley County Virginia and from the fact that their first child was born in January the 6th of 1784 they must have married in 1782 or in 1783. I always heard they were married a very short time after my father came home from the service in the Revolutionary War.

My mother's maiden name was Catharine Wise.

Witness my hand in Clark County Indiana on this 11th day of October A.D. 1852

S/ James McDonald

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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 26th day of March 1784, in the name of Peter McDonald, as a Soldier of Infantry for £23.0.4, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Mr. Woodrow and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
27th day of July 1847.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR