

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Charles Polk R8301

fn35NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/12/09 rev'd 3/13/11

[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.]

The State of Texas San Augustine County, District Court October 23rd A.D. 1846

On this 23rd day of October 1846 personally appeared in open Court now sitting Charles Polk, a resident of San Augustine County, aged 86 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declarations in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

The Applicant now eighty-six years of age & named Charles Polk, a native of Mecklenburg County in North Carolina who was born on the 18th day of January A.D. 1760, was too young to be subject to militia service in the year 1776, but in said year last named volunteered, and as a volunteer was recorded in the Company commanded by Captain James Jack and served in said Company during the Cross Creek expedition against the Tories.

This Company was part of the Mecklenburg Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Polk, Lieutenant Colonel Adam Alexander and Major William Davidson. William Alexander was a Lieutenant in the Company. He served a tour in the Rifle Company of volunteers commanded by his Father, at the mouth of Cape Fear River where the British Fleet then lay -- he served under his Father in said Company at Charleston South Carolina. The officers in said Company were Captain John Polk, Lieutenant John Lemons -- before born to Charleston General Rutherford had command, at Charleston he was commanded by General Lee.

He was in the engagement at Sullivan's Island and under the command of General Moultrie.

He served a tour also under Captain James Jack at Snow Camp on Raybon's Creek in South Carolina where the Tories were defeated -- Colonel Thompson their commanding -- from this point he was sent home to and his cousin William Polk who was wounded in this engagement.

He served also a tour of duty under Captain Wiley and was present when this Company had a skirmish with the Tories at Delany's Lane where 4 of the Tories were killed and 4 were taken prisoners.

He was present at Colson's defeat at the mouth of Rock-River when that station was taken from the British and Tories by General Davidson who there received a wound.

He was under the command of Major Davy [sic, William Richardson Davie] when the British took the Town of Charlotte in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, and then serving in the Company commanded by __ Wiley, Captain, and James White, Lieutenant, also when Captain Bogan and about 24 privates from Anson County (who were the only Whigs from that County) joined in putting down the Tories.

He was in the engagement at Baties Ford [sic, Beatties Ford] under General Davidson,

who was there killed¹.

He was a private in Captain Fletcher's Company who were encamped for some time on Robert Lee's plantation on Rocky River where they took in twelve or fifteen hundred stand of arms from the Tories -- he was also in the same company on the Pedee River receiving arms of the Tories when the battle was fought at Guilford Court House. He served in the Company of mounted Rangers under Captain Wiley and Lieutenant McCaleb from Rocky Mount on the Catawba River to the Great Pedee, on Lynches Creek, Brown's Creek and Lane's Creek in South Carolina -- Lieutenant McCaleb was chiefly in command of the privates who were actively engaged as above stated.

While in service he was part of the time under the command of his Uncle Major Charles Polk at other times his uncle Colonel Thomas Polk who commanded the 4th Regiment had command of militia among whom this applicant was serving at the time. He was a private in the Company commanded by Charles Polk (who afterwards was Major) and in which __ Ray (I think, Thomas Ray) was Lieutenant at the taking of Colson's Stationed at the mouth of Rocky River, and when they Anson and Montgomery Tories delivered up their arms.

He believes that __Bracken was Lieutenant in Captain Fletcher's company on the Rocky River when the Tories delivered up their arms at that place.

He served in the Revolution as a private for not less than 3 years, and continuously he thinks, from the taking of Charleston until the close of the revolution & never received any commission.

He served in divers Companies, principally under Lieutenants McCaleb, Ray, William Ramsey, John Lemons under Captains John Polk, Charles Polk, Oliver Wiley, __ Fletcher, under Majors James White, Charles Polk, __ Wiley, Colonels Adam Alexander, Thomas Polk, under Generals Rutherford (chiefly until Gates defeat at which time he was captured), Sumter, Lee and Thomas Polk.

He received a discharge from Captain Oliver Wiley, one from Captain Charles Polk -- what became of them he knows not.

He was 18 years of age when the oath of allegiance of which the certificate is hereunto appended, was administered to him; and this certificate, inconclusive that as it may be, is perhaps the only evidence now available to him, that he was ever a citizen of the United States at that time, 70 years ago, since which persons have been born and have died of old age. Some of the most brilliant scenes of that era have faded upon his memory until scarcely a vestige remains behind to admonish him that such things once were; hence the impossibility of detailing events of that period in the order in which they transpired[;] he resided in North Carolina when he entered the service, afterwards in South Carolina, Tennessee now in Texas.

He also served as Sergeant in a mounted spy Company from the Stewart County in Tennessee for 5 months and 28 days in the year 1814 being ordered into service then by General __ Johnson, Father of the Honorable Cave Johnson: to the ladder this applicant refers for information acquired in the State of Tennessee -- For service during the late War with England this applicant received his pay.

He has never received any pension from a State or from the United States for services rendered during the Revolutionary War, by him nor has he at any time heretofore applied for any and 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 -- he served at short

¹ William Lee Davidson was killed February one, 1781, at the battle of Cowan's Ford on the Catawba River in North Carolina. http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cowans_ford.html

intervals from the commencement to the close of the War of the Revolution.

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

S/ O. M. Roberts, District Judge of the 5th Judicial District of the State of Texas

S/ Charles Polk



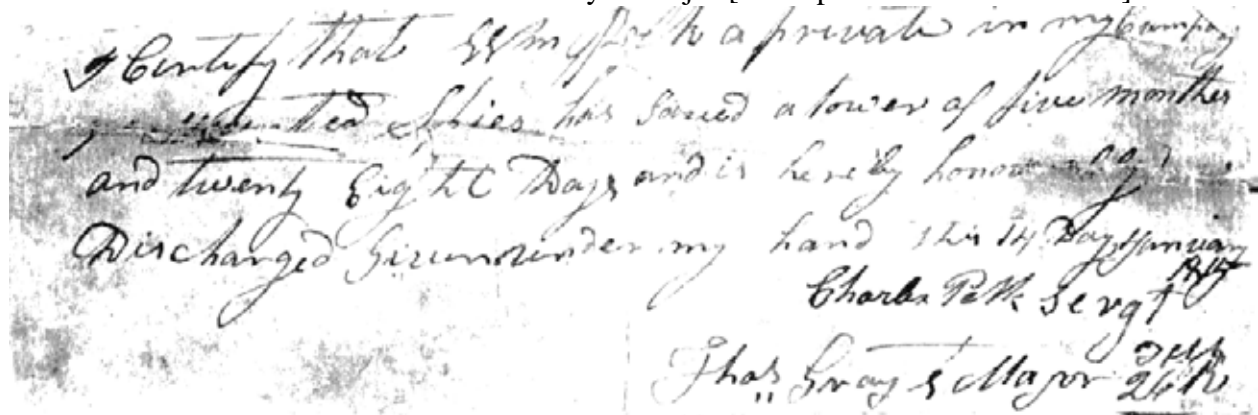
[Samuel A. Williams, a clergyman, and William G. Anderson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 8]

I Certify that William Polk a private in my Company of mounted Spies has served a tower of 5 months and 28 days and is hereby honorably Discharged. Given under my hand this 14th day of January 1814

S/ Charles Polk, Sergeant

S/ Thomas Gray S^t Major [indecipherable word or words]

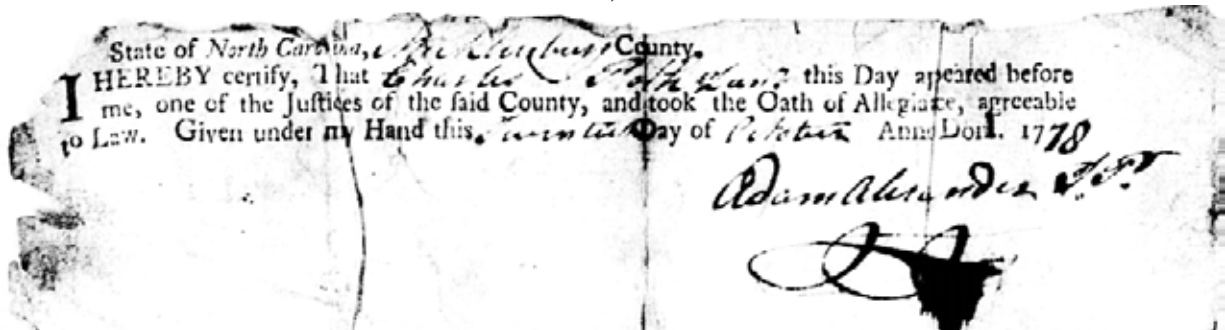


[fn p. 12]

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County,

I hereby certify, that Charles Polk Junior this Day appeared before me, one of the Justices of the said County, and took the Oath of Allegiance, agreeable to law. Given under my Hand this twentieth day of October A.D. 1778

S/ Adam Alexander, JP



[A letter in the file contains a statement which indicates that the claim of the veteran was not allowed because he failed to prove service in the revolution. Service in the war of 1812 did not entitle a veteran to a pension under the 1832 act.]