

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William McElheney (McElhenney) R6697
Transcribed by Will Graves

Rebecca fn22SC
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[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.]

State of Georgia, Jasper County

On this 15th day of October 1834 personally appeared before George W. Holland one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of the County aforesaid and which Court is a Court of Record, William McElheney a resident of said County and State, aged 75 years and who is so infirm as to be unable to appear in open Court, who being first duly sworn, according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7th, 1832. That he volunteered in Chester District South Carolina in that part called Craven County in the South Carolina militia in the company commanded by Captain Mills and in the Regiment commanded by Col Lacie [sic, Edward Lacey] – sometime in the year 1779 – and served with the said Captain Mills a tour of duty of about three months or thereabouts during this service he was engaged in a fight which took place at a place called Motley's [sic, Mobley's] Meeting house in Chester District between the Militia and a party of Tories – in this action Col Bratton of another Regiment commanded. That after the fall of Charleston, he cannot recollect the date, having lain for years upon a sick bed – and being much impaired in memory – he volunteered again and under the same officers – and marched up to the Catawba River – where at Land's Ford his Regiment joined Colonel Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] troops and marched with them to Corn stationed at Corn Mills – that he marched with Col Sumter's forces to a place on the Catawba River where they met the British and Sumter was defeated. That they marched afterwards to join Col Campbell [William Campbell] at the place called the Cowpens and then marched to a place called Hanging Rock-- and then fought the enemy at that place – this he thinks was in the summer or fall – that he afterwards marched for King's Mountain and was there engaged in the battle at that place against the Tories commanded by Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] – he recollects Major Brown of the Regular Army at the time news arrived of the capture of Lord Cornwallis's Army and that he then returned home. The reason he never was drafted was from a natural defect in the right arm and hand – he could perform services, but was such a man as was exempted from duty – he was born in the County of Lunenburg, State of Virginia – if there was ever a record of his age, he never saw it – but from subsequent events, to wit, the war, his marriage &c he thinks it was in the year 1759 – he lived in Chester District at the time he volunteered – and after the war in Richland District – then in Edgefield District & then in Abbeville District – from which last mentioned place he removed in the year 1825 in Georgia, Jasper County – where he now lives – he never received any discharge from service – he refers to the certificates of Stephen McElhenney¹ & George Gill² – soldiers of the Revolution who were acquainted with him at that time – and for further [illegible word] as to his character for veracity &c he also is the certificate of Robert Brown & Thomas Houston & David L. Adams a clergyman – all of whom are well acquainted with him at this time & for several years past – and reside in his neighborhood – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency of any State – or (if any) only on that of the Agency of the State of Georgia.

¹ [Stephen McElhenney S21368](#)

² [George Gill S21229](#)

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ G. W. Holland, J.I.C.

S/ William McElheney

Personally appeared before me, George W. Holland, a Justice of the Inferior Court of Jasper County Georgia William McElhenny who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the period of two years & six months from the beginning of the year 1779 as a volunteer & for such service he claims a pension. Sworn to & subscribed this 15th day of October 1834. S/ G. W. Holland, J.I.C. S/ William McElhenny

[David L. Adams, a clergyman, and Robert Brown and Thomas Hariston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 21]

South Carolina Chester District

Stephen McElhenney appeared in open court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of ordinary of said District who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that he was well acquainted with William McElenaney, of the State of Georgia during the revolutionary War & saith that said William McElenaney, then resided in Craven County Camden District in that part now called Chester District & further saith that the said William McElenaney, was a soldier of said Revolution and a friend to his Country, the United States, and was in the following Service: he believes said William McElhenney was Drafted but this deponent does not mind the date of the time nor the officers under whom said William served but knows the claimant marched to Orangeburg & believes he served 3 months tour, after the fall of Charleston he knows said claim William McElhenney, was pretty constantly in service till the year 1782 and was under command of Capt. John Mills Col. Lacey's Regiment and this deponent saith that he knows said William McElhenney was at the Battle of King's Mountain as this deponent was there with the said William & this deponent saith from the time Charleston fell to the time the claimant quit Service was between one and 2 years.

Sworn to & signed in open Court the 29th of December 1833 before

S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

S/ Stephen McElhenney

State of South Carolina Chester District

George Gill he Soldier of the revolution came into open court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary for said District who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that he was well acquainted with William McElhenney who now resides in the State of Georgia and then resided in State of South Carolina in the past now Chester District and further saith that he knew William McElhenney to be a friend to his country of the United States during the Revolutionary War and was one of those who suffered much fatigue & privations during said War & further saith he does not mind any particular service done by said McElhenney but knows when the Enemy had possession of the country said McElhenney had to conceal himself from them as all others did that he is from there on homes and believes him to have been in constant service of some kind or other Army, scouring &c further saith that he would refer for particulars to the within affidavit who was made by a Brother of said McElhenney & a man of truth & veracity.

S/ Geo. Gill

Sworn to & signed the 31st day of December 1833.

S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

[fn p. 2-3: Affidavit dated Sept. 30, 1854, of Sarah Hairston in which she states she knew William McElhaney and his wife Rebecca (whose maiden name was Rebecca Coleman) back as far as the year 1795; that she always knew them to have been legally married in the state of Georgia some time in the

year 1787; that William McElhaney died in 1740 and bore the reputation of a revolutionary soldier and that his wife died April 15 1853 having raised a family of quote many children"[It is not clear from the papers in this file why this affidavit appears as there is no application by either the widow or her children in the file.]