

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Lementation O'Neal R7754 NC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 Aug 2015.

State of North Carolina }
County of Surry } SS

On this the 25th day of February 1933 personally appeared before me Elijah Thompson, a justice of the county court of Surry County in the State of North Carolina, Lementation O'Neal, a resident of the said county of Surry, aged 78 years (he being unable to travel to court) 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 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 after stated (to wit) I was born in Edgecombe County N.C. in the year 1754. I have no record of my age and only know my age from what I have been told. when called into the service I lived in Edgecombe County N.C. continued to live there for several years after the Revolutionary war – then moved into Wake County N.C. in which county I resided about 16 years, then moved into Surry County N.C. in which last mentioned county I now live. I was first called into the service of the United States in Edgecombe County N.C. in the year 1779 in the month of March by a draft that is I was drafted as a minute man (and as I was informed was not to be marched out of the state, but always to be ready to march at a moments warning) I was put under the command of Capt Dred Philips [sic: Etheldred Phillips] in the beginning of the year 1780. I marched under said capt Dred Philips to Halifax County N.C. we were stationed for some time near Tarborough [sic: Tarboro] N.C. we were at various time marched and counter marched in various directions but in consequence of great age and consequent loss of memory I cannot recollect them all nor the names of all the officers with us, but I remained in this service for at least twelve month. Then in the Spring of 1781 I think about the first of February. I was placed under the command of Capt. William Meady and by him marched to Harrisburg [Louisburg?] and thence to Hillsborough NC and within a few days joined Gen Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army. I was in the Guilford battle [Battle of Guilford Courthouse] under Gen. Green on the 15th of March 1781.

After the Guilford battle I was marched on under Gen. Green to Ramsey's mill on deep River. at that place I volunteered to go with Gen. Green to South Carolina. accordingly we marched to S. C. and I was in the battle at Camden S.C. [Battle of Hobkirk Hill, 25 Apr 1781] under gen. Green, at this time I was in the company commanded by Capt Tyre Harris – after this battle I was taken across the Congaree River some distance from Camden. I was next marched by Col. Long to Lynches Creek where I was discharged by Col. Long I do not recollect the names of any other officers but those already mentioned. I received a written discharge from Col. Long, or my Captain (Harris) I do not remember which signed it but it is lost long ago. In this last service I cannot state precisely the length of time but the whole time I served as a private exceeds two years, for which two years I claim a pension. I know of no person by whom I can prove my services, nor have I any documentary evidence thereof. I am known to Drury Johnson a clergyman residing in my neighbourhood, and Hon. Meshack Franklin who can testify to my character for veracity.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll or the agency of any state, territory or district.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Lementation hisXmark Oneal

Rockford December 31st 1856

Dear Sir[Col Puryear Esq] I have heretofore employed a Gentleman by the name of Helfer as my Agent at Washington City to endeavor to collect the claims of my Father for services in the Revolutionary War – he was in the Battle of Guilfor & several others in the southern states (as I am informed) his Mess-Mates Burrel Bradley [pension application S6747] Rich'd Bradley [Richard

Bradley] & Stepen Bradley [Stephen Bradley] – Helfer has drawn some money & refuses to pay off when call'd on & some suits have been Instituted against him. My wish is that you will make examination & see if my Fathers name is on record as a soldier (his name was Lementation Oneal) & secondly to Ascertain whether Helfer has drawn any thing as my Agent or not – and write to me to Rockfor Surry County NC in so doing you will oblige yours &c [signed] James Oneal

NOTE:

No explanation was found for the rejection of O'Neal's claim.

On 16 May 1836 Rody Carpenter and her husband, William Carpenter, stated that Lamentation Oneal died intestate in Surry County on 1 Jan 1836 leaving no widow and two children: James Oneal and Rody Carpenter. On 10 Nov 1851 James O'Neal attempted to revive his father's application, apparently without result. On that date it was certified that at his death Lementation O'Neal left the following children: Rody Carpenter, 60; Celia Jackson, 58; Martha Carpenter, 56; Dolly O'Neal, 54; James O'Neal, 52.