

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McCullers W4729

Elizabeth McCullers

f30NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/5/09: rev'd 9/29/16

[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 North Carolina Johnston County]

On the 25th day of May 1843 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Johnston and State of North Carolina Mrs. Elizabeth McCullers, a resident of the County aforesaid aged 67 years the 8th day of last February, who, being first duly sworn according to law, on her oath, makes the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed 7th July 1838, entitled "an Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of John McCullers, who as she has been informed either by him or some other person, was an Officer of the North Carolina line in the Revolution. That he was an Ensign at Charleston in South Carolina and was Capt. at Wilmington in this State, as she has been informed and believes.

She further declares, that, she was married to the said John McCullers on the 16th day of January 1783 or some very short time thereafter: that her husband, the aforesaid John McCullers died during the first week of October 1822. -- That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794 to wit, at or about the time above stated.

Sworn and subscribed to in open Court the day and year first above written.

S/ Wm Hm. Guy, CCC

S/ Elizabeth McCullers, X her mark

State of North Carolina Johnston County

Personally appeared before me James T. Leach a Magistrate of said County Mrs. Elizabeth McCullers, who being first duly sworn, states that she is informed that her Declaration now on file recites that she is 67 years old -- that if so it is a mistake. That agreeable to the book in which her age is recorded, she was born the 8th of February 1774. Sworn to and subscribed before me 2nd of August 1843

S/ J. T. Leach, JP

S/ Elizabeth McCullers, X her mark

State of North Carolina Johnston County

This the first day of June 1843 personally appeared before me James Hinnant one of the acting Justices of the Peace for the said County, John Pearce, aged about 87 or 8 years who, after having been duly sworn according to law saith, that at the time he marched to Wilmington under

Capt. Hardy Bryan, there was another company of militia from said County under the command of Capt. John McCullers of said County, that he knew that John McCullers served at or about Wilmington as long as he served, which he believes was over nine months and not quiet ten months: but the precise time he does not recollect, nor has he any means of ascertaining; That Capt. John McCullers served under the same Col. and in the same Regiment with him, and the same term of time, he knows and believes -- Col. Samuel Smith was in the command of said Regiment and served as such length of time as above stated -- The number of said Regiment he does not recollect neither does he recollect any of his other superior officers.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day & date above written

S/ James Hinnant, JP

S/John Pearce, X his mark

State of North Carolina Johnston County

This the 24th day of June 1843 came before me Edwin Boykin one of the acting Justices of the County of Johnston John Avera aged about Seventy-seven years who after having been duly sworn according to law makes the following statement -- That he was well acquainted with Capt. John McCullers who marched to Wilmington in this State as Capt. of a company of militia in the war of the Revolution and was absent from home somewhere about six months. I have often heard him talk about his service in the Army and have heard several of my acquaintances who served under him in the revolution laugh and talk about their Capt. John McCullers -- but I know nothing of my own knowledge of his actual service in the Army but from what I have heard him say and others who served under him of respectability I have no doubt but John McCullers served as Capt. in the Revolution the term above stated. And further this deponent saith not. Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & date first above written.

S/ Edwin Boykin, JP

S/ John Avera

State of North Carolina Johnston County

Personally appeared before me this 15th day of November 1843 James Hinnant a Magistrate for the County aforesaid, John Pearce who after being duly sworn according to law, upon his oath makes the following statement, that he served in the Revolutionary war under Capt. Hardy Bryan at Wilmington, State as stated in a former affidavit. That he was well acquainted with John McCullers before he went into service and while he was in service he knows that he commanded a company as Capt. at Wilmington in this State as stated in a former affidavit. That for many years he has been confined to his bed and not able to get off of it without help and that he did not know until lately that he was entitled to a pension. Since he has been informed that he was entitled to a pension he has tried to get several persons to make the application for him. But has been unable to procure the assistance of any person. They all tell him he cannot succeed unless he can prove his service by some person who served with him. Unfortunately for him all his companions in arms are dead or have moved away. I stated in my affidavit heretofore made what time you & believed to be true. The time I served at Wilmington I could not recollect and therefore could not on my oath say -- and further this affiant saith not. Sworn to & subscribed before me.

S/ James Hinnant, JP

S/ John Pearce, X his mark

State of North Carolina Johnston County

Personally appeared before me Matthew Avera a Magistrate for the County aforesaid, Garry Grice an inhabitant of the State of Georgia and now on his way home, who after being duly sworn according to law upon his oath states, that about 25 years ago he was engaged in this County in the business of getting pensions for soldiers of the Revolution and he distinctly recollects of hearing of several of the soldiers of the revolution say that they served under Capt. John McCullers at Wilmington but he cannot say what length of time or at what particular date. He has listened to conversation on the incidents of the war between Capt. John McCullers and one of his soldiers named Noel Rentfrow and that he has frequently heard Noel Rentfrow speak of serving under Capt. J. McCullers and what a good man he was in getting him out of difficulty and freeing him from punishment as he was a wild youth and got frequently in difficulty. And he further states that he has no doubt in his mind from what he has understood from man of undoubted truth that John McCullers was a Capt. in the revolutionary war.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 4th January 1844.

S/ M. Avera, JP

S/ Garry Grice

State of North Carolina Johnston County

This the 19th day of April 1843 appeared before me Duncan McPherson Esquire one of the acting Justices of the Peace in & for the County aforesaid, Richard Pilkenton¹ a Revolutionary Soldier and United States Pensioner who after having been duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposes and saith as follows to wit That he is now about 80 years old and that he is was a Revolutionary Soldier and is a United States Pensioner at this time. That he was drafted in Johnston County and was marched to Charleston in South Carolina under Matthew McCullers Capt. and John McCullers Ensign, the Lieut.'s name now not recollected for he was with us but a short time, said John McCullers acted in his place. When we left this County we were marched to Kingston [sic, Kinston] from Kingston to Wilmington and from thence by the long Bay upon the sound and thence across great Pedee at Georgetown & from thence near a place called Bacon's bridge and from thence we went to Charleston in South Carolina. Shepherd was our Col. and Lowery our Lieut. Col. the latter served with us the whole time. That he is well acquainted with John McCullers Ensign, that he marched with us to Charleston and served as Ensign and as Lieut. whole of the 5 months tour (the term for which we were drafted) -- and that he came a good part of the way from Charleston to home with him -- the precise time when he was drafted he cannot recollect, but he recollects that a week or fortnight after he arrived home he was informed that the British had taken Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]. And further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day & year above written.

S/ D. McPherson, JP

S/ Richard Pilkenton, R his mark

State of North Carolina Johnston County

This the 20th day of June 1843 came before me Berry Woodard one of the acting Justices of the Peace for Johnston County Jesse Green² Revolutionary Soldier and United States Pensioner aged Eighty-one years who having been duly sworn according to law deposeth and

¹ [Richard Pilkenton S3701](#)

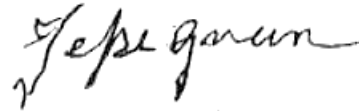
² [Jesse Green W11084](#)

saith. That, he was in the militia service in the time of the Revolution and was marched to Wilmington where he saw Captain John McCullers who then was Captain of a Militia Company and remained with him (though not in the same Company) over three months – I am sure that he commanded his said Company as Captain from the circumstance that his company & the one to which I belonged were paraded together every day. I have no doubt but Captain John McCullers served a much longer time than three months before I joined him in the service and when our Companies were parted he was in the service. I am not certain that I recollect any of the other Officers of Captain John McCullers' [Company] or of the number of Regiment to which he belonged. And further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day & year first above written.

S/ Berry Woodard, JP

S/ Jesse Green



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[Copy of a Marriage license bond given by John McCullers and Hardy Sanders to secure the marriage of McCullers to Betsey Leach; given in Johnston County, January 16, 1783.]

Raleigh North Carolina
Comptroller of Office

I William F Collins Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that the name of Captain John McCullers is exhibited on the General Return of the officers and men belonging to the Regiment of Militia in Johnston County Commanded by Colonel John Smith at a General Muster at Smithfield on 24th May 1779, which returned is to be found in a Bundle of Militia Returns now on file – I further Certify that it appears in Book No. 37 (Bound) that Captain McCullers received the sum of £2184 in Currency being payment made to himself and Company –

Given under my hand and seal this 3rd day of July A D1845

S/ Wm F. Collins, Compt.

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$90 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843, for her husband service as an ensign & Captain in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]