Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Martin S16459
Transcribed by Will Graves

f56GA

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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.]

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Original claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the pension list under the act of 18th of March 1818 Commonwealth of Kentucky, County of Henderson Sct

On this 22nd day of fifth month 1826 personally appeared in open Court viz.: the County Court of said County of Henderson, being a County of record, & made so by the laws of the aforesaid State of Kentucky, which created it, John Martin resident in Henderson County, aged sixty-six years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 & the 1st of May 1820; that he, the said John Martin Enlisted soldier for the term of two years, or "during that war" in the State of Georgia -- in the Company commanded by Captain McIntosh in the Regiment commanded by Major Haversham [sic, John Habersham] in the line of the State of Georgia -- on the Georgia Continental Establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the close of the war when he was discharged from the service in the year 1783, in the State of Georgia -- at Savannah by Major Habersham that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any State, Except that of Georgia -- & that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application, not knowing the made application failing for two years to get anything done by the Honorable Alney McLean, now our Judge, & then a member of Congress -

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed; that my occupation has been that of a farmer but through age, and infirmities can do but little in that way -- that I have no family but and aged, infirm wife, greatly afflicted by sickness.

S/ John Martin

Schedule of property one feather bed worth said \$15 8 house pot \$2 – wedge axe & hoe abt. \$2.50—in all \$19.50

S/ John Martin

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State of Kentucky, Henderson County: Sct.

On this 17th day of July 1832 personally appeared before me, John Green, the senior Magistrate of Henderson County, Kentucky, John Martin, a resident some times in Posy County, state of Indiana, and some times in Henderson County aforesaid, aged 73 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 in the militia of South Carolina in the summer (month, or day not remembered) in the year (say) 1778, as well as he can recollect, and was drafted from Newberry County in (say) Ninety Six District, and went on to Stono Point to fight the British under Major Gillam, had a few fires with the Tories on his march, served then about three months—Col. James Williams having the command, a militia Colonel—served his time, & was dismissed, continued at home 6 or 8 months—was drafted again & marched with 600 militia men over Ogeechee & Oconee Rivers against the Creek Indians—2 of whom were killed by the scouts, served in that tour about 6 weeks under Genl. Williamson [Andrew Williamson], a reputed Scotchmen—was dismissed with the whole 600 & came home. He moved into Georgia, & lived in Wilkes County continued something about a year there, and then at Ebenezer near Savannah enlisted in the Georgia Continental Line under Major Haversham [John Habersham] —his own Captain being McIntosh--& Captain Lucas commanding another company; has no recollection, his mind being greatly unhinged this bodily infirmity, of any other regiments or officers with whom he served except his own Georgia Regiment—He with the Georgia Continentals, marched on to defend the town of Savannah; was there some time, and then ordered on to Bull Island to guard Col. Morrell's place—He enlisted for 2 years, or duration of the war, and served 2 years before the close of the War, or something about 2 years, where he was discharged directly after peace was made. He has no documentary evidence, this discharge being lost, after keeping it for 15 or 16 years by the burning of his house in Christian County, Kentucky. He knows of no person living to prove his services, except his brother's wife, Ruth Martin, who lives in Christian Co. say 100 miles from here, who may recollect his return on furlough. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid before me S? John Green, JP

S/ John Martin

[There being no clergyman, or preacher of the Gospel near, Stephen Martin and Charles Washington Brown gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories put to John Martin, an applicant for a pension &c—by John Green, Senior Magistrate of Henderson County in State of Kentucky

Ouestion No. 1: Where, & in what year were you born?

A: Born in say 1759 on Great Pedee River, South Carolina

2: Have you any record of your age? and if so where is it?

A: If I had, it also lost.

- 3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since, the revolutionary war & where do you now live?
- A: Called into service in Newberry Co, S. Carolina. Lived afterwards in Wilkes Co., Georgia & again in Christian Co, Ky, & now sometimes in Posy Co., Indiana and Henderson Co., Ky.
- 4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute, for whom?
- A: I was drafted as a S. C. militia man, & afterwards served as a soldier of the Georgia Continental Line.
- 5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops, where you served; such continental & militia regiments as you can recollect the general circumstances of yr. service.
- A: I do not recollect other continental, or militia regiments or officers except my own—Habersham, McIntosh & Lucas of [?] & Gillam, Williams & Williamson of the Militia. I saw my namesake, Govr. John Martin, at Savannah—The circumstances of my services are detailed in my declaration.
- 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?
- A: I rec'd a discharge from Major Habersham which was burnt in Xian Co., Ky.
- 7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.
- A: Besides S. Martin & C. W. Brown, here present—Wm Williams; Colonels Jas. Powell & Robert Smith, Hosea Smith & many others know my character & reputed services.

The above answers were sworn to, and also the declaration of John Martin an applicant for a pension from the United States This 17th day of July 1832 before me

S/ John Green, Senior Magistrate of Hn Cty.

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State of Kentucky Henderson County Set: I John Green, Senior Magistrate of Henderson County, in State of Kentucky aforesaid do hereby certify that I have every reason to believe, especially from the oath of Stephen Martin before me, that John Martin the Soldier, who has this day been sworn before me, from fainting fits, occasional derangement of mine, through bodily infirmity, is unable to attend our Court living at a distance of 16 miles. I moreover do hereby declare my opinion, after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department that the above named applicant was a revolutionary Soldier, and served as he states. And I further certify that it appears to me that Stephen Martin, who signed the preceding certificate is a resident of said County of Henderson Kentucky and that Charles Washington Brown, who has also signed the same, is a resident of said County of Henderson, and that they both are credible persons, and that their statements are entitled to credit. Given under my hand this 17th July 1838.

S/ John Green, Senior

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Commonwealth of Kentucky, County of Henderson Set

On this 26th day of 2nd month 1827 personally appeared in open Court viz. = the County Court for said County of Henderson, being a court of record, and made so by the laws of Kentucky aforesaid, which created it John Martin, a resident in Henderson County, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth testify and declare, in order to amend his declaration he hereto made before this Court, by supplying an omission, that since the 18th March 1818 no change has been made in his property except one horse, & a few hogs disposed of to pay his debts -- another mare, & some young cattle having died. Sworn to and subscribed on the 26th day of 2nd month 1827 before the Honorable, the County Court of Henderson S/ William D. Allison, Clerk

[Facts in file: Veteran moved to Posey County, Indiana sometime prior to applying for a transfer of his pension benefits of \$80/annum to that State's pension agency. Application was made September 18, 1834]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Georgia and South Carolina militia.]