

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

**Pension Application of William Martin**, Nat'l Archives Microseries M804, Roll \_\_, Application #S27556

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Montgomery County, Alabama-On this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1833, personally appeared, William Martin, aged 70 years:

I am seventy years of age according to my father's register. This register is in the possession of Walter Ross of Autauga County. I entered the service of the Unites States during the Revolution in my 17<sup>th</sup> year. My captain was John deJarnette, my Colonel was **Thomas Wade**, my major was Jonathan Jackson. This was in Anson County, North Carolina. I remained in service about two years in the military as a volunteer. I was in one engagement against old Colonel McNeil, a Tory colonel at a place called Bette's Bridge and Drowning Creek. My service was in Richmond and Anson Counties in North Carolina. Walter Ross of Autauga County knows of my services. Jonathan Jackson of Anson County probably is living. He knows of my services. I was in a great number of skirmishes, but was in no engagements as I before stated...

This supplemental declaration of William Martin on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1834, Montgomery County, Alabama-

"Applicant states that he is now near seventy-two years of age..."I entered the service of the United States in my 17<sup>th</sup> year, which was in 1777. This was in Anson County, North Carolina. I was drafted as a militiaman and in my first term, I served three months. The principal engagements in which I was, was at Bette's Bridge in the year '78 or 1779. I was engaged in the service during the whole war at short intervals."

"However, it was found necessary to raise a scouting party, or to go Tory driving, I was called, and sometimes we were engaged two, three, four and eight weeks at a time. I think I may say with safety, that I was in active service for more than two years. Our business was to prevent the gathering of the Tories in any strength in Richmond and Anson Counties. I stated before that I could not tell the active and specific periods when I was in the service. The periods of service were short and at short intervals and all I could say with any degree of propriety is that I was engaged more than half my time from the year 1777 to 1781."

"My officers I have before mentioned. The grown sons and family of de Jarnette now live in Autauga County in this state, and are all acquainted with me. They can state that it was the current report on any of this. They knew me, that I was always passed as a good Whig. He was my captain off and on for more than four years..."

"March 6, 1833, Montgomery County, Alabama-Personally appeared, William Martin, who saith that by reason of old age...he cannot swear positively to the precise time of service that he performed in the war of the Revolution, but according to the best of his recollection, he was engaged for more than two years, from the year 1778 til 1783, when peace was made. The different terms of service were short, sometimes for a week and occasionally for three months, as the experiences of the case required. I know that almost, if not fully half my time was employed in this manner."

"Our object was to prevent the gathering of Tories in the counties and their neighborhood as

specified in my declaration. In every expedition except one, I was under the command of Captain deJarnette. In the excepted case, I was under the command of Captain George Wilson. We acquired provisions for the use of the army of General Gates. I was thus employed for two weeks. The provisions were removed and the company of Wilson disbanded.”

“After this, I was called out under de Jarnette to go after the Tories under Colonel McNeil. The British men were in our part of the country. Our only service was performed against the Tories. Our colonel was Colonel Thomas Wade and he caused us to be called out whenever the country required our aid. To state with precision when I was called out is more than I can do. I went whenever my officers said it was necessary, and when our duty was done, he disbanded us.”

“If this statement will get me a pension, I shall be thankful. I have never received any pay for my duty performed by me. If it is not sufficient, I have no other. I cannot remember every little particular that may now be necessary.”