Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Stegall W4816 Transcribed by Will Graves Susannah

f25VA(2files) 4/19/12

[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 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina County of Rockingham: SS

On this 30th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before his honor the Judge of the Superior Court of Law & Equity for the County aforesaid now sitting, John Stegall, a resident of the said County of Rockingham in the State of North Carolina aforesaid; aged seventy-four years on the 7th day of July last past, 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 viz.. I entered the service in August (as near as I can ascertain) in the year 1777 in the County of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia, as a drafted militia man in the company of Robert Blackwell (Captain) who shortly afterwards resigned and Captain Joseph Winn took command of said Company, at Halifax in the State of North Carolina, I the said John Stegall having marched from Lunenburg to the town of Halifax under the command of said Captain Blackwell. I remained at the said town of Halifax about 3 months, under said two captains in the Regiment commanded by Colonel David Mason. I marched from Halifax aforesaid under the command of said Colonel Mason, in the company commanded by said Captain Joseph Winn, to Oxford in the County of Granville in North Carolina, tarried there a few days and marched thence to Salisbury in the said State of North Carolina thence by way of Charlotte North Carolina to Camden in the State of South Carolina where we tarried about three weeks, then marched to a place called Stono the head quarters of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] (at that time) after remaining at that place sometime, the battle of Stono ensued [June 20, 1779] between the Americans under General Lincoln and the British, in which battle I the said John Stegall was engaged, under the officers aforesaid, this was not far from Charleston South Carolina after this battle, in which the Americans retreated, the company in which I served was discharged, having served our tour of six months, and set out for home. I received no written discharge that I remember of or that I can find. I do not know of any person living by whom I can prove my service in this tour. If there be any such living I expect they are in the State of Virginia about two hundred miles from where I now live: I have no documents or papers that I know of whereby I can prove the above mentioned service. I think it was in the latter part of August in the year 1778, we having started the 1st of March preceding, by entering the service in the beginning of this statement I mean the time when I was drafted.

After this I returned to Lunenburg County aforesaid, where I remained for some time then I was again called into service and marched into North Carolina, after a variety of movements the battle of Guilford C. H. [Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781] ensued in which battle I fault in the company of Virginia Militia commanded by Captain Thomas Moore (the name of Colonel if we had one forgotten). I knew General Nathaniel Green [Nathanael Greene], General

Lawson [Robert Lawson] and General Stephens [Edward Stevens]. I do not know their official rank – other than they were all called generals. This battle was in March in the year 1781 as near as I can remember shortly after this battle I was discharged from the service at a place called Ramsey's Mills On deep River, I having served my tour of 6 months, and was discharged by a written discharge now in my possession, and which discharge is in the words and figures following viz.

"North Carolina March 30th 1781

John Stegall who has served his tour of duty in militia is hereby discharged.

Thos. Moore, Capt."

He the said John Stegall 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, Territory or District of the United States.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Stegall, X [his mark]

[Henry Tatum, a clergyman, and Burgess Stone and John O. dineal [?sic] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories put to John Stegall on his application for a pension, put by the Judge of the Superior Court of Rockingham County in the State of North Carolina, and which were answered as follows

1. Where, and in what year were you born?

I was born in Brunswick County State of Virginia on the 7th of July 1758

2. Have you any record of your age, if so where is it? I have a record or written memorandum of my age now in my possession.

3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since Revolutionary war, and where do you now live? I lived in Lunenburg County Virginia at the time I was called into service and continued to reside there when serving the entire time of my service in the revolutionary war. After the war I removed to Maxlenburg County [Mecklenburg County] State of Virginia from which place I removed to Rockingham County North Carolina where I have & still continue to live.

4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute?

I have already stated that I was drafted into the service.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service. I have in the body of my declaration set forth all that I am able now to recollect in answer to this interrogatory.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service by whom was it given and what has become of it? I do not recollect receiving any other discharge in writing than that signed by Captain Moore & which accompanies my declaration.

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. Many if not all of my neighbors would testify to my character for veracity but I particularly refer to Burgess Stone & John Odeneal to aver thereof.

S/ John Stegall, X his mark

[f p. 11: On February 27, 1839, in Stokes County North Carolina, Susanna Stegall, 78 the 17th of January last, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Stegall, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$40 per annum; that she married him December 10, 1785; that they were married by the Reverend John King, a Baptist preacher in the County of Mecklenburg in the state of Virginia; that her husband died April 8, 1838. She signed her application with her mark. She supported her application by submitting a leaf from her family Bible showing the ages of her children as follows (to wit) "Frederick Stegall born February 4, 1788 (but that miscarried one before he was born) the next was Thomas Jones Stegall was born January 22nd 1792, who was a twin child with John Bayley Stegall born the same time – next was Mary Ann Stegall was born the 15th of November 1796 – and the last was Wiley Short Stegall born April 5th, 1801." She stated that the family record is in the handwriting of William Watson, a school master who made the record at the request of her husband.]

[f p. 14-15: actual family record transcript:

Nancy Bennerfield daughter of Thomas Bennenfield and Susanna His wife was Born 15th ye August 1781

Brigs Bennenfeld Son of Thomas Bennenfield and Susanna His wife was born 17th ye September 1783

Fedrick Steagall son of John Steagall and Susanna his wife was born th febuary the 4th 1788 tommas Jond Steagall son of John Steagall and Susanna his wife was born Jenuary 22 yd 1792 John Bayley Steagall was born Son of John Steagall and Susanna his wife was born Jenuary 28th 1792

Mary aane Steagall Daughter of John Steagall and Susanna his Wife was born November ye 15th 1796

[different handwriting for the following entries]

Wiley Short Stegall Son of John Stegall and Susanna his Wife was Born April 5th 1801 Humphrey Steagall Son of John B Steagall ulah Stegall his wife was born in the year of our Lord 1812 the first day of June]

[Facts in file: In 1839 Benjamin Jones of Stokes County North Carolina stated that his son (name not given) married Mary Ann daughter of John and Susanna Stegall.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service

as a private for one-year in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]