

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Samuel Chance, R1846

fn13NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 11/11/10

[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 Indiana, County of Wayne

On this 25th day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty four, personally appeared before me Nathan Smith sole Judge of the Probate Court in and for the county aforesaid the same being a Court of Record, at his room he being confined to the same on account of sickness and disease, Samuel Chance a resident of Wayne County & State of Indiana aged Eighty six years who being first duly affirmed according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

I was born in Queen Ann County in the State of Maryland in the year 1748 where I lived until I was about Fourteen years old, when I moved with my father to North Carolina and settled there between Neuse and Trent Rivers, where I lived six or seven years and then moved again into that part of the country since called Wayne County where I continued to reside until 1779 when I was Drafted to serve five months Militia of North Carolina. I soon repaired to Kingstown [sic, Kinston] on Neuse River and was under the command of Gen'l Ash [sic, John Ashe], Gen'l Briant [sic, William Bryant] and an officer by the name of Blount [Reading Blount]. My Capt. was John Canada and my Lieut-Capt was Jacob Hooks. Wm Caswell [William Caswell] son of Governor Caswell and Stringer McAlwain [sic, Stringer McIlwaine] volunteered their services as at the same time and embodied with the troops at the same place. We remained at Kingstown a few days and then we marched to Elizabethtown on Cape Fear River where we remained a few days. We then marched toward Charlestown [sic, Charleston] in South Carolina but on the way I was taken with a disease called Quinsey<sup>1</sup> and after seventeen days I was so recovered that I started in Company with Capt. Spruel [sic, Spruell?] and another Captain and their Companies to go to the Army again which we overtook at the bluffs on Savannah River the Army in the meantime having been to Charleston and received arms, &c, was then marching to Augusta in Georgia at which place we arrived and staid three days as near as I can recollect. The enemy had left Augusta a few days before and gone down to Brier [sic, Briar] Creek passed over and burned the bridge. We marched down to Briar Creek and commenced rebuilding the bridge—in the mean time the enemy passed up the Creek and crossed over and marched down toward the bridge again. General Ashe had been absent a day and night and when he returned to camp he ordered the light horse to go out between the Piguets [sic, picket] guard and the army and fire off their guns and put them in order. They went out and a firing commenced supposed by us to be the light horse but the enemy soon came upon us. Blount ordered us to stand while he would go for orders—he soon

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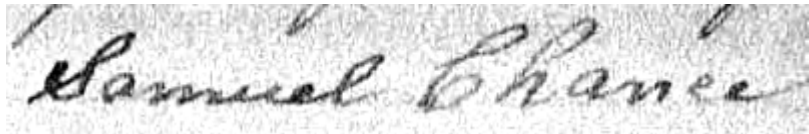
1 An abscess of the throat; tonsillitis; paristhmitis

returned and cried no orders and a retreat commenced across the creek—thence down to Savannah River crossed that River and a part of the army collected at a place called the White house—thence we marched to Coosahatchy [sic, Coosawhatchie] where Genl Ash met us again—he was charged by Bryant, Caswell and McIlwaine of bringing the disaster at Briar Creek upon the army and I know not what became of him. We marched from Coosawhatchie to Purrysburg where all who had cloaths and arms joined Genl Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and the remnant were put under the Command of Adjutant Taylor to be taken home and Discharged their term of five months service having nearly expired. I do not know whether I received a written discharge or not, but if I did I have lost or mislaid it. I cannot tell what Regiment or line I belonged to or any Officers except those already named above. I went into the Army in the Fall of 1779 and was discharged in the Spring of 1780 and believe I served out the time of five months for which I was drafted. I have a record of my age copied from a record made in a book by my father.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a Pension or Annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on any Pension Roll of any Agency in any State. I know of no person who can testify to my service now living.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Samuel Chance

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Chance". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

S/ Nathan Smith

We Benjamin Moorman and James Lovin of Wayne County, Ind., hereby certify that we were well acquainted with Samuel Chance while he lived in Wayne County, North Carolina and are well acquainted with him here where he now lives, that we believe him to be Eighty Six years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resided and where he now resides to have been a Soldier of the Revolutionary War, and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Benjamin X Moorman

S/ James Lovin

S/ Nathan Smith

The following questions were then put and answered by the claimant to wit:

Question: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: In Queen Ann County State of Maryland in 1748

Question: Where were you living when called into service?

Answer: In Wayne County North Carolina

Question: Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: I have in a book in my possession.

Question: Where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer: I lived in Wayne County North Carolina till 1797 as near as I can recollect when I moved to Richmond County North Carolina where I continued to live till the fall of 1831 when I moved to Wayne County Indiana where I now live.

Question: How were you called into Service &c?

Answer: I was drafted.

Question: State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Service.

Answer: I cannot recollect any Officers except those mentioned in my Declaration and I have forgotten the names of all the Regiment to which I was acquainted with – The general circumstances of my services or mentioned in my Declaration as far as I can recollect.

Question: Did you ever receive a discharge from the service &c ?

Answer: I have forgotten whether I received a written discharge or not but if I did it was from adjutant Taylor and it is lost.

Question: State the names of persons to whom you are acquainted in your neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief as to your services as a Soldier of the revolution.

Answer: I know of many here who can state as Benjamin Moorland and James Lovin have done in the foregoing affidavit but those two were deemed sufficient – and no one of them being a clergyman – I am unable to get the affidavit of any.

[Note in the file indicates that this claim was rejected because the veteran only served five months and not the six months minimum required in order to obtain a pension under the 1832 act.]