

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Porter R8356

fn26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/16/09

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State of North Carolina Buncombe County: On this 1st day of August personally appeared before Thomas T. Patton and E. Hightower two acting Justices of the peace for the County of Buncombe William Porter and states his age 73 years on the 10th of January last 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 Army of the United States in the year 1780 in the month of November as he believes under Captain Forbush as a substitute for William Duke a 3 months tour in the County of Guilford in said State. Joined the Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and served with him as follows. The Army retreated to Dan River in Virginia. Thence back to Guilford Court house at which place he was put on the Baggage guard & was not in the battle & the American Army then retreated across Dan River into Virginia where he had marched to Camden under General Greene and his 3 months expired as a substitute he was kept 2 months longer in this tour but was not a substitute after the 3 months expired: at Camden he was placed on the Purrey [? privy or survey?] Guard and kept that station during the battle against Lord Rawdon and marched the prisoners from Camden to Charlotte North Carolina, from thence to Salisbury at which place he got his discharge in the month of April as he believes which is now lost or mislaid, after serving 5 months at this time. He again was drafted by Captain John Mack and to before 3 months and was commanded by Colonel Pacely [sic, John Paisley], this he thinks was in October and 1781; Colonel Paisley was pursuing Colonel Fannon [sic, David Fanning] (who was Colonel of the Tories) he pursued the Tories and frequently had scrimmages with the Tories, but did not take Colonel Fanning prisoner he served out this tour of 3 months and did not get any written discharge, and returned home. After staying at home a short time he volunteered for 2 months in the company of Cavalry commanded by Captain Mack and to and Colonel Paisley. He was engaged this two months against the Tories in Guilford, Orange, Randolph and Chatham Counties, destroying their houses and routing them on all occasions. He served out this 2 months which was in the winter of 1781 & 2 and returned home, received no written discharge for this 2 months and never got any except a verbal discharge from my Captain. He served 2 months in the Revolution. He lived the greater part of his [word missing] in Guilford County and then moved to Burke County where he lived 25 years and now lives in Buncombe County in said State and have lived here 2 years.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thomas T. Patton, JP

S/ William Porter, P his mark

S/ E. Hightower, JP

[Thomas T. Patton and E. Hightower gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 26]

State of North Carolina Buncombe County: This day personally appeared before me the Thomas T. Patton an acting justice of the peace in and for the said County William Robinson¹ who having been by me duly sworn States on his oath that William Porter whose declaration is hereunto attached did join the Army of the United States with him and served with him under General Greene as a soldier, and that he was duly discharged according to law, but does not recollect the dates --

Given under my hand and seal 23rd day October A.D. 1834

S/ Thomas T. Patton, JP

S/ Wm Robinson

[Alexander Porter of Buncombe County gave a power of attorney dated February 29, 1852 seeking the pension due his father William Porter for his services as a revolutionary soldier under the act of June 7th 1832.]

[fn p. 24: his said certificate given by the North Carolina Comptroller showing payments made to a Captain William Porter during the revolutionary war. I think these statements are very unlikely to relate to this claimant since this claimant makes no reference to ever having served as a Captain.]

¹ FPA W18821