

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Caldwell: W345

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee}  
Jefferson County} ss.

On this 11<sup>th</sup> Day of December 1833. personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of Our Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions, now sitting as a Court of record, in and for the County of Jefferson aforesaid, William Caldwell, aged seventy years, and who is a citizen of the County of Jefferson, & state aforesaid, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he served in the Revolutionary war as follows.

That he entered the Service of the United States as a Substitute, in the latter part of the year 1780. or early 1781. The gentlemans name for whom he substituted, is not now recollected - his memory having become frail. He enroled himself at Petersburg [sic: Petersburg] in the State of Virginia, in Captain McReynolds [Thomas McReynolds's] Company, was Commanded by Major Richard Loman - also General Merryweathers [sic: Meriwether]. from thence he was marched into the State of North Carolina, low down in the state, where he was kept in Service, in pursuit of the Tories from Swamp to Swamp - not staying more than two days at a place, until his time of Substitution expired which was three months. he received a discharge which he has lost.

And afterwards towit in the same year towit on the 1 Day of April 1781. and as soon as he was discharged from his first trip - He was drafted at Bedford Court house in the State of Virginia, was enrolled in Captain Clemmons Company was commanded by Major [John] Ward. from thence he was marched into the State of North Carolina, thence into the State of South Carolina, to a Fort called ninety six. he was there at the Siege at that place [Siege of Ninety-Six, 22 May - 19 June 1781] and continued there untill the americans was drove by Lord Roudon [sic: Francis Rawdon]. thence he was marched to Camden where he was stationed for some time, thence he was marched to the High Hills of Santee where he remained for some time and was discharged, having been in service Six months he received a discharg which he has lost

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state

The following interrogatories were propounded by the Court to the applicant-

Question, Where and in what year were you born

Answer I cannot tell the year that I was born but I was born in the State of Pennsylvania.

Question. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it

Answer I have no record of my age

Question Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live.

Answer when I was called into Service I was living in Bedford County in the State of Virginia - after the Revolutionary war was over, I moved to Jefferson County State of Tennessee where I now live.

Question How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer I served one campaign as a substitute, the gentlemans name for whom I served I do not now recollect, the other campaign I was drafted.

Question State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops, where you served, such continental and Milititia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services

Answer In my first campaign my captains name was McReynolds - was commanded by Major Richard Loman and General Merryweather. In my second campaign Captain Clemons and Major Ward - does not recollect any thing about the Regiments.

Question Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it.

Answer I did receive two discharges one of which was signed by Richard Loman the other by Major Ward - which discharges have been lost

Question State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer I can prove my character for veracity & good behaviour by the Reverend John M. Campbell a minister of the gospel, and David Caldwell, both citizens of Jefferson County, and my services as a soldier of the Revolution by Alexander Caldwell a citizen of Jefferson County.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & date above written [signed] William Caldwell

NOTE: On 5 June 1843 Ellenor Caldwell, age 78, applied for a pension stating that she married William Caldwell on 1 Sept 1791, and he died 24 Nov 1840. With her application is a copy of a bond signed by William Caldwell and David Moor in Greene County TN on 30 Aug 1791 for the marriage of Caldwell to Elleanor Moor or Moore.