

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Alexander Caldwell R1589  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina }  
Haywood County }

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1835 personally appeared in open Court before the honourable Thomas Little one of the Judges of the Superior Court In a for the State of North Carolina now sitting for the County of Haywood the said court being a court of record Alexander Calwell a resident of said County & State aged eighty six years who first being duly sworn according to Law doath on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832

That he resided in the county of Washington in the State of Virginia when he entered the service of the united states under the following named officers & served as herein stated (towit)

That he Entered the Service as a volunteer for the term of six months to guard the frontier of Virginia against the incursions of the Cherokee Indians about the first of June in the year 1776 in the company commanded by Captain John Campbell & Lieutenant Robert Wfoster[?] in the regiment of Col Arthur Campbell Commandant of the Militia of Washington County Virginia & joined said Company at Eatons (Fort or) Station [on Holston River about 5 mi from Long Island, now Kingsport TN] & was from thence marched to the ready brick Station from there back to Eaton Station and from there to the Long Island of Holston & was in the Battle at that place with the Cherokee Indians [20 Sep 1776] after which his company returned to Eatons Station on his return to said Station he was ordered by the commissary Capt Evan Shelby afterwards Col Evan Shelby to hawl Corn from Botetourt County Virginia to supply the (forts or) stations on the Virginia frontier Declarant states that in persuance of said order he hawled with his own team four loads of Corn from Botetourt from Between the Big lick [now Roanoke] and James River and delivered said loads at the several stations on the frontier of Washington County Virginia after performing which service he was ordered by Col Arthur Campbell to hawl from fort Lewis in Botetourt County a load of Amunition for the supply of the Before mentioned stations which service he performed with his own waggon & team On his return with said munitions he was ordered by his said Captain on an expedition to the head of New river under the Command of Lieutenant Robert Wfoster against a party of Tories who were there assembled & engaged in crossing the Blue Ridge & plundering the Whigs and driving stock over the mountain to the head of said River after reaching the head of said River and scouting in the Neighbourhood about one week they were attacked in the night by the tories Commanded by a Tory Captain by the name of William Ingram who was wounded by the first fire of the party to which Declareant belonged in the hip. In consequence of which the Tories retreated & left them, and molested them no further after remaining there about ten Days from the time of there first arival he with the detachment to which he belonged was marched to the Head of holston & disbanded about the middle of December in that year Declareant having been in service about six months and an half

he was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Nov'r. 1748 In the County of Hanover in the State of Virginia as informed by his parents. after he arrived at full age he Lived in Amelia & Dunwiddie [sic: Dinwiddie] Counties in said State from the latter he moved to the County of Washington in said State & settled on the Head of Holston River from there he moved to the State of Georgia Franklin county and about twenty three years ago moved to Haywood County North Carolina where he now lives He knew none of the regular officers of the army that he now recollects & has not any documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his service

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where were you born Answer in the County of Hanover in the state of Virginia

Qust 2nd Have you any record of your age Ans'r. I have none

Qust 3rd Where were you living when you entered the Service. Where have you lived since the revolutionary war & Where do you now live. Ans'r I lived in Washington County Virginia when I entered the service I have lived since in Franklin County Georgia and now live in Haywood County North Carolina

Qust 4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service Were you drafted did you Volunteer or were you a substitute Ans'r I entered as a volunteer Quest 5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental & Militia regiments as you can recollect & the general Circumstances of your service Ans'r I knew none of the regular officers not having served with any regular or Continental troops nor do I know any of the continental or militia regiments except the militia Regiment to which I belonged my service being confined to the extreme west of Virginia where no other regiment that I recollect was employed during my service

Qust 6<sup>th</sup> did you ever receive a discharge from the service if so by whom was it given & what has become of It. Ans'r I received none

Qust 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for varacity & their Belief of your service as a soldier of the revolution

Ans'r Col. Robert Love & Col Ninian Edmonson and the Rev'd William Haynes

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency of any state Alexander hisXmark Caldwell

NOTE: Caldwell's claim was rejected for the following reason: "He claims for services performed at the various stations, west of the Blue ridge in guarding against the Indians, and for transporting corn from Botetort Co Va to those places. This is not considered military service within the meaning of the law." In fact, however, the Pension Act of 1832 lists "Indian Spies" as one of the categories of service eligible for pensions, and it excludes teamsters only if they were under civil contracts.