Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Daniel Morris ¹ W12494 Transcribed by Will Graves

Nancy Morris f69NC 5/16/09: rev'd 6/5/17

[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 Kentucky Hart County Sct.

On this 17th day of May 1833 personally appeared in Hart Circuit Court in open court Daniel Morris a resident citizen of said County, aged sixty-nine years next the summer on the 24th day thereof, who being duly & legally sworn, makes the following statement in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th day of June 1832, making allowance by way of pension for the officers soldiers and sailors of the United States Army in the American Revolution. That he was drafted to serve a tour in the militia in Halifax County North Carolina in the month of July 1779 where he then resided and that he entered the service of the United States in the American Revolution under Captain John Williams the Lieutenant was Preston Brooks in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Robert Powers, they rendezvoused at the town of Halifax in said County, from thence marched to Chatham Court house in North Carolina, the whole of Colonel Powers Regiment marched to that place. From thence marched down to South Carolina, in pursuit of some Tories & British forces in said State which the said Colonel Powers had received orders to endeavor to subdue. We were engaged in marching through the country, in pursuit of the scouts of the enemy, but about the time we entered South Carolina the American Army & British, had an engagement & after that time the British scouting parties and Tories, kept, pretty much with the Main Army -- we marched on a place called Fairs honary [Fair's Ordinary [public house]] in South Carolina not very far from Augusta Georgia where we were stationed a short time, & from thence we marched to Cross Creek, which was not a very great distance from New Bern; from Cross Creek myself and the balance of said troops then with us at that place was discharged; I had a discharge in writing from the Colonel who commanded us, Colonel Powers, which discharge I have some years since lost, though I kept it for many years. In this tour he served 4 months, according to the best of his recollection. I was drafted for 3 months this tour, but in consequence of some Tories British and a few Indians having embodied themselves near Cross Creek; our Colonel detained us a month longer, in order to disperse & subdue this force we marched to said Creek, but they had disappeared. In this tour I was in no battle.

He again entered the service in the same State and County in the year 1781 the first of February under Captain Samuel Crowell Lieutenant Henry Bradford, Ensign Edley Morris under Colonel Reed [James Read], who was a Continental officer sent to take command of us, in this service he entered as a volunteer in the militia the Regiment rendezvoused at Halifax in said

¹ BLWt34123-160-55

County, from thence we marched to Hillsboro North Carolina, from thence we marched to the Reedy fork of Little Buffalo Creek, where we had a smart engagement with the British, in which we lost about 7 men killed, and several wounded, in which action each party retreated; how many of the enemy we killed we never ascertained; from this place we marched to Guilford Courthouse, in which engagement [Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781] he was together with the whole of Colonel Reed's Regiment. The [indecipherable word] of which engagement, is well known from the history of the Country; from Guilford Courthouse we pursued the British to deep River, and remained there eight days, but having lost our artillery at Guilford we did not think it safe to attack the enemy without artillery. The enemy by making a temporary bridge of Ramsour's rails [sic, Ramsey's? rails] & taken from his farm, crossed the River, when we had them pressed in the fork thereof. From Ramsour's Mills [sic, Ramsey's Mills?] on said River we marched to Camden in South Carolina, and was in the siege of Camden [Hobkirk Hill, April 25, 1781] and remained there a few days, near which Lord Rawdon was encamped with his forces, but he gave us the slip & put out when we were preparing for and expecting an engagement with him & his forces. General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] was our commander in chief, from this place we were marched to pee dee [Pedee] River at Haley's ferry where Colonel John Webb, by orders of the General discharged us, not thinking it safe to discharge us in small companies at a distance from home. In this tour he served 4 months, though he volunteered for only 3, but was kept over his time -- he had a written discharge for this 2nd tour also, signed, he believes by Colonel Webb, but his discharge for this term also he has lost. He has no documentary evidence of his services, and knows of no witness by whom he can prove positively his services aforesaid -- but thinks he can prove the tradition of the neighborhood on that subject -- he relinquishes every claim to any pension or annuity from the Government except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency for any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid (as below) --

and said applicant in answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the war department says to the first question I was born in Currituck County on the seaboard State of North Carolina in the year 1764 on the 24th day of December as he has always learnt from his parents. He has no record of his age -- he lived in Halifax County North Carolina when called into service -- he removed from North Carolina to Georgia after the war was over; and from Georgia removed to Hart County Kentucky but was then Hardin County about 20 years since where he has resided ever since & still continues to reside. He remembers the names of Major Douglass, Major Jones, Colonel Whitaker, who were militia officers, General Pickens, General Sumpter, General Huger in his service in the revolution. There were several Continental regiments that he served with at the battle of Guilford and other places. He remembers Colonel Campbell who was General Greene's Aid, he also remembers Colonel Ford who was killed at the Cowpens or at the Red house, Colonel Campbell was also killed at one or the other of these places as he understood after he returned home -- He is acquainted with sundry persons in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for truth and their belief of his having served as a soldier of the revolution, to wit, Martin Key, Enoch Fenwick, Richard Atteberry and Henry Bush --

There is no clergyman, who resides in his neighborhood nor anyone nearer him than 10 miles, and he does not know of anyone who he can prove his age by or the tradition of the neighborhood -- as to his services as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day and year above.

S/ Daniel Morris, X his mark

[Henry Bush, Martin Key and Enoch Fenwick gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

- [p 15: license dated October 17, 1822 for the marriage of Mr. Daniel Morris to Mrs. Nancy Key; license issued in Grayson County, Kentucky]
- [p. 16: On February 16, 1856, in Hart County Kentucky, Nancy Morris, 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act that she is the widow of Daniel Morris, a pensioner for his revolutionary war services at the rate of \$26 per annum; that her husband died October 29, 1855; that she married him October 17, 1822 in Grayson County Kentucky; that they were married by Martin Utterback, a minister of the gospel. She signed her application with her mark.]
- [p 21: On March 29, 1855 in Hart County Kentucky Daniel Morris, 97, filed for his bounty land entitlement as a soldier of the revolution.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]