

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Alexander S361

fn43SC[NC]

Transcribed by Will Graves

District of West Tennessee, Smith County

Pursuant to a commission to me directed from the Honorable John McNairy Judge of the United States Court for West Tennessee I have this day caused William Alexander of the County of Sumner personally to appeared before me who being first duly sworn, on his oath says that he is about 78 years of age, that during the revolutionary war, he was a resident citizen of Rowan County North Carolina that in the year 1775 he Entered the service of the United States a private soldier in Captain John Brandon's company against the common Enemy and in the year 1776 he was appointed by General Griffith Rutherford to the command of a company of volunteers spies on a campaign against the Hostile Cherokee Indians and in that capacity marched his company into the Cherokee nation and while engaged in the line of his duty in an engagement near the seven mile Mountains on the 8th day of September 1776 he received a gun shot wound in his right foot a bullet having entered at the top of the foot near the arch of the foot and came out at the bottom which then disabled him from further duty during that campaign and for a length of time afterwards but after having recovered so far as to do duty on horseback his anxiety to serve his country induced him again in the year 1781 to Enter the service in Colonel Hampton's Regiment in the South Carolina line as a Captain in said Regiment where he remained 10 months and was in several Engagements amongst them the Battles of the Cowpens, the Battle and Siege of 96, Fort Motte, Biggin Church, Granbury [sic, Granby?] & ~~Cowpens~~ and continued until discharged that he continued to reside in Rowan County North Carolina until the year 1796 then removed to Sumner County in the State of Tennessee where he has ever since resided that his occupation has always been that of a farmer that when young he believed that he had a competency to procure a subsistence, and in principle was averse to pensions or being pensioned and for that reason never before made any application for a pension and is not on the pension roll of any State but now overtaken with old age and his circumstances somewhat reduced, in difficult hard times with an aged partner depending upon him for support he has been constrained to ask from the government that which in better times he had intended never to claim that it is out of his power to procure the Evidence of any of the commanding officers on to which he served, that which is now furnished is the best in his power to procure.

Sworn to and subscribed the 18th day of August in the year 1824

S/ Robert Allen, commissioner

S/ Will Alexander

[Richard Alexander, 54, son of the applicant, filed an affidavit in support of his father's application.]

[William Alexander died August 4, 1830.]

[Doctor John H. Ray of the Town of Carthage in Smith County was appointed to examine the applicant.]

District of West Tennessee, Smith County 18 August 1824

It is hereby certified that William Alexander a Captain of a company of volunteer spies employed against the Cherokee Indians is rendered incapable of performing the duties of a soldier by reason of wounds or other injury inflicted while he was actively in the Service aforesaid and in the line of his duty viz. in an engagement on the 8th September in the year 1776 with the hostile Cherokee Indians. By satisfactory evidence and accurate examination it appears that on the 8th of September in the year 1776 being engaged against the hostile Cherokee Indians at or near a place called the Seven Mile Mountain in the Cherokee nation, he received a wound by a ball in the inner side of his right foot, and is thereby rendered not only incapacitated for military duty but in the opinion of the undersigned is totally disabled from obtaining his subsistence by manual labor.

S/ H. Brooks, Surgeon
S/ J. H. Ray, Surgeon

District of West Tennessee, Smith County

Pursuant to a commission to me directed from the Honorable John McNairy Judge of the United States Courts for West Tennessee I have this day caused William Brandon¹ personally to appear before me who being first duly sworn, on his oath says that he is about 76 years of age at this time a resident citizen of Smith County Tennessee that he is well acquainted with Captain William Alexander now present and an applicant for a pension, that he himself went out on the same expedition against the Hostile Cherokee Indians in which the said William Alexander was wounded, that he then lived in the same neighborhood and went out under the command of Captain John Brandon that on the 8th day of September 1776, in the Cherokee nation the spy company commanded by William Alexander being a small distance ahead of the company under which he marched the Indians commenced an attack on the Army and wounded Captain William Alexander in the right foot, that he seen him a few minutes after he received the wound and was appointed to nurse and take the said William Alexander home he was so disabled as to be incapable of further duty that he has known the said Alexander and been acquainted with him ever since and knows that after he recovered sufficient to do duty he entered the service of the United States again and was an active and vigilant officer against the common Enemy whenever his country needed his services that the occupation of the said William Alexander is that of a farmer that he resided in Rowan County State of North Carolina during the war of the revolution and that the time he was wounded that in the year 1796 he removed to Sumner County in the State of Tennessee where he has ever since continued and at this time does reside further saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 18th day of August 1824.

S/ Robert Allen, Commissioner

S/ William Brandon

1 [William Brandon W71](#)