Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Nelson R7595 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.]

State of North Carolina Union County: In Open court April Term 1855 Present D. A. Covington, J. E. Irby & H. J. Wolf

On this the 6th day of April A.D. 1855, before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Union in the State aforesaid, personally appeared Daniel Nelson aged 59 years, a resident of Lancaster District in the State of South Carolina; who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions of the act of 7th of June 1832; that he is one of the children & heirs at law of William Nelson deceased, who was a private soldier in the company of Militia commanded by Capt. Hugh Knox in the Regiment of State Troops of South Carolina commanded by Colonels Roebuck [Benjamin Roebuck] & Kimble in the war of the Revolution.

That his father (as he believes) entered the service at Lancaster District South Carolina about the first day of September A.D. 1780; for the term of 6 months & continued in actual service in said war, for the term of 6 months & was honorably discharged at Lancaster on the __ day of __ A.D. 1781; That he was in the following engagements, viz.: Buford's defeat at Hanging Rock.¹

That he served under the following named officers in addition to the above, viz.: under Lieut. & Col. Kimble and Captains Coffee [probably a reference to Captain Henry Coffee], Collins [probably a reference to Captain John Collins] & William Nesbit [William Nisbett] & William Hughs [William Hughes] Company in the Regiment commanded by Colonels Roebuck & Kimble. He acted as a Sgt. or 41 days in the company commanded by Capt. William Hughs & in the Regiment commanded by Col. __; and 80 days or more as a private, infantry in the Regiment commanded by Col. Roebuck. That he has no documentary evidence of his service. That he left no widow surviving him, That the following are the only surviving children of the said soldier, William Nelson, viz.: Nancy Belk, Robert Nelson, John Nelson, Abel Nelson, William Nelson, Andrew Nelson & Daniel Nelson. That his father the said William Nelson was married to his mother, (who was Mary Cousart, before marriage) in Lancaster District in the State of South Carolina; on the 8th day of May 1777, by one William Baskins a Justice of the Peace. That his mother the said Mary Nelson died on the 14th day of December A.D. 1837 & that his father the said William Nelson died in Lancaster District in the State of South Carolina on the 6th day of March A.D. 1840. And further that there is no public record of their marriage

¹ May 29, 1780. http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_waxhaws.html It is highly doubtful that this applicant's father was in this engagement as I have found no independent evidence that any SC militia were engagement along with Abraham Buford's Virginia Continentals.

& that there is a private family record of their marriage.

He hereby appoints Samuel H. Walker up, his true and lawful attorney, with power of substitution, to prosecute his claim to receive the certificate when issued, & to do all the other acts necessary & proper in the premises.

Witness

Janial Selson.

S/ DA Covington S/ JE Irby S/ HJ Wolf Attested by W. M. Stewart, Clerk

State of North Carolina Union County

On this 26th day of June A.D. 1855, personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid duly authorized to administer oaths Benjamin Nesbit a resident of said County, to me well known as a credible witness & who being by me first duly sworn doth on his oath states that he was well acquainted with William Nelson & his wife Mary above named, that he knew them for 40 years before their deaths, that he has examined their family record, that he believes the same to be genuine, that it is contained in a book purporting to be the Bible & printed in the year of our Lord 1792 at Cambridge by J. Archdeacon publisher to the University & that said record as far as relates to the marriage of William & Mary Nilson, & the names and dates of the births of their children is as follows viz. "William Nilson & Mary Nilson married May ye 8th 1777 & the names of the only surviving children "Robert Nilson their son was born January ye 31st 1781 -- John Nilson their son was born March ye 15th 1784 Abel Nilson their son was born January ye 25th 1786, Thomas Nilson their son was born May ye 5th 1788, William Nilson their son was born June ye 7th 1791 -- Andrew Nilson their son was born January ve 11th 1794, Daniel Nilson their son was born February the 28th 1796, Lettice Nilson their daughter was born October ve 25th 1799."

& that the deponent is not interested in the claim.

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year first above written before me & I certify that I am in no manner interested.

S/ John Stewart, JP

S/ Benjamin Nesbit, X his mark

State of North Carolina Union County

On this the 27 day of June 1855 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Alexander Montgomery² of Lancaster District South Carolina to me well known as a credible witness who being by me duly sworn deposes and saith that he was a Revolutionary soldier, that he was well acquainted with William Nelson that they served together, for some 6 or 12 months under the same officers, that served under General Sumter [Thomas Sumter], under Captains Coffee, Collins, Nesbit, and others, he cannot recollect all their officers, nor how long they served under each one, he said they served 3 tours of 6

² Alexander Montgomery S21890

months each and that William Nelson served one tour with General Marion [Francis Marion], that they were in the battles as stated in the foregoing declaration, he further states that he knew William Nelson before his marriage, that when William Nelson married he settled and lived in 1 mile of deponent until the date of his death, that they were messmates in the Army for about 6 months, deponent further states that he is now 98 or 100 years of age according to the best of his knowledge that his mine has become frail and that he cannot state what he knows in any kind of order, but says William Nelson was a good soldier, a good respectable citizen and raised a respectable family, with whom he is well acquainted.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day & year above written & I certify that I am in no manner interested.

S/ John Stewart, JP

S/ Alexander Montgomery, M his mark