

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Armstrong R248

fn26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

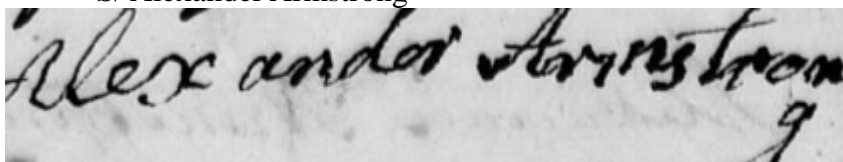
10/29/10

[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 Georgia Washington County: On this 10th day of December personally appeared before the Justices of the Inferior Court now sitting for Ordinary purposes Alexander Armstrong Senior – a resident of the County of Washington and State of Georgia aged seventy-seven years last March who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Revolutionary Service & joined the Army at Wilmington date not recollected and served under Colonel James Kinion [sic, James Kenan] and Captain James Galaspie [sic, James Gillespie] a tour of six months shortly afterwards the deponent was drafted and joined the Army at Duplin County Court-house and marched into South Carolina made an attack on the British Fort on Stono River¹ and received a wound in the knee [several words obliterated and illegible] a six months tour afterwards served another six months in the place of John Armstrong in the Light horse under Captain Love and in a scouting party met with a party of British horse men at Rockfish Creek² and was taken prisoner with about 15 others and carried to Wilmington and kept in prison about four months or till the close of the war our allowance was one tea biscuit per day and towards the last the half of that. That he resided at the time of his enlistment in Duplin County State of North Carolina and in consequence of his being a prisoner he [indecipherable word] to get any discharges or papers as evidences of his services.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that my name is not entered or enrolled on any agency of any State.

S/ Alexander Armstrong

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexander Armstrong". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and date above written

¹ June 20, 1779

² There were two engagements at Rockfish, the first occurred on May 13, 1781 and the second on August 2, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rockfish.htm> and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rockfish2.htm>. It isn't clear to me which, if either, of these two engagements the veteran might have anticipated in.

S/ T. J. Warthen, JIC

S/ Silas Floyd, JIC

S/ Samuel Robeson, JIC

[Silas Carter, a clergyman and John Miles gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Georgia Washington County: On this 4th day of November 1833 Personally appeared in Open Court Alexander Armstrong a resident of the County of Washington and State aforesaid aged seventy-seven years who being 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 June 7th 1832.

I enlisted in the revolutionary war in the County of Hanover [sic, New Hanover] and State of North Carolina in the year 1777 under James Kinnon [sic, James Kenan] Colonel and James Galaspe [sic, James Gillespie] Captain. I was taken a prisoner by the British during said months service and was kept in Wilmington on the allowance of one tea biscuit a day and the latter part of the time a half pay biscuit for four months. I was afterwards drafted for six months and joined the Army at Duplin County North Carolina and marched to South Carolina and attacked the British Fort on Stono River and received a wound in the knee. I served six months in the place of John Armstrong in the horse Company commanded by Captain James Love. I joined the horse Company in Duplin County NC and marched to Pedee River and served through that County and was discharged in Hanover County NC. When I was drafted I served under General Lininton [Lillington], Captain not recollected.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Alexander Armstrong

S/ Silas Floyd, JIC

S/ John Wicker, JIC

S/ Bryant Oquin, JIC

Interrogatory 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the year 1756 [could be 1755] in Ireland and came to America about the year 1769

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age, all I know is from recollection as told to me by my Parents.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I lived in Duplin County NC when I entered the service and moved from there to Washington County Georgia where I now live and have lived for the last 34 years.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans. I first enlisted and then was drafted and then served as a substitute for John Armstrong.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. My old age has much impaired my recollection and I do not recollect any of the officers except my own and not all of them, and as for the general circumstances I can't say no more than I have in my declaration.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what

has become of it?

Ans. I received no discharge from the service

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. William Duggan, John Duggan, & William Jordan are persons that can testify to my character in my present neighborhood and Mitchel Watkins one of my old acquaintances who served six months in the Army with me.

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court the day and year aforesaid before us
S/ Alexander Armstrong

S/ Silas Floyd, JIC

S/ John Wicker, JIC

S/ Bryant O'Quinn, JIC

[William P Haynes, a clergyman, & Thomas J. Worthan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia Washington County: Personally appeared in open Court Mitchell Watkins who being duly sworn saith that he has been well acquainted with Alexander Armstrong (who applies for a pension) for the last fifty-five years and served six months with him in the revolutionary war under the command of Captain James Love in the horse company & know that the said Alexander Armstrong served the same tour of six months and from my long acquaintance with him believed he served the other tours as he states in his declaration.

S/Mitchell Watkins, X his mark³

[fn 18: certificate dated December two, 1853 from the North Carolina Comptroller General's office showing payments made for military services during the revolution to one Alexander Armstrong and to one A. Armstrong.]

[A note in this file indicates that the veteran's claim was rejected for failure of proof of service.]

³ I could not find that anyone by the name of Michael Watkins or any similar name or variation thereof filed for a federal pension for his services in the revolution. There is, however, a letter dated November 5, 1833 from a Sherrod Sessions in Sandersville [Ga?] Which reads as follows: "Sir Mitchell Watkins of this County made out his declaration several months since, and he informs me that he sent it on to the war Department, and has not had any return. Please inform me with regard to his application." This appears as page 19 of the digital images posted on Footnote.com. Other documents in the file identify Sherrod Sessions as the deputy clerk of the inferior court of Washington County Georgia.