Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Merry McGuire R22752 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

The State of Mississippi Panola County

On this the 14 day of April A.D. 1872 personally appeared S B Hollinshead a citizen and resident of the County of Panola and State aforesaid before me __ a Justice of the Peace within and for said County and State aforesaid who on being duly sworn according to law deposes and says on his oath that sometime during the year 1854 he was engaged in processing testimony to establish a claim in behalf of the heirs of Lieut. Merry McGuire a reputed soldier in the Revolutionary War of 1776 with Great Britain &c -- That he affiant was placed in possession of a writing purporting to be a certificate of one Isaac Goings dated 14th of July 1854, made out before an officer in the State of South Carolina duly qualified to administer oaths and authenticated by (or according to) the act of Congress in which said Certificate, said affiant Goings averred on oath that he said Isaac Goings, was personally acquainted with and knew said Lieut. Merry McGuire, and that he knew him in the said War of the Revolution, that he knew him to be a soldier in said war of the Revolution because he saw and knew him as such in said Service.

And further said affiant Isaac Goings certified on oath that he knew Abner McGuire of Union District South Carolina to be a son of the said Soldier Lieut. Merry McGuire, and further that Lieut. Merry McGuire married one Jane Smith of Union District South Carolina further averred on oath that Lieut. Merry McGuire died in the year A.D. 1796, that Isaac Goings the Affiant was a citizen and resident of Union District (now Union County) State of South Carolina. I also certify on oath that I procured a certificate from Mrs. Rebecca Goins of Pickens County Alabama in which she stated on oath that she knew Lieut. Merry McGuire of Union District South Carolina to be a Soldier of the Revolutionary War from general rumors, although she did not see him in the Service, that she knew Lieut. Merry McGuire and his wife, that she also knew Abner McGuire to be a son of the said Lieut. Merry McGuire and that she knew A. J. McGuire to be a son of Abner McGuire. I further certify on oath that I inspected the Records of the Military Service of the Revolutionary War in the office of the Comptroller General of South Carolina in the City of Columbia State of South Carolina in the year 1854 and found by the assistance of the Comptroller the record showing that the United States were in arrears with the said Lieut. Merry McGuire (who was also a Sgt. Major) in a large amount of money stated in pounds shillings & pence according to the Currency of Great Britain the precise amount of which I do not remember for his services in the Revolutionary War; and I procured a Copy from the said Records certified by the Comptroller General of South Carolina certifying under oath that the copy was a true copy of the Records in his office, the name of the Comptroller General was one __ Jacobs to the best

of my recollection.

I certify further that I and my partner in the Practice of law to wit C. B. Sullivan, Esquire wrote out a Declaration in behalf of the heirs of Lieut. Merry McGuire and filed the same in the office of the Commissioner of Pensions claiming for said Arrearages that the Commissioner of Pensions either decided on it or referred it to the 2nd Auditor in Washington D.C. or to some other officers, I do not remember distinctly to whom who decided that the heir or heirs of Lieut. Merry McGuire were not entitled under the then Existing laws of Congress because they were not minor heirs or words of that import.

S/S. B. Hollinshead

Personally appeared the above S. B. Hollinshead before me & made oath that the matters & things
Stated in the above & foregoing affidavit
are true to the best of his Knowledge,
information, remembrance & belief
This the 14th day of April 1872
S/ L. B. McHenry [?], Magt.

[image 414: Petition dated November 28, 1853 filed in Oktibbeha County Mississippi by Andrew J McGuire seeking Letters Testamentary to be issued for the estate of Merry McGuire, late a citizen of Union District South Carolina who had during his lifetime served as an officer in the capacity of Lieutenant in the 2nd South Carolina Continental Regiment and secondly as a Sergeant Major, Lieutenant and Adjutant in the 3rd Regiment of the South Carolina Continental line; that according to the records of the Auditor General of South Carolina the deceased received pay and subsistence in the amount of 906 pounds, 16 shillings and 9 pence sterling with interest of 63 pounds, 9 shillings and 9 pence for his services in the revolution; that Merry McGuire died intestate; that Merry McGuire intermarried with Rebecca Smith in Union District South Carolina about the year 1785; that they had several children all of whom died in infancy except two to wit, Abner and Daniel McGuire; that Merry McGuire died in the year 1796; that Rebecca died in the year 1819; that Abner McGuire intermarried with Isabella Webb in Abbeville District South Carolina in 1811 or thereabouts and that he had 8 children by said wife, to wit: Nimrod, Andrew J (your petitioner), James M, Willis P, Joseph O (now deceased) Rebecca (now deceased) who intermarried Toomer, Arelia who married Gee, and Sarah who married Sweetman; that 3 of the heirs live in the state of Mississippi to wit, Nimrod, the heirs of Rebecca Toomer and Gee; all of the other heirs live in Arkansas; that Daniel McGuire intermarried with Rosannah Hall in Jackson County Georgia and had 6 children to wit, Elizabeth, Amanda, Eliza, Abner, Franklin and Jane; that Elizabeth married Isaac Rainey and Jane married Evans; that 3 of the children lived in Harrison County Mississippi to wit Abner, Franklin and Jane Evans and that petitioner does not know where the others reside.

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[Note: The file does not contain the report issued by the Comptroller General of South Carolina showing payments due Merry McGuire for service during the revolution. It is very probable that documents relating to such service appear in the State archives in Columbia South Carolina.]