Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John White W6476 Transcribed by Will Graves Elizabeth

fn45VA 9/10/11

[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 Virginia County of Matthews: to wit

On this 13th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the court of Matthews County, now sitting, John White a resident of Matthews County and State of Virginia, aged seventy-six years, 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. He was under Captain John Willis, Colonel Peyton, Major Boswell and Major Throgmorton were the field officers. He was just old enough to be put on the muster list at the commencement of the war, and stood to nearly all of it, He left the service immediately after the siege of York at which time he was under Colonel Mercer and his Captain Hungerford of the Grenadiers, Thomas Booth was Lieutenant: and Daniel New Ensign. He was in many little skirmishes as along on the coast with barges and tenders, he was in an engagement with the enemy at Seawell's in which he fired thirteen rounds and his officers thought that he killed one of the British officers, this was about the time of the siege of York. He resided in Kingston Parrish Gloucester County when he was into the service and has lived there ever since his discharge, He stood many drafts during the war but was never drafted, he entered the service as a militia man and was in it off and on during the whole war. The standing encampment just before the siege was up Hubbard's Old Fields, thence they marched down to Weir Church and thence to Seawell's Old Fields that were about five hundred men at Weir Church the company to which he belonged marched on ahead, got into an engagement with the enemy and drove them back into Gloucester Town before the others came up. He never served with any of the Continental troops they were on the York side, the French troops were on the Gloucester-side both Foot and light Horse. He was acquainted with none of the regular officers. He has no documentary evidence to show when he entered or was discharged, he received no written discharge. He can prove his service by Simeon Green¹ and James Thomas,² he was born in Kingston Parish Gloucester County in March 1756 he has a record of his age which he exhibited here in court – he was in actual service upwards of 3 years, and was a Sergeant nearly all the war –

He 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John White

¹ FPA S10766

² FPA S11548

Ahi thete

[Joshua Pugh, a clergyman, and Simeon Green gave the standard supporting affidavit

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[fn p. 36]

Personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace for the County of Matthews in the State of Virginia John White, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades to wit: for three months I served as a Sergeant in Robert Cary's Company in the year 1776 on guard at Point Comfort, we were ordered out by the Colonel of the County Sir John Peyton in 1777 I served three months as a Sergeant in George Plummers' company at the same place called out I like order, I served a tour of duty for a months or six weeks at Gwynn's Island under Captain ___at the time Lord Dunmore came to the Island – For two months I served at little York in the year 1778 under John Billups Captain, called out by like order, for three months I served in 1781 under the same officer we were encamped first at Hubbard Old Feels in the upper part of G. County, we moved our encampment from there stopped one night at Weir Church, the next we went to Seawell's Old Field where we were encamped the balance of the tour; For one month I served under Colonel Mercer who enlisted 80 men out of our Regiment as Grenadiers men, our Captain under him was Hungerford, we had an engagement with the enemy at Seawell's Old Field. For three months I served in White's neck under Peter Barnett Captain in 1780. There are many tours of duty the precise length of which I do not now recollect; but these I do recollect making in all six months I served as a Sergeant and sixteen months I served as a private in the Revolutionary War [for] which service I claim a pension S/ John White

The Affidavits of Joshua Pugh³ and William Digges⁴ both of lawful age, made in Matthews County to accompany the declaration of John White made on the 13th of August 1832 to which he has now added an amended declaration.

These Affiants being first duly sworn, depose and say that they were acquainted with John White before he entered into the service of the Revolutionary War, that he served with them, that he belonged to Captain John Willis's company which composed a part of the Regiment of Gloucester militia commanded by Colonel Sir John Peyton, that he was with them at Hubbard's old field, at Seawell's old field and Gloucester Town – he was discharged with the rest of the Gloucester militia at G. Town in October 1981 – These Affiants have heard the declaration made by John White this day and date believe that he served fully as long as the periods mentioned

³ FPA W5586

⁴ FPA S8327

therein that he was engaged in no civil occupation during those periods that he was on duty by order of the Colonel of the Regiment – and further they say not

S/ Josiah Pugh S/ William Digges

Milling in

[fn p. 10: On August 13, 1838, Elizabeth White a resident of Matthew's County Virginia and aged 66 years filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act⁵; stating that she married John White, a revolutionary war pensioner, on March 26, 1791; that her husband died June 12, 1834 and that she remains his widow

Elizabeth

[fn p. 8: certificate of marriage issued for the marriage of John White to Elizabeth Davenport dated March 26 1791 indicating that the ceremony was held in the Church of England and the certificate is signed by James McBride, Minister.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$63.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 16 months service as a private in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$53.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843.]

⁵ Because she was not married to her husband during his time of active service, she would not have been eligible for a pension under the 1836 act. Consequently, on June 10, 1839, she filed a new application [fn p. 39] under the 1838 act for which he was eligible