

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Stephen Morris R7413

f15NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/17/09: rev'd 6/5/17

[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 'indcipherable' 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 County of Moore } SS

On this 22nd day of November 1836 personally appeared in open court before Cornelius Dowd, Cornelius Dunley & Daniel McRimon the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for the aforesaid County of Moore and State of North Carolina now sitting Stephen Morris a Resident of the County of Moore and State of North Carolina aged Seventy years or upwards 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 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the Service as a volunteer & as a private Soldier on the 30th day of May 1781 or thereabouts as well as he can now recollect, that he entered the service for a tour of three months under Captain Jacob Ducksworth. That he joined the said Captain Ducksworth and the rest of his company in the County of Cumberland North Carolina as a private Soldier in the North Carolina Militia.

That they then marched in various directions which it is impossible for him now to recollect in pursuit of the Tories who were then numerous and were the authors of much alarm and dismay as well as serious distress to the good Citizens of the Country. That he this said applicant together with his said Captain & company were during the whole of this tour of three months in constant pursuit of the Tories and defending the good Citizens of the Country from their depredations. That they marched through many parts of the Counties of Cumberland a part of which is now Moore, Robeson and he thinks probably a part of Randolph Chatham Orange and Guilford, he cannot however recollect distinctly the various counties through which he marched but well recollects that they ranged the country through & through from the Raft Swamp in Robinson County [sic, Robeson County] to what is called Stinking Quarter running through part of the Counties of Guilford and Orange. That his Lieutenant in this tour was Absalom Bryant. That they were not attached to any Army or Regiment. That when his said term of three months expired he received a written discharge from his said Captain Ducksworth, that he deposited said discharge in a chest in his father's house. That sometime afterwards his said Father's house was robbed and the said discharge was taken by the robber.

That he now has no documentary evidence of his said Service nor is there any living witness that he knows of by whom he can prove it.

He the said applicant further states that he was discharged as above named at what is called the Gulf on deep River in the County of Chatham North Carolina. That when he entered upon this tour he resided in the County of Cumberland & State of North Carolina, and was

discharged after serving out his full three months on the 1st of September or thereabouts as near as he can recollect & from the best criterions by which he is able to strengthen this memory.

The said Stephen Morris further saith that on or about the 20th of September 1781 he again entered the service as a private Soldier and as a substitute for Frederick Morris for a three months tour under Captain Henry Gaster & Lieutenant John Watts, that they rendezvoused at Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) in the County of Cumberland, North Carolina. That they were stationed at the said Cross Creek for the purpose of Guarding the town and of protecting the citizens of that Section of the Country from the many depredations of the Tories to which they were exposed. That he continued at this said Stationed under the before named officers until he had served out his full tour of three months and was discharged by his said Captain on or about the 25th day of December 1781. That he received from his said Captain Gaster a written discharge for this Service, that he deposited it in a chest in his father's house together with that which he had received from Captain Ducksworth as afore named and that it was all so taken by the person who robbed his father's house as aforesaid.

That when he entered the Service under Captain Gaster as aforesaid he resided in the County of Cumberland & State of North Carolina and that he was discharged as before named at the aforesaid Cross Creek (now Fayetteville)

That he has no documentary evidence of his services in this tour but is glad that he can procure the evidence of 2 or 3 respectable persons who served with him in this tour.

He the said applicant saith that he cannot recollect distinctly the particular dates but those set forth in the above Declaration are as near correct as it is possible for him to fix them.

The following Questions were propounded by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

A: I was born upon the Juniper Creek in the County of Cumberland, State of North Carolina in the year 1765 or 1766.

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

A: I have not.

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

A: When I was called into the Service I lived in the County of Cumberland State of North Carolina, I have resided in the same neighborhood and still reside there for the County of Cumberland having been divided since the revolutionary War, the section where I lived & still live was embraced in that portion which is now called Moore County

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

A: When I entered the first tour above named under Captain Ducksworth I was a volunteer and when I entered the second named tour (under Captain Gaster) I was a Substitute for Frederick Morris.

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.

A: My answer to this question is fully embraced in the preceding 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?

A: I received a discharge from Captain Ducksworth and also a discharge from Captain Gaster and they were both taken from a chest in my Father's house by some person who robbed it.

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.

A: Colonel Jacob Gaster, John Baker, Charles G. Arrington, Wm McAuley, Steve Berryman, Archibald Baker, Neill McNeil Esquire and many others.

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 whatsoever.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ A. C. Curry [clerk]

S/ Stephen Morris, X his mark

[Jacob Gaster and Neill McNeill gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Moore County

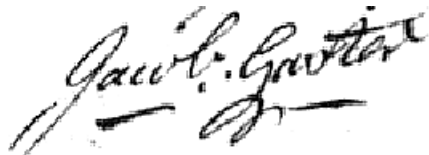
Personally appeared before me Neill McNeill one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the aforesaid County of Moore Colonel Jacob Gaster a resident of the same State & County aged about 72 years who being duly sworn agreeably to law doth on his oath declare that he is well acquainted with Stephen Morris the above named applicant for a pension and who signed the preceding declaration, that he has been acquainted with him ever since he was a boy, that he Gaster understood in the time of the revolutionary War that the said Stephen Morris who was then his near neighbor was serving a tour as a Soldier under Captain Duckworth that he believed this to be true at the time and still believes it. He the said Jacob Gaster further states that he entered the service himself under Captain Henry Gaster about the last of September or first of October 1781 and served a three months tour under him at Cross Creek in the County of Cumberland North Carolina, and that when he arrived at Cross Creek he found the aforesaid Stephen Morris there serving a tour under said Captain Gaster, and that he, this deponent, and the said Stephen Morris served together this tour of three months at Cross Creek and that he feels confident that the said Morris served out his full-time of three months and was discharged by the officers.

Sworn to and subscribed this 12th day of January 1837

Test

S/Neill McNeill JP

S/ Jacob Gaster¹

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Gaster". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

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State of North Carolina Moore County

Personally appeared before me Duncan Murchison one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the aforesaid County of Moore Peter Morris of the said County of Moore & State of North Carolina, aged about 71 years in March next who being duly sworn in due form of law deposeth and saith as follows, to wit, that in the time of the Revolutionary War he resided in the aforesaid State of North Carolina and County of Cumberland, that he was a near neighbor to and intimately acquainted with Stephen Morris who is now a resident of the aforesaid County of

¹ [Jacob Gaster S6871](#)

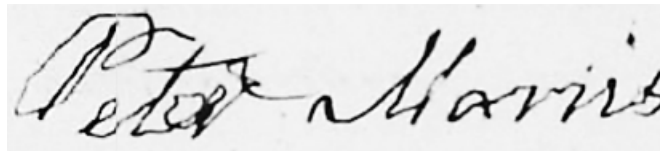
Moore that sometime during the Revolutionary war he thinks in the year 1781 or perhaps the 1st of the year 1782 he entered the service of the United States as a soldier of the Revolution and went to Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) in the County of Cumberland North Carolina and served a three months tour under Captain Henry Gaster and that the aforesaid Stephen Morris was also a soldier in said Gaster's company and served with them a tour of three months.

This deponent further saith that sometime (he does not now recollect how long) before he entered the aforesaid tour his neighbor, (the aforesaid Stephen Morris) was gone from home some considerable time and it was understood and believed by him this deponent and the neighbors that he the said Stephen Morris was doing duty as a soldier under Captain Ducksworth, that he, this deponent heard the said Stephen Morris repeatedly after his return home said that he had been with Captain Ducksworth as a soldier and heard him tell many of his ups and downs which he had, while serving this tour under Captain Ducksworth, and that in some short time after the said Stephen Morris returned home, he this deponent together with the aforesaid Stephen Morris and many others set out to serve a three months tour under Captain Gaster which they did at Cross Creek as above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed the 13th day of January A.D. 1837

S/ Duncan Murchison, JP

S/ Peter Morris

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