

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Headen S31120  
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn33SC

State of Louisiana, Parish of St. Tammany

On the fourteenth day of November in the year of our Lord, one thousand and eight hundred and thirty-three, personally appeared in Open Court before the Eighth District Court of the State of Louisiana now sitting in the parish of St. Tammany, let it be known William Headen, a resident of the parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana aged seventy three years on the 14<sup>th</sup> December next, 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<sup>th</sup>, 1832—That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was born in Loudon [sic, Loudoun] County, State of Virginia on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1760 as appears from a record in his family Bible copied from his father's family Bible, that he was living in South Carolina in what was then Ninety Six District when he was called into the service of the United States by Captain Vardry Magbee [sic, Vardry McBee] to whose Company he belonged, he cannot say whether it was a volunteer Company properly speaking or not but they were called minute men and liable to be called out at any time. It was in the latter end of the year 1779 or 1780 that he was first called into service and continued in nearly constant service until the close of the war which he thinks was in the year 1783 and all the time as a militia soldier, that the Colonel who commanded the Regiment he entered was John Thomas and the General he thinks was Pickens [Andrew Pickens]. That Jeremiah Dickson was his Captain during part of the time he was in the service. That Major John Ford and Colonel Roebuck [Benjamin Roebuck] were officers that commanded him part of the time, also General Henderson [William Henderson] and that John Mapp<sup>1</sup> was the Captain and William Fair [sic, William Farr] the Colonel under whose command he was when discharged. He was under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] of the Regular Army during the Siege of Ninety Six in the year 1781 or 1782 and when the British were reinforced that he retreated with said General Greene from that place. He declared that he was at least three years in the service most of the time with scouting parties in different parts of the State of South Carolina that he marched at different times over the Pacolet River, Edisto, Tyger, Broad River, Wateree, Congaree and Enoree rivers, the order of these marches with regard to time he cannot recollect. He sometimes received furloughs for a few days and he believed that he was several time drafted to perform particulars tours of service. He was in no battle except at the Cowpens on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 1781 where Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] was defeated by Morgan [Daniel Morgan]. He was there as a volunteer and attached to no Company having a furlough from Captain Vardry McBee for four days and being in the neighborhood he went voluntarily to the place and was in the engagement. He was discharged by Captain John Mapp at the close of the war which he thinks was in the year 1783. He does not recollect whether he was handed a written discharge or whether it was a mere verbal dismissal.

He was in the service with Swann Thompson<sup>2</sup>, now an inhabitant of the State of Mississippi and whose affidavit is hereunto annexed. He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no other person whose Testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. Soon after the war he moved into North Carolina and remained about two years then returned to South Carolina and in the year 1786 to Washington County, State of Georgia where he remained until the year 1817 then moved to his present resident parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana. He is intimately acquainted with the

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1 FPA W3840

2 Samuel Thompson of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana claimed a pension for services under Col. Thomas and Col. Roebuck claiming participation in the Battle of Cowpens. See FPA S31420. He may be the same man who is identified in this application as Swann Thompson.

Reverend Reuben Beavers, a clergyman, of the parish of St. Helena, State of Louisiana and with Lemuel Thompson and Jesse R. Jones of the parish of St. Tammany who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief as to his services as a soldier of the Revolution. 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 & Subscribed in Open Court this 14<sup>th</sup> day of Nov AD 1833  
S/ Wesley Mallory, D. Clk.

S/ Wm. Heden

We, Reuben Beavers, a clergyman of the parish of St. Helena, State of Louisiana and Lemuel Thompson and Jesse R. Jones of the parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana hereby certify that we are well acquainted with William Headen who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be seventy three years of age on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December next. That he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier of War.

S/ Reuben Beavers

S/ Lemuel Thompson

Interrogatory First - Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, on 14<sup>th</sup> of December 1760

Interrogatory 2<sup>nd</sup> - Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it?

Answer: My age is recorded in my family Bible now at my house.

Interrogatory 3<sup>rd</sup> - Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer : I was living in Ninety Six District, South Carolina, when called into service soon after the war I lived two years in North Carolina and then returned to South Carolina and remained until the year 1786, when I removed to Washington County Georgia and lived there until 1811 when I removed to the Parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana where I now live.

Interrogatory 4<sup>th</sup> - How were you called into service? Where you drafted? did you volunteer? Or, were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

Answer: I was called into Service by Capt Vardry McBee to whose Company I belonged. I cannot say whether it was a volunteer Company properly speaking but we were called minute men and were liable to be called out at any time. I believe I was several times drafted to perform particular tours of duty.

Interrogatory 5<sup>th</sup> - State the names of some of the regular officers who were in the troops where you served, such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: General Greene belonged to the regulars. I was with him at the Siege of Ninety Six and during his retreat. I do not recollect the names of any of the officers of his command. I was present at the Battle of the Cowpens when the Americans were commanded by Colonel Morgan. I cannot say what regiments I served with but recollect that John Thomas, Roebuck and William Farr were Colonels and John Ford, Major; Pickens and Henderson, Generals under whom I served, all, I believe militia officers. Most of services I performed was with scouting parties.

Interrogatory 6<sup>th</sup> - Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what became of it?

Answer: I was discharged by Captain John Mapp at the close of the war, but do not remember whether

I ever received any written discharge or whether it was only a verbal dismissal.

Interrogatory 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood and who can testify as to your character or veracity and their belief of you services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I am acquainted with Reuben Beavers, of the Parish of St. Helena in the State of Louisiana as a clergyman, and with Lemuel Thompson and Jesse R. Jones of the Parish of St. Tammany who can testify to my character or veracity and their opinion of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court this 14 day of November, 1833

S/ Wesley Mallory, D Clk

S/ Wm Headen

State of Louisiana, Parish of St. Tammany

On this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord 1835 and in the year of the Independence of the United States of America the 60<sup>th</sup>

Personally came and appeared, into the Honorable the Parish Court in and for the Said Parish of St. Tammany, began and held at the Court House of said Parish in the town of Carrington on the date above written, Mr. William Headen of the aforesaid Parish of St. Tammany, and State of Louisiana, aged about Seventy Five years, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 and answered the Interrogatories to him propounded as follows (To Wit)

Int. 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Loudoun County, Olde Virginia in the year 1760, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December.

Int. 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any Record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have, my age is Recorded in my family Bible, which is at my residence now in this Parish, and which Record was made from my father's family Records.

Int. 3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into Service, where have you lived Since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Answer: I was living in the State of South Carolina, in what was then called Ninety Six District, now Spartanburg County, I have lived since in different places in the United States, from the termination of the War until the year 1811, I live alternately in the States of North and South Carolina and Georgia, I then removed to my present place of residence in the State of Louisiana, Parish of St. Tammany, where I have resided ever since.

Int. 4 How were you called into Service were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute, and if a Substitute for whom?

Answer: I was first called into Service as a Minute Man under the command of Captain McBee, I was not drafted, nor did not [sic] volunteer formerly at first but the Company was what was then called Minute Men, and was generally in the field in active Service as Scouting and foraging parties I was never a Substitute for any person during the war.

Int. 5<sup>th</sup> State the names of Some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you Served, Such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Services.

Answer: When I first entered into the Service, the fall after the Surrender of Charleston, my Colonel's name was John Thomas, and my Captain's Vardry McBee as before stated. The Scouting Parties of the British and Tories had been advancing into the County, and in the fall your deponent was called into Service, your deponent recollects that it was in the fall from this circumstance that On arriving at the rendezvous people were gathering their corn, deponent Continued in Service with said McBee till after Tarleton's defeat [Battle of Cowpens], Our duty consisted in scouring the Country, driving the scouting parties of the Enemy, Collecting forage &c. My father's residence was about Seven Miles from the Cowpens, and McBee had given us a furlough, for four days to go home and refit our baggage. On

arriving at home I learned that Tarleton and Morgan were in the neighborhood, and I took my rifle and repaired to the Army, but was too late for the action at the Cowpens.

Soon after this a rumor came that the Cherokees was gathered together and Marched to John Penney's Old Station so called. On arriving there none of the Captains had joined and they Elected this Deponent Captain of the party, deponent does not remember the exact time he was in this tour but knows that it was one month at least, after our return from this tour Captain McBee had left the Service and deponent served immediately afterwards under the command of Captain Jeremiah Dixon [sic, Jeremiah Dickson], and Marched with him under the orders of General Andrew Pickens to White Hall where we remained a short period and then returned, at this. The Tories were out through the Settlement where I lived, they were called by the name of the bloody Scouts, and Dickson's Company was constantly on the alert to protect the Inhabitants and I was out with them, after this deponent Marched still under the Command of Captain Dickson to join General Greene at the Siege of Ninety Six, did not arrive at the Siege but met the Army under the Command of Greene retiring, Dickson's Company soon retired from Greene's Army, and marched again to deponent's settlement. In the meantime one John Mapp was Elected a Captain in McBee's place, and deponent Served under him during the remainder of the war. The first tour of duty deponent served under Captain Mapp was on Little River at Hugh Neill's Mill where they were stationed some time but deponent does not recollect how long, under the Command as deponent believes of Colonel John Thomas, deponent being discharged from this tour returned home and the enemy being very troublesome, was called out a few days after his return, and still under Captain Mapp went to the same Station on Little River where deponent believes that General Henderson Commanded, does not recollect the time he was Stationed at that place the second time. Deponent says that twelve months before the Surrender of Cornwallis, he was drafted and sent to the Congaree River at Ancrum's, where he served two months, under the Command of Colonel Roebuck, deponent afterwards served a tour of two months in guarding the prisoners at Orangeburg Goal [sic, Gaol or Jail], still under the Command of Captain Mapp and Colonel Roebuck or Major Ford deponent does not recollect which was the Commanding officer. In October before the capture of Cornwallis deponent was again drafted and went again to the Congaree at Ancrum's, where he remained under the Command of Captain Mapp with and Major Ford until the news arrived of the surrender of Cornwallis, then deponent was discharged from the Service, all the foregoing tours of duty were performed by deponent Exclusive of the three months tour certified by Mr. Swann Thompson whose affidavit is annexed, which duty was performed under the Command of Captain Mapp, Major Ford and also under the Command of Major General Greene, and deponent further states that he was first called into Service in the latter part of the year 1779 or the beginning of the year 1780, that he Served from that time to the close of the war, Excepting some few times when absent on furlough, was drafted some times to perform Special duties, and served as a Militia Man, under the Command of Captains McBee, Dickson and, and the Colonel of the Regiment was John Thomas, when Colonel Thomas resigned Colonel Roebuck took Command when he died Major Ford was Commanding officer, during the Service under Captain Mapp, Roebuck Commanded part of the time and Ford the residue. General Greene, General Henderson and deponent believes General Pickens was the General officers during this whole period, and deponent further saith that by reason of old age and the Consequent loss of Memory, together with the length of time since the rendition of the above Services he Cannot recollect the precise length of time of the various tours of duty by him performed, but knows that he served not less than two years, deponent thinks more, but his recollection is so frail that cannot declare positively, that he Served with an embodied Corps called into Service by Competent Authority, that he was Either in the field or garrison and for the time during which the Service was performed he was not employed in any Civil pursuit.

Int. 6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer: I do not know that I ever received a written discharge but have often been verbally discharged.

Interrogatory 7<sup>th</sup> State the Names of Persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your Character for veracity and their belief of your Service as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I am acquainted with Alexander G. Penn Esq. And \_\_\_ [blank in original] both of this Parish, and I know of no person whose testimony I could procure who is acquainted with the Services I rendered in the war, there being no person to my knowledge living in this section of the Country who Served in the war with me, Excepting Thompson as before stated and whose Certificate is hereto annexed.

And now the said deponent declares that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity Except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State.

T And the said William Headen now declares further that since his application for a pension has been returned to him, which application was taken & subscribed by this affiant on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833, made before the Honorable the 8<sup>th</sup> District Court in and for this Parish, he discovers two Material Errors which this deponent did not discover at the time of Making said declaration, which are these (To Wit) That this deponent was with General Greene at the Siege of Ninety Six during the year, and also that he was at the battle of the Cowpens, which Errors from the bustle of the District Court and from this deponent's being somewhat deaf he did not discover at the time which are herein corrected.

Sworn & Subscribed to before me in open Court this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 1835

S/ William Headin [sic]

[Alexander G. Penn and William Cooper gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Mississippi, Pike County

Personally came the undersigned Swan Thompson before me Peter Quin a Justice of the Peace in and for said County and Being sworn deposed as follows (Viz.) he this deponent became acquainted with William Headen the present applicant for this affidavit on or about the year of 1772 or three and that deponent recollects seeing him in the Service of his Country from about 1780 for two or three years and that this Deponent served with him in the same Company a part of the time and was also a Mess Mate with him a part of the time this deponent was in the War and that in his deponent's joining the Service they Both Served under Captain John Mapp but previous to Deponent Joining the Service he knew of the said Headen Serving under Captain Vardry McBee in what was called the Ninety Six District in the State of South Carolina and that he Served with said Headen about three months, But that he saw the said Headen from time to time in the Service of his Country about the time before mentioned for the Space of two or three years all of which time said had Served as a private Soldier and so far as I knew him or ever understood he was of Good Character as a Soldier and was well respected as Such and also was well beloved Generally and Considered a worthy Man.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17<sup>th</sup> of July 1833.

S/ Swann Thompson

S/ Peter Quin, JP