

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Tucker R18574

Transcribed by Will Graves

f61NC

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[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.]

[State of Indiana, Monroe County]

On this the eighth day of August in the year of our Lord 1836 in the County of Monroe in the State of Indiana personally appeared before me Aquilla Rogers Sole Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County in Said State William Tucker a resident formerly of the County of Bartholomew now of the newly originated County of Brown which is not yet organized aged Seventy-Six years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to attain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States as a regular Soldier and private of infantry at the town of Charlotte in the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina in a company commanded by Captain David Wilson in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Matthew Lock [Matthew Locke] in the Month of May in the year 1780, as well as he now recollects. In this date he may be mistaken from his old age and consequent loss of memory; it having become very weak. He enlisted and entered the service to serve for a period of three years. Colonel Lock was of Salisbury in Rowan County North Carolina. He was rendezvoused under Generals Gates [Horatio Gates] and DeKalb at Pedee [River] or Savony River & after being stationed there some time marched to Cambden [sic, Camden]. He was in the Battle there where DeKalb was killed and Gates were defeated [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] and after which he with the American Army retreated up to Charlotte and there joined to General Davidson's [William Lee Davidson's] Brigade, thence to Beatties Ford on the Catawba River. This applicant was one of the small detachment (he thinks they were 70 in number) taken down to Cowans Ford by General Davidson to oppose the crossing of Lord Cornwallis and where the brave and lamented Davidson fell [Battle of Cowan's Ford, February 1, 1781]. The British Army passed through a bye way to the Main road towards Salisbury the County Seat of Rowan County North Carolina. A detachment of our Army about that time frolicking at the Widow Torren's 5 miles from the River were surprised by the British Dragoons.

This declarant during his service was in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781].

He was in the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] and was there wounded in two places; in his left thigh with a bayonet, and in his right leg with a ball above his ankle. His Captain went into the Battle with himself and seventy-three others effective men and had after the battle only twenty-one. After this battle he was permitted and directed by his Officers to go to his father's which he did. He suffered greatly with his wounds especially on his way home: by the chewing and application of sassafras buds he so far prevented mortification as to succeed in reaching home and finally after a long while, of recovering, except a lameness. According to his permission from his Officers and owing to his wounds he remained at home until there was no longer any call for services in that part of the Country, and until the capture of Lord Cornwallis

[Yorktown, October 19, 1781]. After which he received a written discharge from Colonel Matthew Lock which discharge was burnt in the house of his father in the year 1798.

In answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department he states as to the 1st interrogatory that he was to the best of his recollection born in the month of July in the year 1760.

2nd He has no record of his age & therefore cannot be positive especially as to the day of the month, a record may be destroyed or in the possession of some relatives.

3rd He was living as he before stated when called into service in the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina. Since the Revolutionary War he has lived in Green Briar [sic, Greenbrier] County Virginia nine years previously to which in Mecklenburg County North Carolina about thirteen years, in Limestone County of Ohio about fourteen years in Indiana Territory and State about twenty-five years. He now lives in the new County of Brown not organized formed out of Bartholomew and Monroe.

4th He was called into service by enlistment

5th He has already stated the names of several of his Officers in addition to those mentioned his Lieutenant was George Duckworth, first Sergeant Stephen Jewell Privates in his company recollected by him were Joel Sturgeon, Daniel Grimes, William Grimes, Mr. Stanley, Stephen Jewel, David Smock and others.

6th He received a discharge as before stated given by Colonel Lock, and which was burnt as before stated. He never had a Commission.

7th He is known to the Reverend Edmund no Rice, Honorable James Taggart, Sr., William Taggart, James Taggart Esq. , Daniel King, Jesse Hawlin, Hon James McIntyre, Elikim Hamblen, William McClary, Henry Taylor, David Weddel Esqr. We & others in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He states as a reason for not applying under former Acts that he had property to an amount which precluded him. Having removed to a remote part of Indiana where he resided at the time of the passage of the Act of 7th of June 1832 he was not early informed of it, nor until not long before the time of making an attempt to procure his pension which he did by applying to A. Gregg Esqr. of Indianapolis who departing this life shortly afterwards he delayed some time. He then employed Mr. Tingle of Columbus now upwards of two years ago. After Mr. Tingle had written a declaration and forwarded it as he this applicant is informed he Mr. Tingle removed, and this applicant is informed by Mr. Tingle that his claim was presented and rejected because his name was not found on the roll in the War Office.

He states that he served out the period of his engagement of three years except about six or eight months. He swears positively that he served in a regularly embodied corps constantly in field or garrison at least two years and four months.

Since the Revolution he served after the defeat of St. Clair in Wayne's Campaign and Captain C. Washburn & Colonel Butler & received a discharge which was burnt with that before mentioned.

He has never received any pay for his services in the Revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State. He has no documentary evidence that he knows of. He knows of no person whose evidence he could procure war of a personal knowledge of his Services. He had supposed that he could procure such evidence formerly, but has not now any certain prospects of being able to do so.

In consequence of having had to pay a large sum as security he has been for years reduced low in his circumstances and is absolutely in pressing need of the aid of the government to establish & maintain which he like many others devoted himself without taking sufficient care

to lay that foundation for personal comfort which is now in old age he feels the want of; & to supply which in some degree he has become a beggar to those who are reaping the fruits of his past toils. He thus sacrificed the prime of his life & is entirely disqualified for that sharp cunning (as well as other knavish¹ characteristics) which too much distinguish the people in their dealings, and their representatives in the National Councils; and without which he has found himself unable to live, comfortably, otherwise than by the help of a pension.

S/ William Tucker, X his mark

[Edmond Rice, a clergyman, James Taggart Sr., William Taggart, James Taggart, Daniel Tien, Jesse Hamblin, James McIntyre, Eliklin Hamblin, William Taylor, Henry Taylor, Aaron Chapel, David Weddle, JP, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 51: NC Comptroller's certificate of payments made to a William Tucker for military service during the Revolutionary War.

Tobias N. C.
Comptroller's Office

I William T. Collins Comptroller of Public Accounts
in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby
Certify that the Name of William Tucker appears
of record in this office as having had issued
in his favor the following Special Certificate,
for Military Service, viz One for Eighteen
Pounds Three Shillings and Six Pence (£18.3.6)
See Book No 27 page 13 Another for Eight
Pounds Sixteen Shillings (£8.16) See Book
L. No 3 page 2 and Another for Five Pounds
Two Shillings (£5.10) See Book G. No 16 page 63
- given under my hand and seal this 10
10 day September A.D. 1845

Wm. Collins (Compt)

[Facts in file: Veteran died sometime in 1847; a son, Samuel T. Tucker, was living in 1858.]

¹ Thanks to Hershel Parker, the eminent Melville scholar, for deciphering this word.