

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Micajah Pettaway [Petway or Pettway] S3668

fn48NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/26/09

[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 North Carolina, Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions August 28, 1832

On this day personally appeared before the worshipful, the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Micajah Pettaway a resident of the County of Edgecombe, State of North Carolina, aged 72, 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, 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 – April – with Christopher Lackey 2nd Lieutenant and served in the third Regiment of the North Carolina line under the following officers; -- J. Sumner [Jethro Sumner] Colonel Wm Austin [Lt. Col. William Alston], Lieut Colonel -- ___ Lockhart [Lt. Col. Samuel Lockhart], Major – William Brinkley Captain – Isaac Purvat [? or Purrat] 1st Lieutenant, Christopher Lackey, 2nd Lieutenant. He left the Army in October 1778. He was discharged near West Point N. Y. And the discharge was signed by Captain Williams and countersigned Colonel Patten [John Patten]. At the Valley Forge he was transferred to the 2nd Regiment commanded by Colonel Patton and attached to the Company of Captain Ben Williams [Benjamin Williams]. At the time of his enlistment he resided in the County of Edgecombe, and State of North Carolina. After leaving Edgecombe he was first ordered to Wilmington N. C. from thence to Charleston. After having remained for some time at Charleston under the command of General Lee [Charles Lee] he went to Savannah, Georgia. He was detained some months in Georgia and sometime in the early part of the next year (1777) he returned to North Carolina. At Fayetteville he received a furlough for a few weeks and in February in compliance with his orders he returned to the service at Halifax. The former Captain Brinkley in the mean time died or resigned and the company was put under the command of Captain James Bradley. From Halifax he went to Petersburg Virginia, thence through Richmond & Fredericksburg, to Georgetown, where he remained six or eight weeks. Leaving Georgetown he passed through Maryland on to Wilmington Delaware: from Wilmington he went to Philadelphia, thence to Trenton where he encamped for some weeks and passing through Philadelphia again, went to Mud Island Fort. He was alternately in Delaware and Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, the movements of the Army being irregular, until the Battle of Brandywine. He was present at that engagement. From Brandywine he accompanied the Army and at Germantown was placed in charge of the baggage wagons. After this battle the movements were irregular until he went into winter quarters at the Valley Forge. During this period he was attached to the life guard of General Washington. In the spring of 1778 the Army again commenced hostile operations and following the movements of the enemy he was in the battle of Monmouth. After the breaking up of winter quarters the service to which he was assigned was such as is usually known by light infantry. After the battle at Monmouth he went into the State of New York and remained in the neighborhood of the White Plains some time and after having been removed to the orchard near West Point New York he was discharged.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to whatever pension or annuity, except the present he may have been entitled to and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Micajah Pettaway

The above Statement made by the above applicant Micajah Pettaway being read to Nathaniel Bilbry doth on his oath declare the same to be correct. In testimony whereof, he has hereunto set his hand & seal August 27, 1832.

S/ Nathaniel Bilbory [sic]¹

[fn p. 30: Jordon Sherrod and Thomas Dupree, Sr., gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 31]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On this __ day of August personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, Micajah Pettaway a resident of the County of Edgecombe, State of North Carolina, aged 72, who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration.

That in the capacity of substitute he entered the service in August 1780 in a company commanded by Captain James Scarborough which company was attached to a Regiment under command of Colonel Hart. Lieutenant Colonel Branch -- the first Lieutenant of the company was Jesse Howard and Randolph Hancock Ensign. The Regiment rendezvoused in Wake County NC and when it was organized he received an Adjutant's commission. He marched under command of General Allen Jones to Hillsboro, near Charlotte, New Providence and remained a month or 2 moving irregularly in the neighborhood. He was discharged in January 1781.

He resided in Edgecombe when he entered the service and having no documentary evidence in his possession he adds to this declaration the testimony of James Scarboro.²

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid S/ Micajah Pettaway

I, James Scarborough do hereby certify that in the service of the United States, I was associated with Micajah Pettaway and that I believe the facts set forth in his declaration to [be] true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

August 1832

S/ James Scarborough

[fn p. 6: James Wiggins, administrator of the estate of Micajah Pettaway, deceased of Edgecombe County North Carolina, appointed an attorney on April 29 1851 to pursue the sums due the deceased.]

[fn p. 33]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On this __ day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting, Micajah Pettaway resident of Edgecombe County, State of North Carolina, aged 72 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he volunteered in the service of the United States in December 1779 and was attached to a company commanded by Captain Fred Bell, first Lieutenant John Batts, Ensign Shadrach Scarborough. The company belonged to a Regiment commanded by Colonel John Shephard Lieutenant Colonel Lowrie. He was ordered to Charleston and on the route the Regiment was reorganized and, other changes having been made, he was appointed Ensign. He was at Charleston during a part of the Siege and was discharged in April 1780 -- He has no documentary evidence of these facts but depends to his declaration the testimony of Nathaniel Bilbary & Lewis Todd³ who served with him.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. S/ Micajah Pettaway

¹ [Nathaniel Bilbry \(Bilbory\) S6645](#)

² [James Scarborough \(Scarborough\) S7467](#)

³ [Lewis Todd S7736](#)

We Nathaniel Bilbry and Lewis Todd were associated with Micajah Pettaway in the service of the United States and that we believe the facts set forth in his declaration to be true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

August 27th 1832

S/ Nathaniel Bilbory

S/ Lewis Todd

[fn p. 35]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On this ___ day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting, Micajah Pettaway resident of Edgecombe County, State of North Carolina, aged 72 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration

In the capacity of Substitute he served 3 tours of 3 months in addition to those already specified. In two of these he served as Adjutant -- in the other as a private while acting as Adjutant the Regiment was commanded by Colonel Brickel & accompanied by Captain Goodman and the [indecipherable word] Thomas Magor and General Jones. He was stationed at Halifax and perform services such as the general situation of the times & country required. His term of service was 3 months.

In the second, he belonged to a Regiment which was commanded temporarily by Major Jos. Rhodes, a Continental officer, and the movements of the troops were mostly about Wilmington -- during this term an engagement occurred at Bluford's Bridge at which he was present. His term of service was 3 months.

In the last he was a private and served in South Carolina under command of General Sinclair -- between 3 and 4 months. This service was arduous and irregular though no engagement occurred.

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 any agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date aforesaid.

S/ Micajah Pettaway

To these 3 last terms of service he has no living [witness] to establish the same within his knowledge.

[fn p. 39: [Gilead \(Gilliad\) Thigpen R10492A](#) gave a supporting affidavit as to the reputation of the applicant as a soldier of the revolution.]

[fn p. 40 Mark Bennett, a minister of the gospel, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 43]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On this 29th day of August personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting, Micajah Pettaway a resident of the County of Edgecombe, State of North Carolina, aged 72, who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration.

That in the capacity of a substitute he entered the service in 1781 or 82 in a company of cavalry commanded by Captain Dickens and Major Joseph Clinch. We were organized in Tarborough and then marched to Cape Fear near Fayetteville where the company was divided when Governor Martin commanded the one part in Major Clinch the other part -- I was placed under Clinch with whom I marched upon Deep River Haw River and was in constant service between Hillsborough & Charlotte in pursuit of Tories. We met with no regular engagement -- At the end of our service (three months) I was then discharged. I have no evidence except the testimony of Lewis Todd with whom I served until the division of the company at Cape Fear.

S/ Micajah Pettaway

The above statement made by Micajah Pettaway I believe to be correct to the best of my knowledge & recollection.

S/ Lewis Todd

[fn p. 44]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County

On this 27th day of August 1833 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid, Micajah Pettaway who being duly sworn deposeth and saith

That on the first day of September 1780 being then a volunteer in Captain Scarborough's Company in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Hart & Colonel Branch & he was appointed adjutant of the said Regiment near Wake Court House, he received a commission from General Jones, which he lost long since. He marched with said Regiment through Hillsborough & by Charlotte in to the upper part of South Carolina and joined the main body of troops under the command of General Smallwood, at a place then called New Providence. During five months he continued to discharge the said duties as an adjutant, in the Army was engaged in irregular move months, expecting frequently to engage the enemy: but in this they were disappointed -- After being discharged he came home. These facts he proves by the oath of James Scarborough. Force the close of February of the following year he joined a company at Trenton North Carolina commanded by Captain Yates and after marching about 40 miles into Onslow County at a place called Moore's Hill he joined the Regiment. About 4 days after he marched from Trenton he was appointed Adjutant of the Regiment to which said company belonged of which Regiment Major Rhodes & Colonel Caswell was commandant. He then marched to the neighborhood of Wilmington and at Bluford's bridge was a severe action with the British and subsequently was employed in irregular move months endeavoring to annoy some British troops in the neighborhood who were commanded by Colonel or Major Craig. He was discharged in Jones County NC after having served 3 months. He received his commission from Colonel Caswell.

He has no positive evidence of this service, and believes those that served with him to be dead or so far from him that it is impossible to obtain their evidence.

After remaining at home a short time he volunteered in a company raised in Edgecombe County -- Captain John Goodman -- He marched with said company to Halifax and was put under Colonel Brickell (August 1781) after the regiments were organized General Jones appointed him adjutant for the Regiment -- the duties of which office he discharged for 2 months and 28 days, the Regiment being disbanded a few days before the time for which they turned out (three months) expired. During this term he was in camp at Halifax. He received his commission from General Jones.

He has no positive evidence by which he can prove these facts set forth in the last clause of this deposition and for the admission of his claim for pay as Adjutant as stated must rely upon the Confidence the Department and place in him sustained as he is by men of credit and respectability. His two last commissions have been [lost ?].

Sworn to and subscribed

S/ Micajah Pettaway

[fn p. 46]

State of North Carolina in Edgecombe County

Personally appeared before me Joab P. Pitt one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid James Scarborough who being duly sworn deposeth and saith

That he was a Captain during the war of the Revolution and that Micajah Pettaway marched with me as a private until my company was attached to a Regiment commanded by General Allen Jones and Colonel Henry Hart -- which Regiment was formed near Wake Court House NC. After the Regiment was on a man by the name of Crawford was appointed Adjutant who very soon deserted us and stole his horse. Micajah Pettaway then acted as Adjutant and I believe he was commissioned by General Jones in which office he served faithfully for 5 months when he was discharged in company with myself -- This term was employed in active service in North Carolina and marched to South Carolina and joined the regular service under General Smallwood until the term of service above named expired. The Regiment was formed in September 1780 as well as my memory serves me.

We have both lived in the same County and State from the commencement of the Revolutionary War and I have been well acquainted with him ever since that time and he has always borne a good of right character and I have always understood that he served as an officer in the Revolutionary war and I have every reason to believe that he served as he states.

Sworn to & subscribed

S/ P. Pitt, JP

S/ James Scarborough

[fn p. 28]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Micaja Pataway [sic] a private Soldier in Captain Granberry's Company of the 3rd Regiment enlisted on the 20th day of April 1776 for 2 1/2 years, and was discharged in October 1778.

Given under my hand this 5th of April 1833

W. Hill

[facts in the file: veteran died April 12, 1849 leaving the following children surviving: William D., John, Robert, Willie I., Micajah, Joseph L., Elizabeth, wife of Abner Eason; Catherine, wife of Edmond H. Rhodes.]