Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jesse Williams S30803 MD VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky } Sct Rockcastle County }

On this twentyeighth day of August 1834 per[sonally] Appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the [page torn] Court for the County aforesaid now sitting, the same being a Court of record made so by act of Assembly, Jesse Williams, a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged 82 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

His Colo was by the name of Walter Tolly, his Captain, James Gittings. I then lived in Baltimore County State of Maryland. We Rendezvoused at Baltimore I believe in the year 1776 and were discharged there. We again rendezvoused in Baltimore I believe in the year 1778. I was again Called into Service in Culpeper County Virginia in the year 1781. My Colo was by the name of Slaughter, Beale, Major, Lillard Capt, Triplett Leut. I joined the Army at Mauben Hills [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond], on James River. We marched from there to black Water and there stoped, then from there to Chicahominy [sic: Chickahominy River] – New Castle [near present Old Church] – thence to Claibourns Ferry or near there, this was in Gen'l. [Edward] Stevens brigade directly in the rear of Gen'l. Layfayette [sic: Lafayette]. at or near Claibourn's ferry we were discharged. he served in all four tours making over Six months as he beleives. he has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. In An'r. to interogatories propounded [undeciphered word] Court, he says first; that he was born in the state of Delaware, County of New Castle, in the year 1750. Second; that there is a record of his age in a bible in the possession of his son David Williams, living in Franklin County in this State; thirdly, That he lived when called into service in the County of Baltimore State of Maryland, where I lived untill the year 1780. I then moved to the State of Virginia Culpeper County where I lived about 11 years I then moved to Stafford County Virginia from there to Orange County same State I then moved to Kentucky Garrard County where I lived about 10 years I then moved to Rockcastle County where I now live. In an'r, to the fourth interrogtory propounded by the War department; he says, he was called into the service as a malitia man. In an'r, to the fifth interrogatory; he says, of the regular officers he was acquainted with Colo. Mordica Gist [sic: Mordecai Gist] Capt William Riley [William Reily, pension application W26377] - Capt. Edward Oldham; he was also acquainted with Colo. John Green and Colo. John Jamison [sic: John Jameson]. He served in the 9th Maryland Battalion of Malitia. He further states that shortly after he entered the service Colo. Tolly died and Darby Lux was appointed in his place, and James Gittings appointed Maj'r. In an'r. to the sixth interrogatory, he says he received three discharges the first from Colo. Tolly, the other two from Colo. Lux, but they are all lost. He further states that he received a commission as Ensign from Gov. Johnson [Thomas Johnson, 21 Mar 1777 - 12 Nov 1779] of Maryland, and served in that capacity one tour but his Commission is lost or destroyed, he also served one tour as Seargeant. He further states that he is well known to John H. Slaughter Esqr. John Haily and John Quinn (A Clergyman) who resides in his vicinity or present neighbourhood. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Jesse Williams

State of Kentucky } Sct Rockcastle County }

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County & State afs'd., Jesse Williams who being duly sworn in order to amend his declaration for a pension under the act of Congress

passed 7th June 1832, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swore positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of is recolection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades. He first served under Colo. Tolly and Capt. James Gettings; they rendezvoused at Batimore in the Summer of 1776, and remained there some time and was discharged by his Capt. and returned home, having served as he beleives 3 weeks. In the fall of 1777 he was called into service and rendezvous'd again at Baltimore, Darby Lux was Colo, Zackariah Unions, Capt. and remained there as he beleives 5 weeks in actual service and was discharged. In the following year in the Spring or Summer before harvest he was called out again under the same officers last mentioned, & rendezvoused again at Baltimore and remained in service as he beleives five weeks and were discharged. This tour he served as a Sergeant. In the year 1779 he was called out again and redezvoused at the same place and remained in service four weeks, and was discharged. this service was under the same last mentioned officers & this tour he served as an Ensign. He further states that this service was particularly to defend the City of Baltimore against the attacts of Old Dunsmore formerly Gov'r. of Va., who commanded a small squadron of British [sic: Lord Dunmore, summer 1776], and also Tories and Negroes. This last tour has come to his recollection since making his original declaration.

In 1781 he was called out in Culpeper County Va, in the Summer, under Slaughter Colo, Beale Maj'r, Gillard Capt. Triplett Leut, in Gen'l. Stevens brigade, and served two months, and was discharged just before the Seige of York [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. He further sates that he knows of no person living by whom he can prove his service except what he has proven by Thomas Gadd [S31050] whose affidavit is annexed

He further states that he has no evidence of his services as an Ensign or Sergeant, but what he has told. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 23^d day of May 1833

ofte Williams

I Thomas Gadd state, that I was in the Revolutionary War, and served in the same Batalion mentioned by the above applicant in his original declartion but under different Captains. but I was well acquainted with the officers named by said applicant. I was not personally acquainted with the applicant in the service, but from a long acquaintance with him since and from conversations with him years ago and having served the same kind of service myself I have no doubt but he has stated the truth in his declaration & that he served as he states. Given under my hand this 23^d day of May 1833

Thomas Gadd

NOTE: A letter in the file dated 19 Oct 1891 states that "Jesse Williams and his wife (Rachel Gott) moved to Culpepper Co., Va. shortly before the Revolution. Jesse Enlisted in some Regiment, served about five (5) years in the war, and received a Pension up to the time of his death which took place in Kentucky in 1835."