

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Michael Link (Michael Sink)¹ R6360

fn43NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/16/10

[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. Please call them to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Davidson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions February Term 1835

On this 12th day of February 1835 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices, the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting the same being a Court of record Michael Link a resident of North Carolina in the County of Davidson aged 77 years the 4th day of next April who being first 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He states that he was called out by a draft in the year of 1781 as he believes some time in the fall season and immediately entered the service of the United States as a soldier of the revolution in the Light Horse troop under Captain Lopp [probably John Lopp] & William Bodenhammer [Bodenheimer?] Lieutenant no other officers recollected in order to assist in subduing & taking the Tories and to remove the British from Wilmington NC where they had encamped etc. He further states that he resided in Davidson County near where he now resides but formerly was Rowan in the time of the Revolution and entered the service as before stated in about a 1/4 of a mile from where he now resides and from thence marched South eastwardly through Randolph County across Uharrie [sic, Uwharrie] River and in various directions down to or near Cape Fear River towards Wilmington where his then company met or came up with General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and his men but General Rutherford passed over Cape Fear and marched down said River on the East side and he the said Michael Link and fellow soldiers under Captain Lopp of the Light Horse marched down on the West side of said River to the tide water and some of the troops of Light Horse crossed over with Captain Lopp & the others remained back. But the news of Cornwallis having to surrender a few days prior to that period had reached Wilmington which caused the British as was supposed to immediately to vacate the place; which they done about the time Captain Lopp reached the place but as they went on to Wilmington at the Brick House Captain Lopp & company had a few fires with the

¹ Notwithstanding the war department's interpretation of this applicant's name as "Michael Link," I think it highly likely the veteran's name was "Michael Sink." There are a number of documents in the file in which the spelling of the name clearly appears to be "Sink" instead of "Link."

British guard in which contest Captain Lopp lost only one of his Light Horse troop. And the said Michael Link further states that after the vacation of the British at Wilmington Captain Lopp & his troops of Light Horse marched back in the settlement where he now resides and was discharged for a short space of time after having ended a tour of three months or upwards. But the Tories whilst they were out in the before named tour had come through the settlement plundering etc. and did kill an old neighbor by the name of Fritz & one by the name of Valentine Leonard and from the outrages which they were committing & had committed necessity required great efforts to quell the Tories so he the said Link was called out and entered under Captain Lopp of the Light Horse again no other officer recollected and he the said Link did then remain in pursuit of the Tories and watching their maneuvers until another three months tour ended at which time he was dismissed but from his being in illiterate man & so much impaired by old age etc. he cannot recollect whether he ever received a discharge in writing or not. But he further states that he did serve as a soldier in the Light Horse troops of the Revolution two tours making six months or little the rise, but he only claims for six months.

He the said Michael Link further states that his memory has so failed in consequence of old age etc. and his not having a good understanding of the English Language so that he cannot recollect and explain in great part of his progress in the Revolution but that he well recollects serving the two tours under Captain Lopp of the Light Horse troops as he has above stated at least during six months. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and from his being not well informed of his claim he has delayed applying for a pension until the present time so that from the rapid decrease of his fellow soldiers he cannot prove as much of his service as what he could have done but that he will make the best proof that he is now able to do.

He the said Michael Link further states that he was born according to his parents account on the 4th day of April 1757 in the State of Pennsylvania and whilst he was a child was brought to North Carolina Rowan County now Davidson about 3 miles from where he now lives in which neighborhood he now resides & has ever lived since his parents first settled with him etc. He states that he is unable to recollect the precise day when he entered the service of the Revolution and likewise when he quit the same.

He the said Michael Link hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll to his knowledge of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Michael Link, X his mark

I Peter Everheart² residing in the County of Davidson hereby certify that he was drafted and entered the service of the Revolution in the Light Horse troops under Captain John Lopp & Lieutenant William Bodenhammer in company with Michael Link the above applicant and served with him under Captain Lopp to Wilmington NC and back home & tour of 3 months or the rise and that Captain Lopp was in service afterwards and that he understood that the above applicant Michael Link was out another tour and from his knowledge of that time and the veracity of said Link he believes that he served another tour as he has before stated. And further he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood to have been a soldier of the Revolution wherein he resides.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Peter Everheart, X his mark

² Sic, [Peter Everhart W7128](#)

[fn p. 26]

State of North Carolina Davidson County

On this 15th day of June 1836 personally appeared before me Joseph Waggoner one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County Michael Sink a resident in the County of Davidson of the State of North Carolina aged 79 the 4th of last April who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following additional declaration and supplemental to a declaration that he originally made before the Court of Davidson County bearing date perhaps on the 12th & 13th of February 1835 in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832 --

That the paragraph hereafter set forth he omitted in his original declaration through ignorance, therefore he thought a soldier who did not carry arms of warfare that it could not be styled service rendered to the United States. He the said Michael Sink states that the winter before he served his first tour as set forth in his original declaration Captain John Lopp & Lieutenant William Bodenhammer (as he believes an officer by the name of Wiseman all of the light Horse troops under the control and command of General Rutherford) did procure with the soldiers such provisions &c. as the Continental troops required by calling him out by the authority given them, and then, him with his fellow soldiers to guard it until ordered to some other place for the support of desperate soldiers. He further states that Captain John Lopp dispatched some wagons by order to the North for the use of the Continental troops and that he was one who went with a wagon, from the County in which he resides to Frederick Town State of Maryland with a load of lather [leather?] etc. He does not recollect the exact date but he believes it was about Christmas and at which time the Hessians had just been taken and marched in said town by the American troops. He further states that he is positively certain that he was ten weeks performing the journey & back taking one week rest at the place a distance of about 400 miles or the rise for which service he has never received anything neither was he hired but called forth by the authority of the above named officers. He further states that during the last tour as mentioned in his original declaration that he now recollects of marching through the interior of Stokes County about the mountains and down on the Yadkin River up and across Uwharrie [River] and in various other directions under Captain John Lopp, Lieutenant William Bodenhammer and his other officers he does not now recollect who he believes were a branch of General Rutherford's troops kept by him at his command in pursuit of the largest bodies of Tories who were committing all most all kinds of depredations, murders, &c. He states that Jacob Leonard³ who was allowed a pension for six months service and himself were together from the beginning of each of their service until the end. He further states that he was delayed from seeking for his pension through ignorant instruction from some of his neighbors who taught him to believe that he must be a regular soldier for 12 months. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his services, nor any testimony which he can procure by which he can establish any further facts than those which he has established; and therefore has to rely in part upon his own testimony after having the War Department refer to the credibility of the testimony of his most respectable neighbors touching his veracity. He therefore relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present originally applied, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid

S/ Michael Sink, X his mark {Seal}

S/ Joseph Waggoner, JP

³ [Jacob Leonard S7141](#)

I Peter Clodfelter residing in the County of Davidson do certify that I understood at the time of the War of the Revolution and after, that Michael Sink the above applicant was a soldier of the revolution for some length of time he believes two tours under Captain John Lopp & his officers who were disciplined officers of the light Horse of the revolution and he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that I concur in that opinion for the strongest of reasons (except that I was not with him). Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Peter Clodfelter

S/ Joseph Waggoner

[William Kenneday gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Davidson County

On this 16th day of September 1837 personally appeared before me Joseph Waggoner a justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Michael Sink a resident in the County of Davidson & State of North Carolina aged eighty-one years who being first 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.

That he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated: The applicant states that he was drafted in the month of September in the year 1781 and a resident in the County of Rowan (now Davidson) State of North Carolina and was enrolled in a company of Dragoons commanded by Captain John Lopp, Lieutenant William Bodenhammer and Sergeant James Wiseman. The company rendezvoused in County of Rowan from whence they marched into Randolph County where they United with a Corps of militia commanded by General Rutherford with whom they marched for several days when the Company to which he belonged was detached from Rutherford's Corps and marched down on the West side of the Cape Fear River. General Rutherford passed over the Cape Fear with the forces under his command and marched down on the eastern bank of the River. The applicant states that the Company of Dragoons continued their march through the Counties of Moore, Cumberland and Craven to Wilmington on the Cape Fear and when they arrived at Wilmington the British troops had embarked on board their vessels which were then lying in the harbor with the exception of a guard who occupied a brick building in the immediate vicinity of Wilmington. The guard fired upon the Dragoons who returned the fire 2 of whom were killed. They marched into Wilmington where they remained for a short space of time then returned up the River by way of Fayetteville from thence through the Counties of Moore and Randolph to Rowan where they were held in service until April 1782 traversing the Country in various directions defending it against the attacks of the Tories who were committing the most wanton outrages and depredations upon the persons and property of the Whigs. The applicant states that the object of the officer in keeping them embodied was that they might be ready to march whenever the exigencies of the country might require their services and in the interim they were employed against the Tories. The applicant states that he was born in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1756, that he has no record of his age and that he knew no regular officers while in the service and does not recollect any Continental or Militia Regiments except the one above mentioned. That he did not receive a written discharge from the Service that he has resided where he now resides ever since the revolutionary war. He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. 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 the agency of any State. Jacob Comrade, Peter Leonard and John Yoakley and can testify as to character & belief of revolutionary services..

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Joseph Waggoner, JP

S/ Michael Sink, X his mark

[William Kennedy and Amos Yoakley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Philip Grimes & Jacob Leonard Junior gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

On this 18th day of May 1843 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the County of Davidson & State of North Carolina Michael Sink a resident of the County of Davidson & State of North Carolina aged eighty-six years who being first 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.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

The claimant states that in the month of January 1781 about the middle of the month as well as he can recollect then residing in the County of Rowan State of North Carolina he was drafted and entered the Service of the United States under the command of Captain John Lopp William Bodenhamer Lieutenant George Frits Ensign and Thomas Jones Sergeant. For a few weeks after he entered the service the company to which he was attached was engaged in defending the lives & property of the citizens of Rowan against the depredations of the Tories who at that time were laying waste the Country & murdering the citizens. When General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], retreating before the British Army under Lord Cornwallis) crossed the Yadkin River in Rowan County the company to which the declarant belonged united with Greene's Army and marched to Guilford Court House. Thence they marched to Dan River crossed it which in a short time they recrossed and returned to the neighborhood of Guilford Court House. Soon after the Army arrived the memorable battle of Guilford Court House was fought in which the claimant was engaged. After the battle the Army retired to Speedwell's Iron Works. From thence the Army marched to South Carolina near Camden where the Army had an engagement with Lord Rawdon. The claimant states that he continued with Greene's Army until after the battle of the Eutaw Springs soon after which on the 15th day of September 1781 he was discharged on account [of] ill health and disability. He states that he received a written discharge from Captain Lopp which he has since lost. He returned to Rowan County now Davidson where he has resided ever since.

He states that he was born in the State [of] Pennsylvania in the year of our Lord 1757: That he immigrated to North Carolina when a child. He states he has no record of his age.

The claimant states from old age, sickness & loss of memory he has forgotten nearly all the names of the officers who were with the Army. He recollects General Huger, Colonel Lee, Howard & Pickens and Major Parker.

The Claimant states that he is intimately acquainted with Peter Clodfelter, George Leonard, John Sawers, George Myers, Jacob Conrad and many others who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution. He also states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person who can testify to his services.

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 the agency of any State.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ W. S. Kenneday, JP

S/ Michael Sink, X his mark

[William Kenneday & Richard Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]