

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Nelson R20131 and BLWt1601-100

f13NC & f7NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/22/17

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[cover sheet of the Bounty Land file reads as follows:]

“N.C. Nelson, John B.L.Wt1601-400—Major  
Issued Nov. 29, 1797 to  
Alexander Nelson, assignee  
No papers<sup>1</sup>

[p 4 of the pension file]

### **COPY**

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg district }

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of an act entitled an act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the Army of the revolution, approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 1828, I John Nelson, of Frankland [sic, Franklin] County, and State of Tennessee, do hereby declare, that I was an officer in the Continental line of the Army of the revolution, and served as such (to the end of the war (to wit) (I John Nelson was commissioned a Captain in the fourth Regiment of the North Carolina commanded by Colonel Thomas Polk. I was commissioned as a Captain in said Regiment some time in the year 1777. I was promoted to a Major, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 1778, was made to a pensioner on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1780 [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]) to the time when the arrangement of the Army provided by the resolves of Congress of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1780, was carried into effect, and was reduced under that arrangement. I was a major in the fourth Regiment commanded by Col. Polk, North Carolina line.

I also declare, that I afterwards received a certificate, commonly called a commutation certificate, for a sum equal to the amount of five years full pay, which some was offered by the resolve of Congress of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 1783, instead of half pay for life to which I was entitled under the resolve of the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1780.

And I do further declare, that I have received of the United States as a pensioner since the third of March, 1826, no money whatever, nor have I at any time received less or more since the third of March 1828, from the agent for paying pensioners in the State of Tennessee.

S/ F. W. Robertson, JP

22 of October 1828

S/ Jn<sup>o</sup> Nelson

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<sup>1</sup> The reason there are no surviving papers relating to this bounty land claim is that the offices of the War Department along with the papers filed there were destroyed by fire in 1800 and all pension and bounty land records predating that fire were destroyed. Further, pension and bounty land papers generated between the fire of 1800 and 1814 were lost when the British burned Washington DC on August 14, 1814.

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District. Came before John Leak, a respectable citizen, and duly made oath, that he was well acquainted with the within deponent, and well knew he rendered the service therein named. Sworn to before me, 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, 1828.

S/ F. W. Robertson, JP

S/ John Leak, X his mark

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District. Came before me Archibald McCreavy,<sup>2</sup> a respectable citizen who duly makes oath before Almighty God, that he was well acquainted with Captain John Nelson, who is applying for a pension under the act of Congress, approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 1828, and will know[s] he rendered the service he states in his affidavit before F W Robertson, Esquire, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, 1828: this deponent swears he served under Captain John Nelson, part of the time set forth in said affidavit, and well remembers him and his person.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1828

S/ Wm Young, JP

S/ Archibald McCreavy

I Samuel D. Ingham, Secretary of the Treasury do depose and say that it appears by the record of this Department that Hugh Moore of Spartanburg district, South Carolina, by means of certain papers, believed to be false and fraudulent, made in the name of John Nelson purporting to be evidence of a claim to the benefits of an Act entitled "An Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved 15<sup>th</sup> May 1828, has obtained certain drafts drawn the Treasurer of the United States in favor of said John Nelson, viz. -- Draft No. 9350 dated 16<sup>th</sup> of December 1828 for \$1200; and draft No. 9351 dated 16<sup>th</sup> of December 1828 for \$300 – both drawn upon the Cashier of the office of the Bank of the United States at Charleston, South Carolina, and draft No. 1405 dated 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1829, for \$300 – upon the Cashier of the office of the Bank of the United States at Nashville; and I do further depose and say that it appears by the endorsement upon the two first mentioned drafts that the same were paid to the said Hugh Moore.

And I do further depose and say that from a letter recently received at this Department purporting to be written by John Nelson, but believed to be in the hand writing of Hugh Moore, there is reason to suppose that the said Moore is in possession of the drafts last mentioned, and will endeavor to obtain payment of the same at the office of the Bank of the United States at Nashville.

And I do further depose and say that from information received, from the President of the United States, and the Secretary of State of North Carolina, there is good reason to believe that John Nelson, in whose name the drafts aforesaid were obtained, has been dead many years, and further the deponent saith not.

S/ S. D. Ingham

Subscribed & Sworn to April 15, 1830 before

S/ R. S. Briscoe, J. Peace

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2 [Archibald McCreary \(McCrevy, McCravy, McCreavy\) W8434](#)