

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Weatherford R11231

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Indiana }
Jefferson County Sct. } On this 20th day of February in the year of our Lord 1845
personally appeared before me the undersigned a Notary Public of said county John Weatherford
now a resident of the said county and state aged 98 or thereabouts who being first duly sworn
according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits
of the provision made by the act of congress granting pensions to persons who performed
military services during the Revolutionary War to wit that he performed the following described
military services. The year he does not recollect but it was against the Indians and the service
was performed chiefly on Holsten River, Col Joseph Martin was the Col & the Captain's name
was Nash. Militia troops and the length of this tour was five months, or thereabouts. That the
next tour he performed was under Capt. Clemens [probably Isaac Clement] this service was
performed in North Carolina near the place where Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates was defeated [Battle of
Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] about 3 or 4 years after the war began. this was a three months tour.
The next tour was served in Pittsylvania county Virginia under Col Peter Perkins Capt. Thomas
Smith a three months tour also. year not recollected The next tour was under Col. Lynch in
Virginia year of the battle of Guilford in which battle he was [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar
1781]. also in the battle at Ramsours Mills & at the battle of the Hanging Rock (Hawe River)
where he was also [see note below]. This was a three months tour also. He performed three other
tours under the same Col. Lynch of three months each all of these 4 were in Virginia and against
the British & tories was also in the service under Capt. Chilton [probably Shelton] about the time
of Cornwallis capture [19 Oct 1781] about two months and was discharged soon that event. He
served the whole time as a private and in Militia corps. Always a volunteer never wanted to be
drafted. He further states that he has never drawn any pension & further saith not.

John hisXmark Weatherford Sen'r.

State of Indiana } SS
County of Bartholomew }

On this 12th day of August AD 1845

Personally appeared in open Court Before the Probate Court of said County & State now sitting
John Weatherford a resident of the County of Bartholomew and State of Indiana aged ninety
eight years last May the 5th day - 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 July
the Seventh 1832

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and
Served as herein stated.

I was born in the year AD 1747 the 5th day of May. I have now no record of my age I had
a record till within a few years one of my brothers kept the record and when he died in the State
of Indiana about two years ago the record was lost I was living in Henry County in the State of
Virginia when I first entered the service as volunteer. I served as volunteer in all the service that
I rendered and in the grade of Common Soldier. I never received a commission from any
[illegible word] I entered the service of the United States I can not now tell precisely the year,
but it was about the middle of the revolutionary war in the Spring of the year My Captain was
Marble Nash the Colonel was Joseph Martin I entered for one Tour of three months and
remained 2 months longer than the tour. Our expedition was against the Indians who had
become hostile it was thought through the instigation of the Brittish and Tories We marched to
the block house on Holston River and remained there until a Treaty was effected with the
Indians [probably the Treaty of Long Island at present Kingsport TN, 20 Jul 1777] when we were
discharged. Ater I returned from this first tour I went out of Henry County to the County of
Pittsylvania in Virginia to live. And in the last named County I entered the Service of the United
States under Doct Clemons Captain and Colonel Abraham Shelton. I am not certain who the

other officers were, but I think John Dolston was Adjutant. I entered as volunteer this 2nd tour & for one tour of 3 months. There was about one year of interval between the time of my discharge from my first tour above named till I entered for this 2nd tour. We marched to North Carolina and was within about twenty miles of General [Horatio] Gates when he gave up his men. When the news came that Gates had given up his men it was within a few days of the end of my tour and we were all discharged to [three illegible words]. I returned immediately to Pittsylvania County Virginia and entered as volunteer in the United States Service under Captain William Linch [probably William Lynch], who had command of a company called minute men, that was intended as a defence against the Tories. I served under Captain Linch four tours. I joined him in Pittsylvania, Va and we remained in the same county during the whole of the four tours of 3 months each except 3 or 4 days of the last of 4th tour where we heard that Cornwallis had driven General Green from South Carolina into Virginia [sic: Lord Cornwallis drove Gen. Nathanael Greene from SC into NC, then into Halifax County VA on 14 Feb 1781]. Captain Linch then discharged us all and I together with himself and many more entered the Service of the United States under Thomas Smith, Captain and Colonel Peter Perkins to meet Gen. Green and his force against Cornwallis. When we came up to Green he had crossed the Dan river back again into North Carolina [22 Feb]. Colonel Morgan was then in command of the riflemen and I being a rifleman was attached to his regiment [see note below]. We marched to the hanging rock of Haw river. we there had a battle with the Brittish & Tories and defeated them. We marched from there to Guilford and fought the battle of Guilford. In that battle I was within 15 or 20 feet of General [Edward] Stevens when he was shot in the thigh. I served this time one tour of 3 months making my service in all seven Tours & 2 months. During these tours I was not engaged in any Civil pursuit. I have lived in Virginia and in Kentucky and in the State of Indiana ever since the Revolutionary war. I one held my regular discharges but have not had them for twenty years past, my son took them with him to the State of Missouri some 20 years since and by some means lost them.

The reason I have not made application soon is that before the year 1832 I had no expectation of ever receiving a pension and since then I have been by no means solicitous but have made one or two unsuccessful efforts which had discouraged me and prolonged the time

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares, that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

John hisXmark Weatherford

NOTES:

There was a battle at Ramsour's Mill NC on 20 Jun 1780 and a battle at Hanging Rock SC on 6 Aug 1780. It is likely, however, that Weatherford was referring to the skirmish at Ramsey's Mill NC on 19 Mar 1781 and the skirmish at Wetzel's Mill on Reedy Fork of Haw River on 6 Mar 1781, in which the American riflemen were forced to withdraw. Gen. Daniel Morgan had retired to recover from rheumatism after his victory at Cowpens SC on 17 Jan 1781 and before the Guilford campaign.