

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Patterson R8005

f26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/11/09 rev'd 9/21/15

[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 Missouri County of St. Louis

On this twenty fifth day of May in the year of our Lord 1838 personally appeared in open Court; of the County of St. Louis County in the State of Missouri, now sitting for the May Term of said Court, 1838, John Patterson of said County of St. Louis; aged Seventy Seven years old on the 15th day of October 1837 -- 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 served as herein stated; in the year 1783¹ -- that is to say he was drafted to serve a tour with the Militia of North Carolina; in the County of Orange and State of North Carolina -- that he served under Captain __Christmas [Nathaniel Christmas], who belonged to the North Carolina Militia in which he served about 2 months, having been drafted for three months, & as well as he can now recollect, about the last of August or first of September in the year 1783 he left home under Captain Christmas, who belonged to Colonel William O'Neill's [William O'Neal's] Regiment of North Carolina Militia, which was attached to General John Butler's Division of North Carolina Militia: After being out about two months Colonel William O'Neill's Regiment encamped upon Haw River in Orange County North Carolina; & being within about fifteen miles of home, this deponent obtained a permit from his commanding Officer, to go home that night & get some new clothes; & got his brother-in-law, James Abbott, who had come to camp to see him, to stay in the place of this deponent during his absence, which was only a few days. The day after this deponent left the Camp, a battle was fought between the Americans & the Tories, who were principally Scotch Tories at a place called Lindley's Mill,² in which Colonel Litterill [sic, John Luttrell] of Chatham County North Carolina Militia was killed; as was also Colonel McNeil [Hector McNeill] the Colonel of the Tories. This deponent was not in the battle at Lindley's Mill because he was absent as above stated. Captain __Christmas was wounded a few days after leaving home, when acting as a spy & returned home. After the battle at Lindley's mill, Colonel O'Neil ordered the men to furnish themselves with horses, that their efforts might be more effective against the Tories, against whom the Militia in this part of the State were directed. This deponent furnished his own horse, Saddle, Bridle &c set out again from home again the middle of September, as well as he can recollect, under Captain Schoby [Robert Scobey]; & Colonel William O'Neil who were still under General John Butler of the North

¹ The facts described by this veteran would date his service in 1781, not 1783 as he believed.

² The Battle of Lindley's Mill occurred September 13, 1781 between American forces under John Butler and Tories under Col. David Fanning. http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html

Carolina Militia: This deponent ranged under Captain Robert Schoby & Colonel William O'Neil, through the Counties of Chatham & Orange in North Carolina; & the forces were directed against the Scottish Tories from Cross Creek, Wilmington &c who were very bad, & who annoyed the inhabitants very much. The time this deponent was out the Americans under Colonel O'Neil & the Tories under Colonel Fannon [sic, David Fanning] had a battle at Brush Creek,³ in Chatham County North Carolina, in which the Americans were victorious, -- This deponent was again absent at his own house, by leave of his commanding officer, & was not in this battle; -- the Troops having camped within two or three miles of his own house, he obtained leave of absence, to go home that night, & to return next morning; & soon after this deponent left the Camp that night, as he afterwards learned, the troops marched all night & came up with the Tories where they had the battle on Brush Creek as aforesaid. A short time after the Battle on Brush Creek, the news of the surrender and bracket October 19, 1781] of Cornwallis came, but the Tories were so bad, & kept such a plundering of the inhabitants of Orange, Chatham etc. -- that the troops were not discharged, but were kept in the Service until late in the fall of the year, & after the corn had been gathered, when he was discharged; This deponent has no documentary evidence to substantiate these facts; The precise dates of his entering & being discharged from Service, he does not recollect, on account of the length of time which has elapsed since he was engaged in the Service.

Some of the facts in the foregoing declaration this deponent states that he cannot prove by any of the Soldiers who were acquainted with him in the Service, because he believes they are mostly or perhaps entirely all dead.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State of the United States, or any Territory thereof.

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court this 25th day of May 1838
S/ Henry Chouteau, Clerk

S/ John Patterson



[James L. Holliday, a clergyman, and George Clay gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And the County Court being now in session, for the May Term of said Court, in the year of our Lord 1838, propounded the following interrogatories to John Patterson, an applicant for a pension, on account of Services as a Soldier in the Revolution, as stated in the foregoing declaration.

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer -- I was born in Pennsylvania, & I think in Bucks County, on the 15th day of October 1760

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

Answer -- I have my age recorded in my own family Bible which is now in my house in this County.

³ October 1781. http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brush_creek.html

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

Answer -- I lived in Orange County North Carolina; about thirty miles West of Hillsboro when I was called into the Service; & lived there for about three or four years after the Revolutionary War; when I removed to South Carolina & settled in Pendleton County, where I resided about seven years -- I have then removed to Jefferson County Kentucky & settled on Goose Creek about nine miles above Louisville where I lived about eighteen months; & from there I removed in the month of May in the year 1797 to Louisiana, & settled in that part of it now known as the State of Missouri; fifteen miles North of the city of St. Louis in the County of St. Louis my present residence; where I have resided ever since.

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

Answer -- This is fully stated in the foregoing declaration.

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.

Answer -- This is fully done, as far as I can recollect, in the foregoing 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?

Answer -- I did receive a discharge, & I think it was from Captain Robert Schoby, the last Captain under whom I served; & I think I deposited it in Hillsborough North Carolina, for the purpose of trying to draw Land Scripe [scrip] in it, to which we understood the militia of North Carolina would be entitled.

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

Answer -- I am personally known to 2 of the Judges of this Honorable Court, & to the presiding or eldest Judge, I have been personally known for near 40 years, to the gentleman who have given the above certificate & to all my neighbors, with whom I now reside, & where I have lived for more than 40 years, who can testify to those facts.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the 25th day of May 1838.

S/ John Patterson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Patterson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John Patterson".

S/ Henry Chouteau, Clerk

[Facts in file: The soldiers claim was not allowed because he failed to render six months actual service as required under the pension act; he died in Missouri prior to May 3, 1852.]