

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Melvin R7114

f9NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/27/09: rev'd 4/4/17

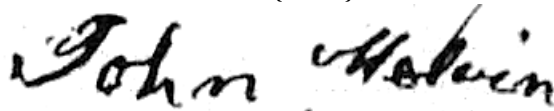
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Bladen County

On this 24th day of March 1852, Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace in and for said County John Melvin a resident of the State and County aforesaid, aged 90 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 and that he served as herein stated: 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.

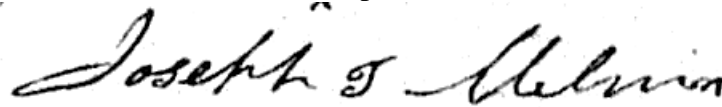
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Melvin {Seal}



Sworn to and subscribed before me Joseph T. Melvin a justice of the Peace, in and for said County, the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Joseph T. Melvin, JP



Q 1st Where, and in what year were you born.

A. In North Carolina Bladen County in the year 1762

Q. 2nd Have you any record of your age, if so where is it.

A.. I have no record it was destroyed by fire.

Q. 3rd Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war; and where do you now live?

A. In North Carolina Bladen County at each period.

Q. 4th How were you called into Service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute.

A. I volunteered.

Q. 5th 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.

A. General Thomas Brown [this MAY be a reference to Lt. Col. Thomas Brown of Bladen County NC militia]. Marched us from Elizabeth town in Bladen County to a station on

drowning [sic, Drowning?] Creek near the South Carolina line, where the Tories were committing depredations, we remained in camp lay there three months, and General Brown then marched us back to Elizabeth town and told us to go home. John Yaets [John Yates]¹ was our Captain there, I think. I cannot recollect what year or month that was; after I was discharged by General Brown at Elizabethtown; I think I stayed home about 12 months, and then went to Wilmington in North Carolina, and joined a Militia Regiment or company that was stationed there as a volunteer for a twelve months tour, before the time expired peace was made I think I was in Wilmington about six months. Jeremiah Cotgrove was Major there and I think William McRee was a recruiting officer at that time, and went North. I cannot recollect the Militia regiments I was attached to at either station.

Q. 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service; and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it.

A. I never received a written discharge.

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

A. Daniel McDuffie & Thomas Smith

I do not know of any surviving witness who could testify as to my personal Service as aforesaid. William Smith² deceased of this County, who served with me in my first term received a pension during his lifetime: he died a few years ago. Daniel McFatter or his heirs; who served with me in my last time, I understand, was entitled to, or had, received land. He died many years ago and was a resident of Bladen County North Carolina

And I the said Joseph T. Melvin, a justice of the Peace do hereby declare that I believe, that after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he States.

S/ Joseph T. Melvin, JP

"Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the Peace, in and for said County, John Melvin, who being duly sworn deposes and saith that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of service; but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, as a private served three months in Camp, on drowning [Drowning] Creek in North Carolina, Served six months in Wilmington North Carolina as a private and for such service I claim a pension."

S/ John Melvin

Sworn & subscribed

Attest: S/ Joseph T. Melvin, JP

[Daniel McDuffie, a clergyman, and Thomas Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

¹ J. D. Lewis indicates that Capt. John Yates of Bladen County served under Col. Thomas Owen of Bladen. Search "Yates, John" at http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_captains.html

² This MAY be the same man as [William Smith S7534](#) of Bladen, but this veteran doesn't mention having served under Capt. John Yates.