Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William McGehe (McGhee) S32399
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Alabama } On this 4th day of January 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before me Thompson M Rector Judge of the County Court for said County now setting William McGehe resident of the County and State aforesaid aged about seventy eight years who 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated that he entered the service as well as he recollects in the year 1777 [sic] as a volunteer Minute man under Captain William Dicks [sic: William Dix] & Col Peter Perkins, that he then resided in Pittsylvania [sic: Pittsylvania] County Virginia – that he was marched from there to Guinns Island. That he arrived there on the day before a battle was fought between the Americans and British [Battle of Gwynn Island, 8 Jul 1776] and that he was posted as a Centenal at the time the battle was fought; shortly after which battle he was marched back to Pyttsylvania County Virginia from there he was marched to Cumberland Gap on Yellow Creek [in present Bell County KY] where he had a battle with the Shawne [sic: Shawnee] Indians where upwards of thirty Indians were killed from there he was marched home the six months for which he volunteered having expired – at which time he received a discharge but believing that it would never be of any use to him he has lost it — After which time he moved to Henry County Virginia and in the year 1780 he volunteered under Captain Lyfus Shelton [sic: Eliphaz Shelton] and was march’d to the waters of Town Creek & Fishers River [Fisher River in Surry County NC] where there were a number of tories who had emboded themselves amongst the quaker’s & where they took about seventeen of them prisoners they were then marched back home to Henry County Virginia

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure who can Testify to his services & that he hereby relinquishes his every claim whatsoever 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 in the United States

1st Where and in what year were you born
ans. I was born in New Kent County and State of Virginia and I think in the year 1755

2d Have you any Record of your age and if so where is it.
ans I have the record of my age at home in my Family Bible

3d Where were you living when called in to the service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live
ans. I lived in Pittsylvania County and State of Virginia when called in to the service. I moved from the State of Virginia to [unclear, possibly Swain] County North Carolina near E. Tennessee where I resided above Twenty Three years from thence to Lincoln County Tennessee where I lived about nineteen years Thence to Jackson County Alabama where I now reside

4th How were you called in to Service were you drafted did you Volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom
Ans. I Volunteered in every instance

5th State the names of some of the Regular officer who were with the Troops where you served such Continental and Malitia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services
Ans. Col Peter Perkins Capt William Dicks Col William Trigg Capt. James Roberts Lieut Trimble

6th did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it
ans I Received a discharge from Col. Peter Perkins and have since lost it.

7th state the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your Character for veracity & good behaviour Your services as a soldier of the
Revolution
Ans. John Read  George Read  James Hall  Samuel M David  Job Batist[?]
William hisXmark Mcgehe

NOTE: Documents in the file show that Direna McGehe of Larkin’s Fork, Jackson County, was given her late husband’s final pension payment up to the day of his death on 1 May 1836.