Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Mikel Gwaltney (Michael Guartney) S8637 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } S.C. County of Mecklenburg }

On this 19th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open court, before William Burchett, Erasmus Kennon, Abraham Keen & Thomas Wartman Justices of the county court of Mecklenburg now sitting, Michael Guartney, a resident of said county of Mecklenburg and State of Virginia, aged, seventy four years, four months and eight days, 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 7^{th} 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers; and served as herein stated. That he volunteered at Brunswick Courthouse, (Virginia) and joined a company commanded by Captain Joseph Peoples [probably Joseph Peebles] belonging to a Regiment commanded by Col. Frederick Maclin, {the number of the Regiment he does not recollect}. he marched through Williamsburgh to Yorke [sic: Williamsburg to Yorktown], and from thence to Hampton, and to Portsmouth, and was discharged after serving a Tour of six weeks. A short time after his discharge, he enlisted under Capt. [Augustine] Willis for eighteen months as a minute man. Capt. Willis' company was transferred to Capt. James Mason from Sussex county; and served their tour of duty at little Yorke [Yorktown]; He afterwards enlisted as a militia man under Capt. Turner Bynum [see endnote] in a regiment commanded by Col. Doulman [sic: Raleigh Downman] and was stationed most of this Tour at McKee's Mills [probably Mackey's Mill south of Smithfield] under the command of General [Robert] Lawson. having served three months he was discharged, and was shortly after drafted and joined a company commanded by Capt. James Marshall in a regiment commanded by Richard Elliott. Served at Yorke, and was present at the capture of Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct 1781]. That he has no documentary evidence of his service, and that he knows of but one person Thomas Delbridge now living by whom he could prove it; his discharges have all been lost. The one given him at McKee's mills was signed by General Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg], the last discharge was signed by Col. Elliot. That he was born in the county of Brunswick, Virginia, July 11th 1758 as is recorded in an old Family Bible now in his possession, he was living in Brunswick when he first entered the service, and has ever since resided in the State of Virginia, and now resides in the said county of Mecklenburg. That he was in the service more than Two years, once as a volunteer, was twice drafted, and once enlisted for eighteen months. 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

[signed] Mikel Gwaltney

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[On 18 July 1836 Gwaltney applied again, without adding new information, but clearly signing his name Mikel Gwaltney, as shown below.]

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State of virginia } SC County of Mecklenburg }

On this 19th day of September 1836 personally appeared in open Court before Benjamin W. Coleman, Samuel Daly, John Hutcherson and Ralph Hubbard Justices of the County Court of Mecklenburg now setting, Michael Guartney a resident of said County of Mecklenburg and state of Virginia aged seventy eight years two months and 8 days 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 he volunteered at Brunswick Courthouse Virginia and joined a company commanded by Captain Joseph Peoples belonging to a Regiment commanded by Colo Frederick Maclin (the number of the Regiment not recollected) he marches through Williamsburgh to Yorke and from thence to Hampton and to Portsmouth and was discharged after serving a Tour of Six weeks a short time afterwards he enlisted under Captain Willis for eighteen months he thinks as a minute man Captain Willis's Company was transfered to Capt. James Mason from Sussex County they met at Bilfield and marched to Little York where he served eighteen months. Viz: from the time they met at Belfield till the time he was discharged at Little York, and he soon afterwards perhaps some two or three months enlisted as a Malitia man under Captain Turner Bynam in a regiment commanded by Colo. Doulman and was stationed most of his Tour at McKee Mills under the Command of General Lawson having served three months he was discharged and was shortly after drafted and joined a company commanded by Capt James Marshall in a Regiment commanded by Richard Elliott served at Yorke and was present at the Capture of Cornwallis - this last draft was for a three months tour of duty, but believes precisely two months had expired when Cornwallis was taken he was then discharged his discharges from all these tours of duty have all long since been lost and destroyed – as to the period when this service was performed this declarant cannot certainly recollect, nor is it reasonable that he should recollect the precise period when this service was performed (having no document in his possession which would throw any light on the subject) but thinks the first tour was among the first companies that marched from the county of Brunswick - the other tours following in quick succession will give some information in relation to the period when the whole of these services were performed – that he served as above stated in the first tour six weeks in the second eighteen months in the third three months and in the fourth two months making in the whole the term of two years and two weeks. that he has no documentary evidence of his service and that he knows of no person now living by whom he could prove the whole of his services his discharges have all been lost the one given him at McKees Mills was signed by General Mulenburg the last discharge was signed by Colo Elliott – that he was born in the County of Brunswick Virginia July 11th 1758 as is recorded in an old Family Bible now in his possession he was living in Brunswick when he first entered the service and has ever since resided in the state of Virginia and now resides in the said County of Mecklenburg That he was in the service as above stated two years and two weeks once as a volunteer, was twice drafted and once enlisted for eighteen months 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.

And the declarant also states the following facts. Viz. that he made application some 4 or 5 years ago in one form to the Judge of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for this county but in consequence of this declarant not recollecting the name of the Colo. in one of the tours the business for the time was posponed and afterwards to wit on the 19th November 1832 he filed his declaration in open Court and proved the six weeks and two months tour of duty only, by the evidence of Thomas Dulbridge in this shape the declaration was forwarded to the war department and rejected on the ground that 6 months had not been proved so he is compelled to resort to another grade of evidence to support his claim to wit: the character which he sustains in his neighbourhood, and the general belief of his service. the declarant being old and infirm and also ignorant, his rights in this respect was neglected until a few

months since. These are the reason why an earlier application has not been made.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] Mikell Gwaltney

[A letter dated 28 April 1837 states that nothing had been heard from the Pension Office regarding the above applications.]

State of Virginia } S.S. Mecklenburg County }

On this 20 day of August 1838 personally appeared in Court, before the court of this County now sitting Michael Gwatney a resident in said County aged Eighty years the 11th July last 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 the 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the War of the Revolution under the following named Officers

"That he joined a volunteer company at Brunswick C't. House in this State which Company was commanded by Capt. Joseph Peoples and was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Frederick Macklin, the Number of the Regiment nor the day on which he joined the said Company he cannot now recollect (if he ever knew)." He was marched through Williamsburg & York and from thence to Hampton and Portsmouth & at the latter place was discharged after having served a tour of six weeks; some short time after his discharge at Portsmouth he enlisted as a minute man into a Company Commanded by Capt. Willis. Capt Willis Company was transfered to Capt. James Mason from Sussex County, his engagement in said Company was for Eighteen months & he actually served his time out in said Company at Little York partly in the field & partly in garrisson as necessity and urgency of matters might require against the common enemy of the Country; the precise periods of service in the field and Garrison he cannot now recollect (if he ever could as he took no account of it)" He afterwards enlisted into a militia Company for three months Commanded by Capt. Turner Bynam said Company was attached to a Regiment Commanded by Col. Doulman and he cannot now recollect the Number of the said Regiment (if he ever knew) and was stationed most of his time at McKees Mills under the Command of Gen'l. Lawson, and having served his time out was discharged. Shortly after he was drafted into a militia company commanded by Capt. James Marshall which company was attached to a Regiment Commanded by Col. Richard Elliott that he served two months in this Draft under Capt. Marshall at Little York and was present when the British forces under the command of Lord Cornwallis surrendered and after the surrender of his Lordship he was then and there discharged from the service, it will be seen that he served in Army of the War of the Revolution two years & two weeks and should have served his last term fully out had it have been required." He has no Documentary evidence of his service and knows of but one person now living by whom he can prove any part thereof that is Thomas Delbridge whose certificate is hereto attached; his discharges have all been lost, the one given him at McKee's Mills was signed by General Muhlenburg, the last was signed by Col. Elliott. "That he was born in the County of Brunswick in this State on the 11th July 1758 as appears by a record in an Old Family Bible now in his possession and he resided in the County of Brunswick when he first entered the service of the United States and has ever since resided mostly in that and this County where he now resides and the reason why he has not made earlier application for a pension is that he never knew that any others than Continental Regulars were entitled thereto untill he was informed of the act under which he is now making application. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever 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 first [signed] Mikel Gwaltnev] aforesaid.

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Quest. 1st. Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Brunswick County Virginia in the year seventeen hundred and fifty eight.

- " 2. Have you any record of your age?
 - I have it in an old family bible.
- " 3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war."? and where do you now live? I was living in Brunswick County & having no land, have lived in different counties in Va. & now reside in Mecklenburg County Va.
- 4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did your volunteer, or were you a substitute & if a substitute for whom? I was a volunteer the first tour of duty and drafted the second tour.
- 5th. 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 and the general circumstances of your services?

I was commanded by Colo. Dowlman at Mackeys Mill in lower Virginia, a continental officer, Genl Lawson of the Malitia commanded, my Capt. was Turner Binam.

- 6th. Did your ever receive a discharge & if so by whom was it given & what has become it? I was discharged by Gen'l Mulenburg at Cabin point Va. & since then lost it, considering it of no value.
- 7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity & beleif of your services in the Revolutionary war." I give the names Jno. B. Smith a Minister of the Gospel, Washington M. Pettis, R. A. Puryear

Brunswick County Va to wit

This day Thomas Delbridge personally appeared me F W Green a justice of the peace for said County and made oath that he served with Michal Gwaltney two tours of duty during the Revolutionary war. – viz six weeks at Portsmouth Va. and two months at York Town. Given under my hand this 10th day of Nov. 1832.

NOTE: "Michael Gwaltney (disch'd)" appears on the 8 April 1781 roll of Capt. Turner Bynum's company. See the transcription B73.