

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Taylor R10406

Transcribed by Will Graves

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rev'd 2/18/17

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 6]

State of North Carolina, County of Robeson: Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions November Term 1848

On this 28th day of November in the year of our Lord 1848, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, Benjamin Taylor, a resident of the County of Robeson and State of North Carolina aged ninety-five years, who first being 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: the Field Officers to the best of his recollection were Major __ Russ¹ (he thinks John Russ but as to the Christian name he is not certain) but owing to his extreme old age and loss of memory he is entirely unable to recollect the name of his Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel. Thomas Sessions was the Captain of his company when he first was drafted but shortly afterwards he was ordered to Topsail Sound beyond Wilmington where he served for six months under Captain Peter McLama [Peter McLammy], Lieutenant __ Stokesbury (Christian name not recollectd) and Sergeant Bloodworth.² The Captain however was killed by a party of the enemy after he (the said Benjamin Taylor) had been in the service about five months and he remained during the rest of the term under the command of Lieutenant Stokesbury. At the time that Captain was killed he (the Captain) was about 9 miles from the place where Taylor was stationed and sleeping in an old deserted house known as Rouse's House³ without guard or sentinels & the enemy who this affiant was told were Hessians came into the house and surprised and killed the Captain and all his party consisting of thirteen men excepting three who escaped. The three who escaped were Stokesbury, Bloodworth and a private who was wounded and left in the house as dead. The whole number killed was eleven. That he was in no engagement with the enemy during the time he was stationed at Topsail Sound. That owing to his age, loss of memory and the length of time which has elapsed he is unable to remember the year, or month when he entered the service. It was cold weather when he first went to Topsail Sound he remained through the Summer and came away after cool weather had set in. That he returned home and remained there he thinks about two weeks when Mr. Bloodworth came to his father's house and told him he must return to the Army. That he accordingly went to Wilmington where he rejoined

¹ There was a Thomas Russ who served as a Major the Brunswick militia in 1776-1780.

² This may be an erroneous reference to Colonel Thomas Blutdworth.

³ The skirmish at Rouse's Tavern (which this applicant appears to be talking about) occurred in March 1781 at Rouse's Tavern about 8 or 9 miles from Wilmington, NC.

http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_rouses_tavern.html

the Army under Colonel Young [Henry Young] and the same officers in other respects under whom he had served at Topsail Sound. That he remained at Wilmington six months. At Topsail Sound the whole number of soldiers was about 40, in Wilmington about 60. At the end of six months after he had gone to Wilmington the whole company at that place retired on account of an armed British vessel which came up the River. That he received a discharge from the service given to him by Col. Young – that he kept it for a few years after the end of the war when it became damaged by a storm which blew the water into the house and wet a small bag hanging against the wall in which he kept the discharge with some other papers whereupon supposing that the discharge would be of no use to him he threw it away. He was drafted and lived at that time in Brunswick County and served as a private.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Benjamin Taylor, X his mark

[p 9: Copy of a marriage bond dated Aug. 18th 1823 issued in Robeson County, NC to John McNatt and Benjamin Taylor conditioned on the marriage of Benjamin Taylor to Lydia Evers in Robeson County, NC]

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South Carolina, Marion District

By Samuel J. Bethea Magistrate for said District Personally came before me Robert Taylor of said District who being duly Sworn Saith on oath that he does know and is acquainted with Benjamin Taylor of North Carolina Robeson County and that he does know that the said Benjamin Taylor did serve in the Revolutionary War in two companies six months each at Wilmington Town and at Topsail Sound Sworn to before me this 8 of May 1847.

S/ Robert Taylor, X his mark

S/ Saml. J. Bethea, Magat.

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State of South Carolina, Marion District

Appeared before us S. A. Hairgrove and S. J. Bethea Robert Taylor of said District and after being duly qualified upon the Hole Evangelist deposes as follows Interrogatory 1st are you acquainted with Benjamin Taylor of Robeson County North Carolina Ans I am 2. Was he in the American Army during the revolutionary war Ans he was in the Army four years 3th [sic] was he Stationed at Wilmington North Carolina any length of time, Ans he was Stationed there to the best of my recollection six or 12 months 4th was the Stationed at Topsail Sound. Ans-- he was Stationed there a good while 5th what were the names of the officers under whom he Served Ans. Young was Colonel Peter Clanny was Captain I recollect Bloodsworth was an officer but of what grade I do not recollect Sworn to before me this the 13th day of February 1849.

S/ Robert Taylor, X him mark

S/ S. A. Hairgrove, Magat

S/ Saml. J. Bethea, Magat

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State of North Carolina Comptroller's Office

I, William J. Clark, Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of record in my office, among the payments made by said State to sundry persons for Military services in the Revolutionary War, as follows, to wit:

Benjamin Taylor

Book No. 3, page 20, £9 S2 specie

Book A, No. 11 page 71 £13 S13 specie

Benjamin Taylor appears as a Corporal in Captain Anthony Sharpe's Company 5th Regiment North Carolina Line, Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Lytle Muster Roll for the months of March and April 1783, term of enlistment nine (9) months.

Return of Col. Wingate, Brunswick County July 9th 1779, Benjamin Taylor

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribe my name and affixed my seal of office this the 11th of August 1853.

S/ Wm J. Clarke, Comptr.

[p 3: Power of attorney dated March 5, 1853, executed in Robeson County, NC, by Lydia Taylor in which she states she is the widow of Benjamin Taylor. She signed with her mark.]

[p 12: Power of attorney dated April 28, 1855, executed in Robeson County, NC, by Isaac Taylor, aged 50, in which he states he is the son of Benjamin and Wilmoth Taylor; that his father died May 10, 1849; that his parents were residents of Brunswick County about 30 years then his father moved to Robeson County about 25 years prior to this death. He signed with his mark.]

[Alexander Humphrey, Daniel Harrell, Daniel McPhail neighbors give affidavits that they have heard it said in the neighborhood that Benjamin Taylor served in the Revolution.]