Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Michael Awalt W326 Eve Awalt f73NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 7/26/07 rev'd 8/3/14

[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.]

[p 5]
State of Tennessee, Franklin County

On this 3rd day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Franklin County aforesaid, Michael Awalt (said Court, now sitting), a resident of the State and County aforesaid aged about seventy five years, who being first duly Sworn according to Law, doth on his oath, make the following Declaration, in order to attain 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. He lived in Roan [Rowan] County North Carolina, and while an apprentice, he was sent by the man to whom he was bound, two trips in pursuit of the Tories, first Trip under the Command of Windle Miller [Wendell Miller?] to ninety six [Ninety Six], the Second trip to Cross Creek. When he was twenty-one years of age, he, volunteered his services for nine months he marched under Captain Cowan to Moons Creek in North Carolina, Dan River, and camped there two months, when he was ordered to return home – he was ordered to march out again about the first of September to South Carolina and when below Camden he was put under the Command of Major Armstrong, In the fourth Regiment, believes his Colonel was Foxton [perhaps an attempt to identify James Thackston], or Litle [perhaps Archibald Lytle], & General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] he was engaged in the battle at Stoneoak [Stono?, June 20, 1779]], against the British, he fired in concert with the American Army about one hour and a half, while the enemy was entrenched, they were then ordered to desist; all was silent, until the enemy came in view, when the firing again commenced, with considerable effect but the enemy, being reinforced he was commanded by General Lincoln to retreat. The Americans carried two wagon loads of wounded men from the field of battle – he then marched to Bluford [sic, Beaufort?], where they encamped one month, and then Started home, they laid down Arms at Rochester Town [Dorchester?] – his time of service having expired, he remained at home for a short time and went out as a substitute in room of Kilian Keply he entered the Service of the United States again under the command of Captain Starnes [John Starnes, John Sterns, John Starns] of the Militia and General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], he marched from home near Camden South Carolina, the particular days he does not recollect, but was engaged in the Battle called Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1781], they marched in the night until they got to Rachel's Mill [sic, Rugeley's Mill?], & then encamped they were met in front and lost a cannon – Gates [Horatio Gates] was the Commander in Chief, Generals Smallwood [William Smallwood] and Gates differed in his hearing about the formation of the line of Battle, and the order of attack, &c he fired the first Gun in the American Army, In the line where he was stationed; he fired three times and looked around and the Company he was in had fled, many having thrown away their guns, he then made his escape; and went home, hungry fatigued and chagrined, his Term of service being three months having expired – he again went out as a substitute and room of George Master for a three month Tour, but was Assigned to drive a Wagon and did not

Join any regular Army anymore, but was within hearing of the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781], and his Wagon was taken from him by the Tories on the fourth day after the battle; he states that he received a Discharge for the nine months Trip from Major Armstrong, but has lost it – he was acquainted with Captain Cowan [David Cowan], Captain Starnes, & Major Armstrong decides his fellows in arms – he can prove by William Ryal actual Services, he does not know of any other person convenient that he can prove his Services by; he is known in his present neighborhood to Parson Elijah Brazier, Colonel William Taylor, Joseph Hilton Esq. and others who can testify as to his character for veracity. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Michael Awalt, X his mark

Sworn to in open Court this third day September 1832
S/ E. Russell, Clk.
Questions by the Court
Where and in what year were you born.
Answers that he was born in Pennsylvania, but does not know in what year, he has no record of his age he calculates his age from the date of his freedom as an apprentice – he lived in Rowan County North Carolina when called into Service, has lived in said County since the revolutionary war two months, he then moved into Cabarrus County in said State & lived there about Ten years, he then moved into Burke County in said State & lived there upwards of twenty years, when he moved to this County & has lived in this County ever since.

William Ryal being sworn says he knew said Awalt in the Revolutionary Wars & has known him ever since he knew him to have served in the nine months spoken of in this Declaration, Saw him in the Army of the United States, and knew him to be served several Tours in scouting parties after the Tories, he has known him ever since and has confidence in any statement he would make, he has always been and now is reputed to be a Revolutionary Soldier.

S/ William Ryal, X his mark

Sworn to in open Court September of the third 1832
S/ E. Russell, Clerk

[Zachariah H. Murrell, a neighbor of Awalt, gave an affidavit of reputation for veracity and reputation of his service.]

[p 22: On December 24, 1840 in Franklin County Tennessee, Evy Awalt, 78, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Michael Awalt, a revolutionary war pensioner; that her husband died April 6, 1835 in Franklin County Tennessee; that she married him in Mecklenburg County April 17, 1778; and that she has remained a widow. She signed this application with her mark. In a separate affidavit she states she has no record of her marriage or of the births and ages of her children the same having been lost or mislaid and cannot be found.]

[p 23: On December 24, 1840 in Franklin County Tennessee, William Rial, 73, of Franklin County Tennessee gave testimony that he married Molly Speck, a sister of Evy Awalt; that his wife Molly is now 79 years of age; that Michael Awalt and Evy Speck were married in Mecklenburg County on April 17, 1778.]

[p 25: On February 10, 1841 in Franklin County Tennessee, Molly Rial (formerly Molly Speck), 79, gave testimony that she is a sister of Evy Speck the widow of Michael Awalt; that she, affiant was formerly a resident of Rockingham County North Carolina; that the reason the affiant is so certain of the date of the marriage of her sister as being April 17, 1778 because affiant cooked the wedding dinner

at her mother's house on the day of the wedding and because of the date of the birth of her sister's first child which was November 25, 1779 just one year and 7 months and 8 days after the marriage of her sister Evy to Michael Awalt; several times in this affidavit the affiant refers to the veteran not as Michael but as Abraham Awalt without explanation as to that discrepancy. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 27: On May 17, 1841 in Franklin County Tennessee, Sophiah Hise widow of Coonrod Hise originally of Mecklenburg County North Carolina now a resident of Franklin, aged 86 years, gave testimony that her husband Coonrod Hise went in company with Michael Awalt and the affiant's sister Evy Speck and saw them lawfully married by Parson Wertman in Mecklenburg County North Carolina in the month of April 1778 although she cannot state the day of the month with certainty; the affiant recalls that she, the affiant, gave birth to a son in February 1779 which was the next February after the marriage of her sister Evy. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 11: On December 15, 1845 in Franklin County Tennessee, Eave Awalt [sic], 82, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Michael Awalt, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she was married to him in Rowan County in April 1781; that her husband died April 6, 1835 in Franklin County Tennessee. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 17: On December 15, 1845 in Franklin County Tennessee, "Sopha Hise" [Sophia Hise?], 89, gave testimony that her husband Conrod Hise Sr.[1] stated to her in his lifetime that in April 1781 he was present when Eave Awalt married Michael Awalt in North Carolina; she also states that her husband has been dead more than 25 years. She signed her affidavit with her mark mark.]

[p 30: On May 24, 1851 in Franklin County Tennessee, Jacob Awalt, 62 years of age, gave testimony that he is the son of Michael Awalt who was a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution at the rate of $50 per annum; that his father died April 6, 1835 leaving his mother a widow; that his parents were married about the year 1786 in Cabarrus County North Carolina; that his mother died August 2, 1848 leaving the following named children her only heirs at law: Catharine Weber, Jacob Awalt, John Awalt, Barbry Tips, Sopha Webb, Nancy Limbo. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of $50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

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[1] **Conrad Hise W4453**