Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Edward Steuart W6170 Mary Steuart VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 July 2013.

State of Virginia Bath County towit Clerks Office

At a Court held for Bath County at the Court house thereof on the 12th day of September 1832 the following Declaration was made and entered of record to Wit:

On this 12th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Bath in the State of Virginia now sitting in Court, Edward Steuert a resident of said County in the State aforesaid aged Seventy three years last February 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 7th 1832. That in or about the 1779 he served as a substitute for Joseph Beathe [possibly Beattie] a three months tour of duty against the Indians on the frontier of Augusta County in this State at Clover Lick Fort [in present Pocahontas County WV] under the command of Capt Robert McKerry [sic: Robert McCreery] but does not recollect that he received any written discharge. That he was drafted to and did serve about two months or upwards about the year 1778 to guard the frontier of Augusta County against the Indians under the command of Capt Andrew Lockridge at Vances Fort on Back Creek then Augusta County [now Bath County] he was discharged but received no written discharge. He further states that about the year 1780 he was drafted to serve another tour of duty and did serve about two months against the British and was marched from Augusta County under the command of Capt John McCoy down to Richmond and from thence to Camp Holly [at Bottoms Bridge on Chickahominy River] he does not recollect the names of the field Officers who were in the service at that time nor does he recollect of receiving a written discharge he further states that in the year 1781 he was drafted for a three months tour against the Brittish and was at the seige and in the engagement at little York [28 Sep - 19 Oct]; and was one of the guards who conveyed the prisoners to the Barracks at Winchester in this state. he was under the command of Capt Thomas Hicklin Majr. John Wilson and Colo. Samuel Vance, but does not recollect of receiving a written discharge. He further states that in 1782 he was drafted as Ensign [see endnote] and served in Capt George Poages Company for a tour of duty of three months to guard the frontier of Augusta County at Clover Lick Fort. during the time of his draft aforesaid he was out on several scouting parties against the Indians but received no written discharges. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever for 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 **Edward Steurt**

NOTES:

On 8 Jan 1833 Steuart made an amended declaration that repeats his previous one and adds the following: "He has not in possession of any documentary evidence by which he can establish the fact of his services as above set forth. That he does not know of any person now living by whom he could prove the same, that there is no minister of the Gospel residing in his neighbourhood. That Andrew McCausland [pension application S5751], John Steuart [S19474], James Steuart [S6159] & Col Adam Dickinson are his neighbours and acquaintances who will testify as to his character for veracity and their belief as to his services as a revolutionary soldier – that he has no record of his age."

Ensigns were commissioned by the Governor and were in service until they resigned their commissions. They were never drafted. On the frontier, however, these formalities may not have been observed. The file contains a certificate by Samuel Bullin, Sr. of Bath County on 19 Oct 1846 that "Steuart served one tour as an Ensign at a place then called Clover lick." Edward Steuart was pensioned for service as a Private and Ensign, but when Edward Steuart's widow applied for a pension (see below) the

Executive Department of Virginia could find no record that Steuart received a formal commission. Through the agency of Joseph Johnson, Edward Steuart's widow accepted a pension for his services as a Private.

On 20 June 1837 Steurt applied to have his pension paid at Wheeling rather than Richmond, having moved to Harrison County VA because his children were living there and he was "disposed to live near them." This appears to be his true signature on that document:

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On 27 Nov 1848 Mary Steaurt, about 80, resident of Barbour County VA, applied for a pension stating that she married Edward Steuart on 4 April 1786, and he died 7 April 1844. A marriage record from Augusta County gives Mary Steuart's maiden name as Mary Callihan. William W. Callihan and Robert B. Steuart certified that Mary Steuart was unable to travel to court to make her declaration. On 10 July 1849 Mary Steuart, said to be about 84, made another application before her son, Edward Steuart, Jr., a Justice of the Peace of Romines Mills in Harrison County. Other documents indicate that Edward Steuart, Sr. died at home on Elk Creek in Barbour County. There is a letter in the file dated 22 July 1846 to the son and executor of the estate of Edward Steuart referring to another son, Charles Steuart.