Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hugh McVay S15286 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 Kentucky, Caldwell County: SS

On this 20th day of August, 1832, personally appeared in open court before Jas. C. Weller, M. A. Rucker, John W. Marshall & S. M. Asher justices of the County Court of Caldwell County, State of Kentucky, now sitting, Hugh McVay, resident of said County & state, aged Ninety years last April, who being, first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit: That he entered the service first in the County of Caswell, State of North Carolina about the year of 1778 (as he thinks) as a volunteer in the Militia of that State for three months against the Tories toward Cape Fear & Georgetown. That in this expedition he served under Capt. Wm. Payne [William Payne] & Lieut. Wm. Pratt [William Pratt], this Regiment was commanded by Colo. John Payne - that there were two Regiments in the expedition as he thinks, but the Colo. of the other Regt. is not remembered - that in this expedition we encountered the Tories at a bridge called Cross Creek bridge and dispersed them, which broke them up in that quarter, and after serving the tour of three months we were discharged. That shortly after this expedition he went into Lawrence [sic, Laurens] County, South Carolina in the frontier, where he had a brother living - that shortly after arriving there Indians and Tories broke out & commenced their depredations on the frontier, and he again volunteered in the said County of Laurens and joined a Company commanded by Capt. John Rodgers [John Rogers], and the Regiment to which this Company belonged was commanded by Col. Williamson [Andrew Williamson] (who was afterward a General) - the Lieutenant of the Company was John Lacey - that this expedition was three months, during which we had won several engagements with Tories and Indians: First at Lindlay's fort [sic, Lindley's Fort, July 15, 1776] in which we gained a victory, and took some Tory prisoners; next at an Indian town called Sinico [sic, Seneca Town, August 1, 1776], on Seneca river, where we again beat them - next at Tugulo [sic, Tugaloo, August 10, 1776] river where we fought across the river, and again they retreated, and we crossed the river and destroyed their town - Next we returned towards Seneca and came to Ring battle [August 12, 1776], where a severe battle was fought - the enemy at one time had nearly Surrounded our forces, but we at length, gained a complete victory over them, after a hard contest - this finished the war in that quarter for the time, and the Indians sued the Governor for a treaty of peace, which he thinks was entered into, but soon after he returned to Caswell County, North Carolina, and was drafted again into the service in the Militia of the State, six [men] being required out of every Captain's Company. That the draft was for nine months, and the service was against the Tories & British - that the rendezvous was at Hillsboro - that he belonged to Capt. Graves' [John Graves' Company, and to Col. Moore's [William Moore's] Regiment -- that they marched from

Hillsboro to Pedee [sic Pee Dee River] & the Cheraw Hills near the State line where various skirmishes & fighting took place by scouting parties - that scouting parties were sent out wherever the enemy were supposed to be posted, and we continued in this quarter during the whole nine months, during which time, the battle at Sullivan's Island and at Georgetown took place, but the Regiment to which he belonged was not in either of these battles, being ordered against the Tories and British about the Cheraws. That after the expiration of tour, he was discharged by his Captain, and was again called into service. That he served with Davy, Pratt, Tap and others, but whether any are living he knows not, nor does he know of any living person by whom he can prove positively his service. The court propounded the interrogatories to him, as directed by the War department; to which he answered, that he was born the 18 April 1741, in the County of Richmond, Virginia, on the Rappahannock river, and when young moved to Lunenburg County, on waters of Roanoke - then to Halifax County, and lived there till about the time of the Revolution, and then moved to Caswell County, North Carolina, and was about 35 years of age when he entered the service there - that after the war he moved to South Carolina and lived there about 23 years, and moved then to Tennessee awhile, and then moved to this County where he has lived upwards of 20 years, and is now extremely old; that he has now no record of his age, having lost it in the time of the revolution, and keeps his age now by his memory - that he received a discharge in writing from the service which he rendered but - it has been worn out & lost many years ago, and his officers having died, he could never get it renewed. That in his present neighborhood, he is known to Arnold Jacob, Henry Machen, Tho. S. Hill, Tho. Jackson, Wm. Ford, Rev. Jas. W. Mansfield and many others could testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on a pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Hugh McVay

Hugh Moray

We, John Barnett - a clergyman and John Jones and William Ford - residing in the County of Caldwell & State of Kentucky hereby certify that we are well. acquainted with Hugh McVay who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration; that we believe him to be ninety years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ John Barnett S/ John Jones S/ Wm Ford

S/ Ch. B. Dallam D.C.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]