Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McCroskey R6656 Transcribed by Will Graves Margaret McCroskey

f37VA 4/16/13

[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 one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 8]

State of Georgia Habersham County: On this 7th day of February 1843 personally appeared in open Court before the Inferior Court now sitting John McCrosky [sic] – a Resident of the State and County aforesaid, aged seventy-nine 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 entered the service in the year 1780 under Captain William Cowen – and was elected first Lieutenant by the company and served six months in that capacity under the authority of a commission or Brevet from Colonel Campbell in the State of Virginia at Bushs' Station. I entered the Service as a volunteer. I think in the month of June was frequently moved to Rye Cove and Elk Garden Stations to guard against the Indians – had one skirmish with the Indians from Elk Garden Station & followed them to Big Sandy River – & there took eight American Prisoners from them, all named McCluer [McClure?]—in the early part of the year 1781 entered the service again under Captain David Beaty [probably a reference to David Beattie of Washington County, VA] and served three months as first Lieutenant marched to Roanoke River where we rounded about two hundred Tories and killed three – and then returned back to Elk Garden Station – where we had marched from and there discharged which in both Tours amounted to nine months.

Interrogatories on 3rd page S/ Chas. B. Word, JIC

S/ John McCroskey

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/ Chas. B. Word, JIC

S/ John McCroskey

[Singleton Lisk [could be Singleton Sisk], a clergyman and Philip Hudgins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

He was born in Augusta County in the state of Virginia in the year 1763 or 1764 according to the best of his Recollection. The record of his age is lost or destroyed. He was living in Washington

County Virginia, when called into Service. I have lived since the Revolutionary war in South Carolina Pendleton District and now lives in Habersham County Georgia. He volunteered. I received a discharge by the Colonel which is lost or destroyed. Brevetted by the Colonel lost or destroyed

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Georgia Habersham County: Before me John L [last name written over and illegible] an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County came John McCroskey and after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that at the time he gave his petition for a pension from the United States under the act of 1832 that I did clearly and distinctly tell the clerk who was writing the petition that I had served three – three-months towers [tours] but two of them was served under one Captain that I served them one immediately after the other that I did not go home so that was always called six months though at two towers of three months each the clerk not knowing it would make any difference in what way the service was Rendered put it down a six months tower so the mistake was in the clerk and not in me. Sworn to and subscribed this 19th December 1843 S/ John L Richardson, JP

[p 28: Affidavit dated June 27, 1843 given in Rabun County Georgia by Colonel John McClure who states that he has known John McCroskey since 1792 and has always understood that he served his country as a volunteer in the Virginia troops and has never heard his service doubted.



[p 32] State of Georgia Habersham County: SS

On this 2nd day of December 1844 Personally appeared Before the Inferior Court of the County and State above written John McCroskey a resident of said County of Habersham and State of Georgia, aged eighty 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 Provisions made the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he was a resident of the State of Virginia Washington County and Volunteered in the Army of the United States in the year 1780 and served two separate Tours each of three months in succession as first Lieutenant in the Virginia State Troops under Captain William Cowen, Major or Colonel Russell (Title not distinctly recollected) and Colonel Campbell making six months Stationed alternately at Bushs and Elk Garden Stations on Clinch River was in one skirmish with the Indians at the mouth of the Big Sandy River and left the service in December 1780 receiving his necessary discharges according to his rank, he then volunteered again in the first part of the year 1781 in said Troops and served 3 months as first Lieutenant under Captain David Baty on the Roanoke River and left that term of service he thinks in the latter part of the spring of 1781, and received a discharge also according to his rank all of which together with his Commissions have since been lost – making 9 months Service a revolutionary soldier as first Lieutenant in the Virginia State Troops all of which were performed wholly within the State of Virginia. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State. He further declares that he has made a previous application through the

Agency of John Trammel but he thinks not under the same head of authority. Said agency by John Trammel being hereby discontinued.

The foregoing declaration approved of and sworn to the day and year aforesaid.

S/A. Mauldin, JIC

S/ John McCroskey

S/ James Crocker JIC

S/ Elihu S. Banlay, JIC

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State of Georgia Habersham County: SS

Personally appeared this day John McCroskey Before me Thomas J Hughs and acting Justice of the Inferior Court in and for said County and after being first duly sworn according to law saith on oath that he is unable to furnish any further proof in favor of his services in the Revolutionary [war] in the Virginia forces under Captains William Cowen and David Baty and he hereby hopes his claim will be allowed or referred to the favorable consideration of the United States Stennett and House of Representatives.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this May 3rd day 1847 S/ John McCroskey

[p 37: In a letter dated July 7th 1846, Thomas J Hughs acting for the veteran wrote a letter to J L Edwards in which he makes note that the following man served in the same company with McCroskey: Thomas Price, James Jackson, William Johnson, Thomas Johnson and Daniel Price. He notes "Thomas Price¹ was a pensioner and a resident of Hawkins County Tennessee, James Jackson² was a pensioner resident of Harlan County Kentucky, William Johnson was a pensioner resident in Estill County Tennessee, Thomas Johnson³ was a pensioner resident of Augusta County Virginia and Daniel Price⁴ was a pensioner resident of Russell County Virginia.⁵]

[p 3: Application dated June 16, 1851 filed in Lumpkin County Georgia by Margaret McCroskey, 76, claiming her pension under the 1838 act as the widow of John McCroskey; that she married him in Washington County Virginia April 14, 1790; that they were married by a minister of the gospel named Cummings; that her husband died in Habersham County Georgia February 10 1850. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 5: Affidavit dated June 16, 1851 given in Lumpkin County Georgia by John D McCroskey, 55 years and 11 months of age, in which he states that he is the 3rd child of his parents; that he has heard his father John McCroskey speak of serving in the revolution for 3 months as a Lieutenant & 6 months as a private.

¹ Thomas Price W10227

² FPA S38071

³ Thomas Johnson S18064

⁴ Daniel Price S14227

⁵ In picking these names to include in his letter to Edwards, Hughs seems to have simply picked their names off the 1840 pension list without making any attempt to determine whether or not any of these pensioners actually claimed service remotely similar to that claimed by John McCroskey. As far as I could see, none of the named pensioners appear to have been the same people named by McCroskey as having served with him. There were too many candidates named William Johnson who served in Virginia for me to wade through them to identify the most likely candidate to be the pensioner referred to by Hughs.

John benonky

James, M. Hughes

[p 2: letter dated December 30, 1850 from Clarksville addressed to JL Edwards inquiring about information concerning the pension of John McRoskey [sic], the grandfather of the correspondent, James M Hughes