Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Pursley W9242 Mary fn32SC
Transcribed by Will Graves 7/30/09

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of South Carolina York District: On this 9th Day of April 1846, personally appeared in open Court, and before the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas now sitting in Yorkville in the District of York & State aforesaid, Mary Pursley, daughter of John Pursley deceased a resident of the District and State aforesaid aged 56 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836, granting pensions to certain widows.

That this deponent the aforesaid Mary Pursley in the behalf of herself & the other heirs of said John Pursley deceased states, that the said John Pursley was a private soldier in the South Carolina Militia the heirs do understand and as such he served the United States in the War of the Revolution against the Enemy for the term of 9 or 12 months and that that the said John Pursley was married to Mary Black in February 1777, and as husband and wife they lived together till the death of the said John Pursley who died in the month of May 1802 or 3, and that his widow Mary departed this life on the 21st day of April 1845, not having intermarried after the death of her said husband John Presley deceased.

She further declares that there does not exist any Family Record showing either the date of the marriage or the births of the Children of the aforesaid parties.

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

S/ Edward Frost, Presiding Judge

S/ Mary Pursley, X her mark

[fn p. 5: the court found that Mary Pursley died April 21st, 1845 leaving surviving 6 children all of lawful age, to wit, Jane Pursley, Mary Pursley, Nancy Pursley, Gavin Pursley, Margaret Pursley and Sarah Pursley.]

[fn p. 8: Mary Sutton wife of James J. Sutton, deceased, gave a supporting affidavit in which she states that she knew John Presley and his wife Mary Presley from her earliest recollection; that he died in 1803 in the spring and that his widow Mary died in the spring of 1845; that her father in law Nathan Sutton said that Jenny Pursley and deponent's husband James Sutton were born in the same year 1782 and that she knows Jenny Pursley had 2 brothers older than herself, William and James; that she has a Bible record in her father-in-law's handwriting showing the date of birth of her husband; that the Pursley's lived near Hill's works [Hill's Iron Works] before they settled where their heirs now live; and that Janey, Mary, Garvin, Margaret and Sarah are the only surviving heirs of Mary Pursley.]

[fn p. 10: McCasland Wallace gave testimony similar to that offered by Mary Sutton except PAS that James and William Pursley were twins and born shortly before he became acquainted with John and Mary Pursley; that William Pursley, their son, was a boy of 14 or 15 in the spring of 1793; that James, John and Alexander Sutton were the only children of Jonathan Sutton by his first wife.]

[fn p. 17]

State of South Carolina York District: On this 10th day of April 1846 personally appeared before me, A S Wallace one of the acting Magistrates in and for said District, Robert Wilson, ¹ a Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States, a resident of the district and State aforesaid, and made oath, in due form of law, that he was in the days of the Revolution intimately acquainted with John Pursley who died many years ago, in York district. Also with his wife Mary late deceased whose heirs are now applying for a pension due to the said Mary Pursley, deceased on the account of the Revolutionary Services of her said husband the aforesaid John Pursley deceased.

That this deponent the said Robert Wilson served a tour of duty in the early part of the War to Charleston in company with said John Pursley, who was a private in Captain Allison's Company Colonel Brown's Regiment of the Militia. That they left Chester District South Carolina and went to the City of Charleston to defend the said City against the British whom it had been reported had made their appearance before that place. But on reaching Charleston they learned that the surprise was made by some Pirate Ships instead the British & they returned to their homes.

This deponent further stated on his oath, that in the summer of 1780, he was again in service with the aforesaid John Pursley who was under Captain Allison & Colonel Hills or Neal's Regiment Sumter's Brigade. That on this occasion they were in service some 4 or 5 months together during which time they was in the Battles of Hanging Rock & Rocky Mount -- --

Deponent also stated on his oath, that the aforesaid Mary Pursley was the wife of the said John Pursley in wartime; that deponent was frequently at the house of the said John Pursley during the war, and knows of his own personal knowledge that said personally was married some 2 or 3 years before their service together in the summer of 1780.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid Before me.

S/ A. S. Wallace, Magt.

S/ Robert Wilson

[fn p. 19]

State of South Carolina York District: Personally appeared before me A S Wallace, one of the acting Magistrates in and for said District William McElwee, a resident of the District in State aforesaid aged 84 years, and made oath in due form of law, that he was during the days of the Revolution intimately acquainted with John Pursley & wife Mary both citizens of York District but now deceased. This deponent further makes oath that he lived in their immediate neighborhood at the time of their marriage (and at their [indecipherable word]) which took place in the winter of 1777. This deponent further makes oath that to his own personal knowledge that the said John Pursley was a Soldier in the war of the revolution. That after the reduction of Charleston in May 1780, deponent joined General Sumter on the East side of the Catawba River and there found the aforesaid John Pursley in service under Captain ____ [in] Hill's or Neel's Regiment; that soon after deponent's joining the Army they had an engagement with the Enemy

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¹ Robert Wilson W2302

at Rocky Mount after which deponent left the Army leaving the said John Pursley in service, and that he believes that said John Pursley was out in the Army when called for from this time till the war ended.

Sworn to and subscribed the 27th of July 1846 Before me S/ Wm McElwee S/ A. S. Wallace, Magt.