

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Richard Crabtree W8642

Sarah

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Transcribed by James McDonald

State of Tennessee, Morgan County

On the 2nd day of August 1834 personally appeared before me, Thomas Jack, a justice of the county court for the county aforesaid Richard Crabtree, a resident Citizen of the county of Morgan aforesaid to wit in the county aforesaid and state aforesaid aged Seventy Six years. Who from bodily infirmity is unable to get to a court of record, 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the year of 1776 in the month of February, the day of which from consequent loss of memory cannot now be recollected, under the following named officers to wit Captain William Moore, Colonel Christopher Bateman, Major Daniel McKisick, Col. Charles McDowell, as a volunteer Militia Man. Rendezvoused at Salisbury, Rowan County State of North Carolina, was then marched down the country to Cross Creek against the Scotch, took three hundred Scotch prisoners, was at Cross Creek some short time after taking the prisoners aforesaid, was then marched back by his aforesaid officers to Salisbury then honorably but verbally discharged, by his said Captain having served this tour not less than three months.

Applicant shortly afterwards, to wit, on or about the first day of June 1776 volunteered and entered the service of United States under the following named officers to wit Captain Reuben White, Lieutenant Samuel Simpson. This company consisted of eighty two men and was ordered by Major McKisick & Colonel McDowell to march to Davidson's Fort on the Catawba River and was stationed at said Fort as a guard to keep the Indians off of the frontiers had been stationed & scouting & spying against the Indians until some time in August or July. When for the first engagement they met with the Indians who lay in ambush at the north fork of the Catawba River. They had engagement with the Indians & defeated the Indians in which engagement, Captain White was killed together with several other privates, we killed fourteen Indians dead upon the ground. General Rutherford shortly after this engagement came on with his Brigade. We then joined General Rutherford then marched to levee towns then marched to Big Tellico towns. Met General Williamson's [Andre Williamson's] Army at Big Tellico but had been in hearing of General Williamson's Army when he fought the Indians before he reached the Tellico Towns, took some prisoners at Big Tellico Towns. Was marched back to Davidson's Fort, was then honorably but verbally discharged having served this tour no less than six months.

Applicant again in the year of 1779 in the spring season or early part of the summer, the month or day thereof from causes already stated cannot now be recollected by applicant, volunteered & entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, to wit, Captain Lew Taylor, Lieutenant Lew Richardson, Majors names from consequent loss of memory cannot now be recollected, he was a stranger to applicant before the entering of the service under him but he was from South Carolina, Colonel Charles McDowell, Rendezvoused at the Reidy [sic, Reedy] Ford on Broad River then marched to Stono, South Carolina and there had a battle with the British, was driven back by the British and made to retreat from the battle ground. This battle commenced early in the day and lasted until near twelve when the Americans was compelled to retreat as aforesaid. The Americans did not return to the battle ground to bury their dead until three days after the battle was over. Applicant was marched after the battle back to Burke County, North Carolina and there honorably but verbally discharged by his said captain having served not less than three months this tour. Applicant in the spring of the year 1780 about the last of April or first day of May, volunteered as a light horseman and entered the service of the United States under the following named officers to wit Captain William Murry, Major Francis Lock [sic, Francis Locke], Colonel's name from causes above stated cannot now be recollected rendezvoused at Winn's old Fields then marched to Charlestown [sic, Charleston]. Was

in Charleston when the alarm gun was fired to raise the siege against Charleston. The horse was ordered to Monks Corner & applicant being a horseman was at Monks Corner when Charleston was surrendered. The next morning after the surrender the American horsemen was defeated by the British Dragoons at Monks Corner, the horsemen that was not killed nor taken prisoner was thrown into confusion, applicant having lost all his close in the defeat except his shirt & pantaloons applicant made his escape home to recruit reenlisted started to join General Rutherford's Army, but was pursued by the Tories at Ramsour's Mill, had a battle with the Tories at said mill, defeated the Tories, killed & took a great many Tories prisoners. General Rutherford came on the next day after said battle then joined General Rutherford & marched to Charlotte, North Carolina. Joined General Gates then marched for Camden, had a battle with the British Army commanded by Cornwallis near Camden. General Gates was defeated by Cornwallis. General Gates fled & left his army a great many of whom was killed & taken prisoner and the balance thrown into utter confusion.

Applicant's Colonel to wit Isaacs & General Rutherford was also taken prisoners but applicant made his escape from said battle ground & went home to Burke County. This battle began early in the morning and lasted until near ten o'clock. The two Armies having lain upon their arms the night before. Applicant had not served less than four months during this period of service. This battle was fought in the latter part of the summer when the weather was very warm.

Applicant this ensuing fall after the battle aforesaid volunteered & entered the service of the United States under the following officers to wit, Captain Joseph McDowell, Majors names cannot, from causes above stated, be now recollected, Colonel Porter, his Christian name cannot be recollected from causes above stated, rendezvoused at Lawson's Iron Works on Thicketty [Creek]. This Captain & his company of which applicant was one was ordered to & marched down the country towards Ninety six as a scout to spy the maneuvering of the enemy. The Enemy. having a spy out of a much stronger force than that applicant was in, turned upon Captain McDowell's company of spies of which applicant was one and caused them to retreat back upon the country was overtaken by the enemy at Wawfords [sic, Wofford's] Iron Works & then had a scrimmage, in which we lost some four or five men, being compelled to retreat back still further up the country was again overtaken by the enemy at Gilbert Town. There lost two men, here we killed six or seven upon the ground, the enemy here retreated back down the country & our said captains company was marched back to Burke County & there honourably but verbally discharged, having served in this tour of duty not less than three months, applicant again, as he believes in the month of December 1780 to wit shortly after his last aforesaid tour of duty entered the service of the United States as a volunteer horseman under the following named officers to wit his aforesaid Captain Joseph McDowell, Major Daniel McKisick, Colonels name from cause above stated cannot now be recollected, marched & rendezvoused at the Cherokee Ford on Broad River then marched toward's Ninety Six, at the Long Cane about twenty miles of Ninety Six having understood that the fort of Ninety Six two strong to be attacked, General Morgan turned his course of march & marched to the Cowpens & was then pursued by General Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] and some time in the early part of January 1781 News came into General Morgan that Tarleton was near with his forces. Captain McDowell & his company of which applicant was one was ordered out to meet General Tarleton & bring on the action, this action commenced early in the morning & in which General Tarleton was defeated and General Morgan took a great number of prisoners. Applicant guarded prisoners into Burke County, applicant was here honorably but verbally discharged, having served this tour of duty not less than two months. Applicant the ensuing spring to wit 1781 some time in the last of May precise day of which cannot now be recollected, but applicant entered the service of the United States under the following named officers to wit Captain Robert Bell, Major Richard Lewis, Colonel Hampton, applicant was again a horseman. Rendezvoused at Black Stocks [sic, Blackstock's] fort, ten or fifteen miles from ninety six then marched to ninety six and laid siege, under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] to Ninety Six and continued the siege some six or seven days. When the fort was reinforced by the British Army under the command of Lord Rodden [sic, Lord

Rawdon] whose forces being much stronger than General Greene, General Greene was compelled to give up the siege.

Applicant was then marched under the command of his aforesaid officers to Fort Golfin [sic, Fort Galphin] on the Savannah [River] was stationed there until the last week in August where he was honorably discharged by parole by said captain the time of which services was not less than three months this tour---- and was that of a private. The whole of applicants services in the Revolutionary War was not less than two years and was that of a private, applicant states that during his several campaigns and tours of duties he bore arms against the enemy of his country followed no civil pursuits.

Applicant states that he has no documentary evidence of his services & knows of no person living by whom he, except Joseph McPeters¹ & James McDaniel² Whose certificate is hereto given, can prove the same, he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Applicant states that from the last information given him by his parents, he was born in the State of Virginia Loudoun County the month of January 29th day in the year 1758, states he has no record of his age, that his information of the place of birth & date thereof was given him by parole.

Applicant states that his place residence during the Revolutionary War was in the state North Carolina and mostly in Burke County. When he was not in service that since the Revolutionary War he has lived in states of North Carolina, Virginia & Tennessee and now resides in Morgan County Tennessee. That he was always a volunteer and never suffered himself to be drafted. Applicant served under many officers during the Revolutionary War, all of whom he cannot now recollect from old age and consequent loss of memory, but he able recollect General Greene who laid siege to ninety six General Morgan who commanded at the Cowpens. General Gates, who fled and left his army near Camden South Carolina General Rutherford who was taken Prisoner at the Battle last above named to wit Gate's defeat Applicant states that he never received a written discharge, that his several discharges from his tour of duty was by parole only. And sometimes when his officers was defeated he made his escape whom [?] without any discharge. Applicant states that he is known to the following persons. Citizens in his neighborhood who can testify to applicants character as a man of veracity and a soldier of the Revolution to wit John Butram, Andrew Butram, John Reid, Joshia Goard, Jesse Triplett, James McDaniel and Joseph McPeters, that there is no clergyman residing in applicant's neighborhood, therefore he is unable to obtain the certificate of.

S/ Richard Crabtree, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Jack Justice of the County Court

We Joseph McPeters & James McDaniel residing in the County of Morgan and the neighborhood of the said Richard Crabtree who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration hereby certify that we served with him in the Revolutionary War in the campaigns set in the forgoing declaration and that we believe him to be seventy six years of age.

S/ Joseph McPeters, X his mark

S/ James McDaniel, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Jack Justice of the County Court

1 FPA W1303

2 [James McDaniel \(McDonald\) W7424](#)