Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Mathias Williams S3580 Transcribed by Will Graves

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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. 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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Morgan County

On this 15th day of October, 1832 this day personally appeared in open court before John M. Davis, Thomas Jack and Thomas S. Lea Justice of the court of pleas and quarter sessions now setting under court of record, Mathias Williams a resident of the County of Morgan and State of Tennessee aged Seventy six years of age who being 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 the 7th 1832.

That he was born November 14th 1755 in Cumberland County Virginia and lived there on the 10th [?] of January 1781 when he was drafted and called into the service of the United States Service under the follow named officers to wit Capt Crede Haskins [Creed Haskins], Major Edmonds Col Dolman [possibly Raleigh Downman or Christian Charles de Klauman]. Marched to & rendezvoused at Petersburg where he was on or about the 20th said month honorably & verbally discharged by Captain Haskins he returned home & was again drafted and called into the service of the united States on the 1st day of June 1781 under the following named officer Captain Richard Allen -marched to Carter's Ferry on James River and then to Dandridge on Pamunkey River rendezvoused and joined the main Army commanded by Brigadier General Robert Lawson who was commanded by Major General Lafayette marched under Lafayette to Bottom Bridge on Chickahominy River, then to Ratliff old field then marched to Hickory nut Church was there when the Battle was fought by General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] & Genl Campbell [William Campbell] against Cornwallis at Old James Town. But was not in the Battle then marched to Holsford [Halls ford?], Stationed there three weeks then to Morgans Hill's [Malvern Hills?]. Stationed there three or four weeks then marched to Rackett's landing near Richmond and was there honorably but verbally discharged about the 8 of August 1781 by Captain Allen having served about three months. He was again drafted and called into the service of the United States Between the fifteenth & last of August, aforesaid month & year 1781 under the following named officers to wit: Creed Haskins, Col Skipwith [Henry Skipwith] then marched & rendezvoused at Swan's Point on James River opposite to old James Town. Then marched to York Town [Yorktown] by the way of Old Williamsburg was in the siege of York under the officers of Genl Robert Lawson Brigade continued in the siege until Cornwallis surrendered and until two days afterwards when he was very sick & discharged by Inspector Doctor whose name is not now recollected. He returned home having served about three months the precise day of discharge not now recollected. This applicant may be mistaken as to dates but well

recollects the service by him rendered as set out in the foregoing declaration and cannot be mistaken about the same. He has no written Documentary evidence whereby he can prove his service nor has he any written record of his age this applicant lived in the State of Virginia in Cumberland County about 11 years after the War was over. Then moved to Campbell County Virginia Lived there about thirteen years. Then moved to Tennessee Anderson County Lived there six years. Then moved Roan County now Morgan County where he now resides he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Rolls of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & Subscribed in open court this 15th day of October 1832

S/ Mathias Williams, X his mark

Attest: S/ John Brown, D. C.

State of Tennessee Morgan County

I John Williams resident of the State & County aforesaid hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Mathias Williams who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration and that I of my own knowledge know him to have been a soldier of the revolution and that he served in the Army of the United States at the siege of York as stated in his declaration. Sworn to and subscribed in open court the 15th of October 1832.

John Williams

[Reuben Jones & Shadrach Stephens gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Morgan County

On this 15th day of April 1833 personally appeared in open Court before John M Davis, Daniel S Lavender & John Williams Justices of the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County now sitting Mathias Williams, the person named in the foregoing declaration for a pension who after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that from old age & consequent loss of memory that he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection the captains under whom he mustered gave him credit for seven months duty he believes according to the best of his recollection that the periods of his services is not less than to entitle him to six months pay and for such service he claims a pension as a private.

And he further says that there is no clergy residing in his neighborhood nor was there any at the time of making of the original declaration & in consequence of which it was out of his power and is still out of his power to get a clergyman to court and he further says that the following persons residing in his neighborhood can testify to his character for veracity & a soldier of the revolution John Williams, Shadrach Stevens, Reuben Jones, John M Davis, Elijah Ruse, Ezra Stincepher, John Staples Sworn to & subscribed in open court 15th day of April 1833

Matthias williams

[attested by Thomas S Lea, deputy Clerk]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]