Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Carmack S9139 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 Mar 2015.

[From Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection/ Washington County]

To the Honble the Speaker & House of Delegates

The petition of William Carmack humbly sheweth That your Petitioner enlisted as a Soldier in the Illinois Regiment on the 10th day of January 1779 and was discharged on the 10th day of July 1780; that he did not receive any part of his pay during the time he was in service, nor hath he received it since. He therefore prays the House to direct a Certificate to be issued to him for his pay and depreciation from the 10th day of January 1779 to the 10th day of July 1780 in like manner as certificates issued to the other Soldiers in the said Regiment.

2 Nov'r 1791 Ref'd to Claims reasonable dep[reciation] of pay rep[orte]d 14. Nov[?] 91

I do hereby Sertefy that William Carmack Inlisted in the Ilenois Ridgment the 10th Day of January 1779 & that he has Recived no part of his wages from the date of his inlistment untle the Date of his Discharge Given Under My hand this 10th Day of July 1780.

James Shelby Capt. [pension application R17781] Ilenois Ridgt.

This is to Certify that William Carmack Served as a Soldier in Capt Shelbys Company in the Ilinoyes Regt from the time of his Inlistment until the Date hereof and is Discharged at his own Request Given under my hand this 10 day of July 1780

[John Montgomery R16522] L Colol

To the Speaker and Members of the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The petition of William Carmack of the county of Washington humbly represents, That he enlisted as a private soldier in the service of the State with Captain James Shelby in the year 1777 in the said county, who with his company was attached to the Illionois Regiment commanded by Colo. George Roger Clark [sic: George Rogers Clark] and Lieutenant Colo. John Montgomery; that the said Wm. Carmack arrived at the Illionois on the 29th day of May in the same year at which time he has understood his pay was to commence; and that he served in the said Regiment as a soldier until the 10th day of July 1780 when he was regularly discharged from service by the said John Montgomery. But for the services aforesaid the said Wm. Carmack has not received any compensation altho he has used all the means within his knowledge and power to obtain the same. He sent his papers and discharge twice to Richmond for the purpose of receiving his pay & bounty in lands, but was informed that he could not receive it inasmuch as the name of James Shelby did not appear on the Records at Richmond as a commissioned Officer. He then petitioned the General Assembly of this Commonwealth for relief at the time a certain James Blair was one of the Representatives of Washington county which was probably in the year 1790 or 1791 and by him forwarded his petition discharge and other documents, who informed your petitioner on his return

home from the assembly that an act had passed allowing him pay for the said service and that he would be paid some day or other, without informing him in what way he should apply. Your petitioner being ignorant of the laws of the state supposed that some General provision had been made by the Legislature which would embrace his case and be communicated to him in due time – If however such is the fact it is unknown to him. He has understood that his pay was \$6.25 per month besides clothing and rations, and a bounty in lands of one hundred acres. At the time of enlisting with Captain James Shelby he was promised two hundred acres of land besides his pay. He has been informed by a soldier who had served in the same Regiment that a certain Mr. Broadhead whom it is presumed was paymaster to the troops had drawn their pay at the Treasury, and that the person who then kept the Office was Broadheads security for the proper application of the money

Your petitioner therefore prays that his case may be considered by the House of Delegates and relief granted. William Cannuck

Dec'r 7th 1819 ref'd to Claims Reasonable Dec'r 14th Reported Dec'r 15th Bill drawn Dec'r 2d

I do hearby Certify that William Carmack served as a sholder in an Expedition at the Ilinoy in the year 1779 beloning to Capt Shelbee's Company. Themas millson

giving under my hand this 27 day of February 1815 Thomas Wilson was a Lieut in above service Thomas Willson [Thomas Wilson W9007]

Washington County Virginia

This Day Came David Scales before me Samuel Hensley one of the Commonwealths Justices of the peace and made oath that William Carmick was a Soldier under general George R. Clark and John Montgomery Colonel of the Illinois Regiment and that the said William Carmick enlisted under Capt James Shelby in the year 1779 and the Said Carmick Did faithfully Serve out the Time of his enlistment. Sworne to before Samuel Hensley

[On 16 Nov 1819 Michael Flexner made a statement supporting Carmack's petition, but it is too faint for transcription.]

[The following petition is from rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.]

To the Legislature of Virginia

William Carmack, late a citizen of Washington County Virginia, but now a Citizen of Lee County and state aforesaid, says that some time in the month of January 1779 he enlisted in said county, under a certain James Shelby then called a Captain, said to belong to the Regement of which John Montgomery was said to be the Lieutenant Colonel and known by the name of the "Illinois Regement" and marched from thence to the country known by the name of the Illinois Country and continued in service from January 1779 to July 10th 1780 and was then honorably discharged by said John Montgomery after having joined the Regment aforesaid commanded by George Rogers Clarke

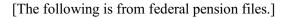
The said William Carmack further stats that he gave to a certain Blair, then a Delegate to the General Assembly of Virginia from the County of Washington, his discharge, for the purpose of getting for him the pay that he supposed was due him. The said Blair having removed from said county to places

unknown without advising him whether he had got any relief for your Petitioner and taken with him his discharge, your petitioner is unable to present his case to your honorable body in any other shape than by naked petition, relying upon your honorable Body to grant him such relief as your in your wisdom shall think is fit and proper. Your petitioner will further state that he has never yet directly or indirectly received any pay or reward for the services he has rendered his county. And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

willen farmack

[Sworn 8 Nov 1823]

Dec'r 10th 1823 ref'd to Claims. 1823 Decr 11th Rejected 12th Reported 1824 July 22 Rejection Executed.



State of Virginia & County of Lee SS.

On the 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared before the County court of said County being established a court of record by an act of Assembly of the State aforesaid, William Carmack a resident of said County and State aged Seventy one years on the 5th day of January last past, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the Revolutionary War in the County of Washington, in the State aforesaid in the Virginia line, in the month of January 1779 under Captain James Shelby for one year, in the Regiment commanded by Col John Montgomery under whom he marched, after having met at the place of rendezvous, which was at the long Islands of Holstein [sic: Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN], to the mouth of big creek in Hawkins County, now in Tennessee, where we were stationed some days, from whence we marched to the chicka Magy towns [sic: towns of the Chicamauga band of Cherokee Indians on Tennessee River], in company with a Militia Regiment commanded by Col. Evan Shelby. On reaching the before mentioned Indian Towns, occupied them about two weeks [10 - 20 Apr 1779] destroying the corn in the neighbourhood the Indians having fled, and after destroying the Towns, Col Montgomery's Regiment to which this applicant belonged, marched to [undeciphered] and took camp at the Ocoy a French Town on the Kascaska River [sic: Kaskaskia River in present Illinois]. Col Evan Shelby with his Militia troops having returned home from Chickamagy on the Tennessee. At the Ocov Col. Montgomery joined the Regiment commanded by Col. George Rogers Clarke, who in about a month after our arrival at the Ocoy marched us to Vincennes [surrendered on 25 Feb 1779], then called the Opost, and who commanded us during the remainder of our time of enlistment, Col. Montgomery Still continuing in the service as a subordinate to Col Clarke. This applicant remained at the opost untill the expiration of his enlistment, under a Lieutenant Thomas Willson and Ensign Gerard Williams as a guard to the Fort of Opost. Col Clarke with the remainder of the troops having returned to the Ocoy. The time of this applicant's enlistment expired on the 29th day of May 1780 being 12 months from the time he reached the ocoy but no officer being at the opost authorised to discharge him, he remained at the Fort untill some time in June, when an order reached there directing the troops at that place to march to the Iron banks on the Mississippi River, six miles below the mouth of the Ohio River, where Col Montgomery would meet them, and grant discharges. The applicant, with the other troops at the opost, immediatly proceeded to the Iron Banks, where they were met by Col. Montgomery, and discharged by him, at that place on the 10th day of July 1780, and returned from there through the Wilderness to his residence in Washington, after having served about sixteen months, although his enlistment was for 12. – this applicant sent his discharge to Richmond in Virginia three several time, to enable him to draw his pay, and obtain his bounty for his services aforesaid, which he never obtained from what cause he cannot account, and there his discharge was finally detained, or lost, so that he could never repossess it. He hereby relinquishes

every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension role of any agency in any state William hisXmark Carmack [Thomas Brooks (S1795) certified that Carmack had served with him in the company of Capt. James Shelby.]

NOTE: A record of the birth of William Carmack and his siblings and half siblings was submitted with the pension application of Henry Livingston's widow (R6394), who stated that the record was kept in a Bible by Jesse Carmack:

[On last page of the Apocrypha]

Cornelius Carmack was Born the [undeciphered, but 8th in his pension application S2420] Day of January 1769

Wiliam Carmack was Born th 5th day of January 1761

Joseph Carmack was Born the 11th Day of Aprile 1763

Jane Carmack was Born June the 7th Day 1765

Sarah Carmack was Born August 1767

[Other side of page]

Polly Livingston was Born the 13th Day of March in the year of our Lord 179[?] [A note in the file states that the last digit, 4, was cut while removing the page from the Bible.]

Caty Livingston was Born the ?th day of February in the year of our Lord 1798

Susanah Livingston was Born the 30th of December in the year AD 1799

Thomas Livingston was Born the 3rd of Jannuary in the year AD 1802

Peter Livingston was Born August the 15th in the year AD. 1806

Nancy Livingston was was Born the 19th of February in th year AD 1808

A note on Carmack's pension certificate states that he died on 24 Sep 1851.