

SERVICE

NUMBER

Penn.

Adams, William

S. 5, 232

CONTENTS

carded

At. Feb. 4, 1748 in Ireland  
res. at end. York, Pa.  
res. after Rev. Pa. & Ohio  
res. in 1834 Green, Pa.  
d. Nov. 5, 1848

at Treasury under  
No. 11<sup>th</sup> April 1838  
1837 to the 1<sup>st</sup> June  
and 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 1838  
from Sept 4<sup>th</sup>  
1834. A. G. L.  
25<sup>th</sup> 1832. /  
of the 9<sup>th</sup> / 60

32,012  
Pennsylvania Pittsburgh  
William Adams  
Washington Co in the State of Pennsylvania  
who was a Private in the Company commanded  
by Captain Ross of the regt. commanded  
by Col. Walton in the Pennsylvania  
line for six months from 1776

to the  
of the  
4<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Age 60  
ed as above  
1040 La Fayette  
mole de Seine  
H. W. Madison

Provided on the Bill of Penna. Pittst  
at the rate of 20 Dollars — Cents per annum  
to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1838.

Certificate of Pension issued the 10 day of March  
1837 — and paid to David  
Hickson Esq. Private

Appears to the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1837 \$120 —  
Semi-ann. allowance ending

Recorded by *[Signature]* Clerl  
Book 2 Vol. 5 Page 116  
Revolutionary Claim,  
Act June 7, 1832.

Declaration of William Adams

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress  
passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

State of Pennsylvania

Washington County



On this 1<sup>st</sup> day  
of October A.D. 1834 personally appeared before  
the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas  
sitting at the Court House in  
Washington County Pennsylvania  
William Adams a resident of Richhill  
Township in Green County Pennsylvania aged  
eighty six years and eight months, who being  
first duly sworn according to law, doth on  
his oath make the following declaration in  
order to obtain the <sup>benefit of the</sup> provision made by the  
Act of Congress, passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, that  
he entered the Army of the United States in  
the year 1776 under Captain William Ross, and served  
for two months in a volunteer Regiment, Commanded  
by Col. Francis Patton, from York County  
Pennsylvania. The Regiment to which my Company  
was attached was raised principally if not entirely  
in York County Penn<sup>a</sup> and marched from that  
place on Harvest 1776, on or near the 15<sup>th</sup> of July  
through Lancaster and Chester Counties directly  
to Philadelphia, where we were garrisoned in  
the New Play House, situated in what was then  
called Irish Town, from Philadelphia we about  
a week after our arrival, sailed to Trenton New  
Jersey in a Shallop. We were landed at Trenton  
and marched from that place to Princeton  
where we stayed one night in the College, then  
we were marched direct to Paulus Hook  
on Long Island Sound, where we were engaged  
for the remainder of the two months in

erecting stacades, digging intrenchments and preparing to receive the British. They attempted to land on the Jersey Shore and to prevent their debarkation if possible. While we were encamped at this place the battle of Long Island was fought - this took place on the 17th of August. All the time we laid at this place the British shipping were riding at anchor in Long Island Sound, near Staten Island, except three which weighed anchor and sailed up the North River, during their passage all our batteries on the Shore were firing at them, which done them so much injury that their Carpenters were compelled to go to work immediately, which we discovered with our spy glasses - When the three ships started up the whole British fleet opened their batteries on our intrenchments but with little or no effect. Cannon balls were often coming out of our breast works which weighed fifty nine pounds, and many smaller ones. Shortly after these ships passed up North River, the term for which the Regiment volunteered expired and we returned home to York by the same route by which we had gone out, without any thing occurring worth relating I cannot now recollect the names of any other officers attached to this Regiment, except the subordinate officers of my own Company, to wit, 1st Lieutenant Joseph Morrison 2d Lieut<sup>n</sup> William Adams & Ensign McCall There were many other officers and men at Paulus Hook while

we remained there, but I cannot re-  
collect at present the names of any others  
but those I have mentioned

My second  
term of service commenced on or  
about the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 1777 and  
was also for two months. On this occa-  
sion I served under a Penn<sup>a</sup> draft  
When I was drafted I still lived in York  
County, I entered the service this time  
under Captain John Caldwell the Secy  
I was above pay at that time. On this occasion our  
company marched alone, having no su-  
perior officer to our Captain, until we for-  
med a junction with General Patten, who  
then commanded the forces west of the Sch-  
uylkill river. We were marched from  
York County, directly across the Counties  
of Lancaster Chester, & Delaware County  
until we reached the "Seven Stars" five  
miles from Philadelphia. When we were  
at the "Seven Stars" we were under the  
command of General Patten whose whole  
force consisted of about 1000 men -  
He was stationed on the west side of  
said river to prevent the Tories, and  
others from carrying supplies, to the  
enemy, who at that time had possession  
of Philadelphia and also to prevent  
the soldiers from coming out to plunder  
the country our object was to starve  
the British out of the City and with

That view we burnt many a good stack  
and barn full of grain. We also frequently  
captured whole waggan loads of pro-  
visions, consisting of flour, eggs, pies, cheese  
&c which we were allowed to divide  
among ourselves, and the officers took  
the horses and waggans either for their  
own use or the use of the Government.

This smuggling trade was carried on with  
the City by the Tories until Washington  
ordered six of them to be hung up with  
their own waggan lines, which checked  
the trade for a time at least. We spent  
the whole two months for which we were  
drafted marching from place to place  
some time in sight of the river and  
sometimes 5, 10, 20, or 30 miles back into  
the country, some times we were within sight  
of the City. On one occasion General Wash-  
ington ordered Gen Patten to go down  
to Phil<sup>a</sup> with his command, and endeavor  
to draw out the British forces <sup>at</sup> to attack  
him, and then retreat up the river to  
Schuylers floating bridge a little below Swain's  
ford, where he would meet him with  
the main army and give battle to  
the enemy. We marched down to the 'Seven  
Stars' and encamped, at which place 100  
men were selected from the brigade of  
1000 commanded by Patten who were  
to creep the Schuyl Kill and fire into  
the City. I was one of the hundred.

We left the main body, and crossed the river (if my recollection serves aright) under the Command of Col Bradford & Major Early ~~and~~ as the Coaks were crawling for ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~city~~ <sup>city</sup> We fired once into the City, and then retreated but the enemy were so much alarmed although they were 7000 strong that they did not commence their pursuing until 10 O. Clock ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> morning. We staid at the 'Seven Stars' until the British came in sight, we then commenced retreating, each man being furnished with 48 rounds of ball cartridge our orders were to turn and fire at every advantageous position, they pursued and we retreated until our whole ammunition was exhausted which did not last us more than half of the road to Swain's ford which is 23 miles from the City

They followed us all the way to the ford burning all the barns and houses which fell in their way. We arrived at the ford about sundown where we found Washington just arrived on the opposite side of the river. During the night Washington transported his army across the river by placing his baggage waggons in the stream and laying boards from one to the other but behold when he looked out for the enemy in the morning they had taken advantage of the darkness and fled back to the City, and so our decoy failed to effect its object, we staid ~~that one day~~ at the ford for one day

and then returned to our former position and employment along the river in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, where we were engaged in scanning the country and skinning with small foraging parties. On another occasion the whole army came out of the city and ran us off at full gallop until we reach Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington's head quarters at 'White Marsh'. Some of us lost our hats, some their coats, and some their knapsacks, and all were glad to ~~lose~~ <sup>lose</sup> with their lives. A short time after this adventure our term of service, which was two months having expired the Company was marched home and discharged.

The third time I was out in the service I was also drafted for two months and spent the whole term at a place called the 'Cook's Nest' in York County, three miles from Little York, and 12 miles from my (then) residence. On this occasion I entered the service under Capt. Fulton, to the best of my recollection, some time in August 1781 and was marched directly to the 'Cook's Nest' where the Company was engaged to guard a large number of prisoners. We spent the two months standing guard and building stockades. No incident of importance happened the whole time we lay there worthy of mention. The history of two months is nearly the history of the whole. Two months — a day of rest and a day of duty. I belonged to the fourth class and we staid at the stockade until we were relieved, in October by a draft from the fifth class. I cannot



now recollect the name of any other officer who was with me on this occasion except my captains which I have already given

The reason I did not make my declaration in Greenbainy where I reside is this, I have only lived in that County a little better than three years and consequently people there cannot be acquainted with my reputation as a Revolutionary Soldier whereas I have lived in Washington County at different times since 1782, about forty years and am well known to the people. Besides the County town in this County is as near if not nearer my residence than that of Greeny so my recollection I never received a written discharge in any case when I quit the service

I know of no person living who has a personal knowledge of my services except Raphael Doney whose affidavit is herunto attached

I know of no clergyman who I can procure to certify for me according to the form prescribed by the War Department, nor indeed of any one who has any knowledge of my services. My whole service amounted to just six months all which time I was a private

I have no documentary evidence to prove my service and can procure none except the attached affidavit. I know the names of no other officers under whom I served but those I have mentioned

33766  
I was born in Ireland on the 1<sup>st</sup> day  
of February 1748 — I have no record  
of my age — When I was called  
out to Service I lived in York County  
and continued to reside there till (think)  
the year 1782 when I removed to Washington  
County where I have lived ever since  
except one year in Virginia 18 years in the  
State of Ohio & three years in Greene  
County in this State — I volunteered for two  
months & was drafted twice for two  
months each time — To the fifth  
Congress I have made as full an answer  
as my recollection will now  
allow of — The 6<sup>th</sup> is also answered  
I refer to the following named persons  
who are well acquainted with me in the  
Neighborhood where I formerly resided in  
this County who can testify to my Cha-  
racter for veracity, and their belief  
of my Services as a Soldier of the Revolu-  
tion viz John M. Gay David Frozier Esq  
James Haines John Burns Abraham  
Yeagarden Robert Milligan

I do hereby  
relinquish 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 (except that of the State of Penn-  
sylvania) sworn to and sub-  
scribed the day and year aforesaid

J. Officer Pro

Edmond Edmond

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

SECOND COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,

July 14. 1853.

Sir:

Under the act of the 6th of April, 1838, entitled "An Act directing the transfer of money remaining unclaimed by certain Pensioners, and authorizing the payment of the same at the Treasury of the United States," and the third section of the Act of August 28, 1842, extending the time within which pensioners may receive their pensions from the Pension agents,

the only child of William Adams, decd.

a Pensioner on the Roll of the Pittsburg

Agency, at the rate of Twenty

Dollars

and

Cents per annum, under the law of the

"7" June 1832 has been paid at this Department, from the

"1" of Sept. 1848 to the 2 Nov. 1848.

Respectfully, yours,

A. M. Bookhead  
Comptroller.

32012

To the COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS,  
Present.