

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Coombs (Combs) W8757 Michale Staire¹ fn31NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 12/6/10

[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. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Washington County: SS: On this 23rd day of June 1853 before May, one of the Justices of the County Court of Common Pleas & Quarter Sessions in and for said County, personally came Michal Staire the, aged about 75 years, a resident of said County, of good character, & who is a neighbor, and resides in the 14 Civil District, & who being duly sworn according to law, doth state that her maiden name was Michal Taylor, and was, born at the beginning of the Revolutionary War, and raised in Chesterfield County in old Virginia, that she was married to one William Combs, in Charlotte County Virginia on the 22nd of June 1800, as may be seen from the enclosed documents, that her said husband came from Wilkes County North Carolina and had been in said County for some time as an overseer to Jan Calacote² of Charlotte County, that they lived together as lawful husband & wife until the 9th of June 1809, when he died in Sullivan County Tennessee, to which place they had removed the February previous, that in June 1816, after remaining a widow seven years, she again married one Michael Staire, in Sullivan County Tennessee, that they lived together as lawful husband and wife until the 30th of December 1835, when her said the last husband died in Jefferson County Tennessee, and from that time to the present declarant has remained a widow. Declarant states further that her first named husband often spoke of being in the Revolutionary war, whilst a citizen of North Carolina, and often talked to his children of the battles he was and, particularly that of King's Mountain, which he often described, giving the particulars of the death of Colonel Ferguson – the British commander, but of the particulars of his service, the officers under whom he served, and the length of time, and the campaigns, declarant states that her said husband often talked of these things, but she has no distinct recollection of what he said, and she relies alone on the proof which may be found, if any, in the public records of the Country.

She states further that she makes the above declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by act of Congress passed 3rd February 1853, granting pensions to certain widows, & she states that her marriage to the said William Combs took place to the best of her recollection on the date above mentioned. She states further that she has no private papers of said Combs.

S/ Michal Staire, X her mark

[fn 5 & 6, On June 23rd, 1853 in Washington County Tennessee, John Calloway, 58 gave

¹ Former widow

² This person is identified in a later document as "James Calacote." Him and

testimony to the effect that the witness knew one William Combs, Junior, the son of William Combs; that said William Combs Junior died one year ago last March and he was always reputed as a legitimate child of William and Michal Combs.]

[fn p. 6: on June 23rd, 1853 in Washington County Tennessee, Mrs. Mary Galloway, 53, gave testimony that she knew William Combs during his lifetime; that he died in Sullivan County Tennessee when she was about nine years old; although she was young she states she distinctly recalls William Combs mentioning that he had fought at the battle of King's Mountain.]

[fn p. 9: on April seven, 1855 in Washington County Tennessee, Michale Staire, 85, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of William Combs restating the above facts and including the additional fact that she was married to William Combs in Charlotte County Virginia on the 22nd of June 1800 by the Reverend Edward Almend.]

[fn p. 16: certificate dated April 12, 1854 from the North Carolina Comptroller listing payments made to a William Combs for military services in the revolutionary war including the statement "William Combs also appears on the 'return of Wilkes (County) Volunteers to march northward' nine months man, May 19th 1778 made by Charles Gordon Colonel."]

[fn p. 20: copy of the marriage record reflected in the public records of Charlotte County Virginia.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$66.21 per annum commencing February 3rd, 1853, for the service of her prior husband as a private in the revolutionary war.]