

Alarison E. Myers, Civil War Pensioner

Alarison Elfonsie Myers (5/9/1825—7/28/1906) was the oldest child of William Myers and Lillis Tharpe. About 1847, Alarison married Elizabeth Mullis. Over the next twenty years, they would have at least nine children. The Myers family had lived in the northern part of Iredell Co until the 1850s when they moved to the Rock Creek area of Wilkes Co. This family is well documented in the *Wilkes Heritage Book, Volume 1*.

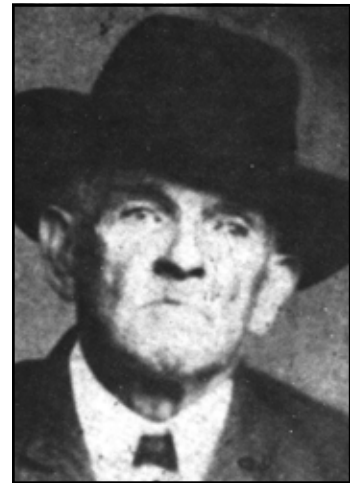
On 7/28/1862, Alarison and brothers Zedic Stanly, Augustus William, and Noah Franklin enlisted in the Confederate Army in Guilford Co. After returning from his service in the war, he was ordained as a Baptist minister on 10/5/1864 and served with several churches in Wilkes Co over the next 30 years. He was buried at Rock Creek Baptist Church.

Last year I found several Civil War pension requests on file at the State Archives in Raleigh. As early as 1889, the government passed laws granting a pension to Civil War veterans or their widows. In 1901 the law was loosened so that more people could take advantage of the benefit. In subsequent years, as potential recipients became older, the restrictions were loosened further. While some requests provide very little information about the applicant, others provide details that could be found no where else. One interesting application is that of A. E. Myers, particularly in the colorful reports from the physicians.

On 6/25/1901, A. E. Myers submitted his request for a pension as shown on the next three pages. The first page is a letter from a physician that accompanied his request. The more documentation an applicant provided, the better his chance of receiving a pension. The next two pages are of his actual application. He gives his age as 76, living in the neighborhood of Round Mountain Post Office. He enlisted in Co D, 5th NC Regiment in July 1862. His pension was approved.

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Rev. Alarison E.
Myers (1825-1906)



"Rev. A. E. Myers" headstone
at Rock Creek Baptist Church

Trap Hill NC
June 13 1901

This is to certify that
I was called to see
A. E. Myers about the
date 1864 on his
return from the army
I found him desti-
-tute of mind and
physically very feeble
and he remained very
feeble in mind for
a long period and
at times he is still
very weak mentally

Tyre York M.D.

Trap Hill, NC
June 13, 1901

This is to certify that I was called to see A. E. Myers about the date 1864 on his return from the army. I found him destitute of mind and physically very feeble and he remained very feeble in mind for a long period and at times he is still very weak mentally.

Tyre York, MD

SOLDIER'S APPLICATION FOR PENSION.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, }

COUNTY OF Wilkes }

On this 25 day of June, A. D. 1901, personally appeared before me, L. Bumgarner, C. S. C., in and for the State and County aforesaid, A. E. Myers, age 76 years, and a resident at Round Mountain post-office in said County and State, and who, being duly sworn, makes the following declaration in order to obtain the pension under the provisions of an act entitled "An Act to amend chapter 198 of the Laws of 1869 for the relief of certain Confederate Soldiers and Widows," ratified March 2, 1901: That he is the identical A. E. Myers, who enlisted in Co. D, Reg. N. C. State Troops, on or about the 5 day of July, 1862, to serve in the armies of the late Confederate States, and that while in said service at Round Mountain, in the State of North Carolina, on or about the 5 day of July, 1862, he received a wound or wounds, etc.

(Applicant will here state the nature and extent of his wounds and disability, so that a proper classification can be made under the new Pension Law passed by the General Assembly of 1901. Read said section of said law carefully, and to accomplish the classification therein called for, let statement here as to nature and extent of wounds, disability, etc., be very full and explicit).

I had fever contracted in the war from which I am and was afflicted very much both physically and mentally.

He further states that he is, and has been for twelve months immediately preceding this Application for Pension, a *bona fide* resident of North Carolina; that he holds no office under the United States, or under any State or County, from which he is receiving the sum of three hundred dollars as fees or as salary annually; that he is not worth in his own right, or the right of his wife, property at its assessed value for taxation to the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500), nor has he disposed of property of such value by gift or voluntary conveyance since the 11th of March, 1885, and that he is not receiving any aid from the State of North Carolina under any other statute providing for the relief of the maimed and blind soldiers of the State.

On 25, June, 1901 ...
before L. Bumgarner ...
A. E. Myers, age 76 ...
of Round Mountain ...
enlisted in Co D, 5th Reg ...
in July 1862 ...

"I had fever contracted in the war from which I am and was afflicted very much, both physically and mentally"

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th
 day of June, 1901
L. Bumgarner
 Signature of C. S. C. *A. E. Myers*
 Signature of Applicant.

Also personally appeared before me E. E. Hughie, who
 resides at Dehart post-office, in said County and
 State, a person whom I know to be respectable and entitled to credit, and being by me duly sworn, says he is acquainted with
A. E. Myers, the applicant for pension, and has every
 reason to believe that he is the identical person he represents himself to be, and that the facts set forth in this affidavit are cor-
 rect to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that he has no interest, direct or indirect, in this claim.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 25
 day of June, 1901
L. Bumgarner
 Signature of C. S. C. *E. E. Hughie*
 Signature of Witness.

Also personally appeared before me J. M. Turner
 a physician in good standing in said County and State, and being duly sworn, says that he has carefully and thoroughly examined
A. E. Myers, the applicant for pension, and finds such
 disability for manual labor as is described below, by reason of wounds received while in the discharge of his duty as a soldier or
 sailor of North Carolina in the service of the late Confederate States.

(Let physician here give full and explicit professional information as to the nature and extent of wounds, disability, stating particularly whether
 disability amounts to one fourth, one half, three-fourths, etc., in order to accomplish the classification called for under the new Pension Law passed
 by the General Assembly of 1901).

*He is not what you might call
 a stout man and is now weaker than when
 I knew him a few years ago*

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 1st
 day of July, 1901
L. Bumgarner
 Signature of C. S. C. *J. M. Turner M.D.*
 Signature of Physician.

On 25th, June, 1901 ...
 A. E. Myers (signature) ...
 before me L. Bumgarner ...
 also appeared Eli Hughie of Dehart ...
 also appeared J. M. Turner, physician ...

Per the physician: "He is not what you might call a stout man and is now weaker than when I knew him a few years ago," on July 1, 1901.