Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Metcalf S2820 Transcribed by Will Graves

f23NC 4/30/09: rev'd 4/9/17

[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 Tennessee Marion County SS

On this Twenty first day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Worshipful Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County of Marion now sitting William Metcalf a resident of said County and State of Tennessee aged sixty-seven 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, that is to say, under Col. Jack who commanded a Regiment of what was called Minute men in North Carolina and under the immediate command of Capt. James Taylor and Lieutenants Grier and Anthony Metcalf who was the father of the Declarant, That he enlisted under Capt. James Taylor in Rutherford County North Carolina and marched from there to Augusta Georgia where he joined the Regiment commanded by Col. Jack where this declarant was stationed between two and three months. The Regiment commanded by Col. Jack and two other regiments one of Regular troops and the other militia as well as this Declarant recollects was then marched on an expedition into Florida¹ with the intention of attacking St. Augustine, but did not reach that place, the Army retreated under Gov. Howston [sic, John Houston of Georgia] who conducted the expedition as well as this Declarant recollects, being then about fifteen years old, only, This applicant has but an indistinct recollection of the occurrences of the above mentioned expedition and does not remember the names of any of the Regular Officers, except Gov. or General Houston aforesaid on the retreat at Midway Meeting house in Georgia before the Army reached Augusta, this applicant was discharged by the aforesaid Capt. James Taylor and this applicant believes that the Regiment under Col. Jack was discharged at said meeting house, from whence they returned home. This Declarant further states that his enlistment was for two years, that he was to have a bounty of 250 acres of land but never obtained it, he does not know by what authority he was enlisted but knows that he served as above stated and knows that his father Anthony Metcalf Lieut. as before stated and three of this applicant's brothers belonged to the aforesaid Regiment of Minute men and served at the time this applicant served. The evidence of none of them can easily be obtained the Father and oldest Brother being dead, the other brothers living in North Carolina, Rutherford County. This declarant also states that he held himself in readiness at all times for the said term of two years for which he was enlisted as a minute man, and during which he was in actual service about ten

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¹ http://www.ourgeorgiahistory.com/wars/Revolution/revolution12.html

months, being stationed in Georgia (the then frontiers) at Augusta and in the said expedition to Florida, that afterwards he was in several expeditions against the Tories and British as a volunteer, in the State of North Carolina till the termination of the Revolutionary War, but does not recollect the number of months in actual service, in the last mentioned expeditions this applicant was under the command of Capt. James Gray, who belonged to Col. James Miller's Regiment of Rutherford County North Carolina.

This Declarant states that he was born in Virginia (but do not recollect in what County) in the year 1764.

He has no record of his age, he derived his information from his father many years since and believes he is correct.

He was living in Rutherford County North Carolina when he enlisted and entered the service, and after the Revolution moved from there to Jefferson County Tennessee from there to Knox County Tennessee, from Knox to Claiborne, from Claiborne to White County, and from White to Marion County where he has resided for the last 7 or 8 years, and where he still resides.

He was enlisted as he has already stated, and always served as a volunteer.

He has forgotten the names of the Regular officers except those embodied in this Declaration, and has stated the general circumstances of his services.

He received a discharge from the service given by Capt. Taylor and thinks his father retained it amongst his papers. This applicant being then under age, and under the control of his father.

He also states that he is known to Matthew Pryor an acting justice of the peace for Marion County (for a number of years) and Michael Burkhalter a clergyman and John Jones whose names are annexed to the following certificate in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution and also to Col. James Standifer of Bledsoe County a member in Congress, but do not know whether he can testify or not.

He has no documentary evidence of his services nor can he produce a living witness of his services without a great deal of trouble and expense if at all, he thinks by going to North Carolina he could, if his brothers there are alive.

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 in the United States.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William J. Standifer, Deputy Clerk

S/ William Metcalf

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[Michael Burkhalter, a clergyman, Eprhaim Branom and John Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

"I John Jones certify that I believe the statements in the foregoing declaration to be true from my own personal acquaintance with the applicant before & after his services.

Sworn to in open court

S/Wm J. Standifer, DC

S/ John Jones, X his mark

State of Tennessee Hamilton County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace &c, William Metcalf a resident of Marion County and State aforesaid who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, For ten months as stated in the foregoing Declaration in his first expedition and after his return home was immediately called out under the same officers under whom he enlisted as stated also, and was constantly engaged in scouting expeditions against the Tories in the front tears of North and South Carolina for two years he recollects of serving as a volunteer against the Tories and Indians after his term of enlistment expired, but do not recollect how long, but knows that in all he served more than two years for which two years service he claims a pension. Sworn to and subscribed before me the 28th day of May 1833

S/ Stephen Thurman, JP

S/ William Metcalf

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 10 months in the North Carolina militia.]