

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Roberts R8871

fn13NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/10/10

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[fn p. 13]

Columbus Mississippi 10th April 1839

James L. Edwards Esquire

Dear Server

I am applied to by an old man by the name of Roberts to write out his application to be placed on the pension list. I do not now recollect the form to be observed & I have mislaid or given away a copy of the former & instructions I had. The enclosed memo will enable you to say whether he can be now placed on the pension roll -- & you can send me a copy of the rules & acts applicable to his case. I am not a little hurried or I would copy the memo—so that it would not be so bloched [sic, blotched?].

Your attention to the matter is repectfully requested.

Your Obt. Servt.

S/ Stephen Cocke

John Roberts of Monroe County Mi [Mississippi] aged about 77 years states to the best of his recollection he entered the service of the United States as a drafted man in the militia of North Carolina in the County of \_\_ in the State of North Carolina sometime in the winter of the year \_\_ some few weeks before the battle of Guilford & when he was seventeen or eighteen years of age -- under the command of Captain John Rogers in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Rogers in the Army commanded by General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. He was not engaged in the Army but after he was drafted he was appointed by Colonel Rogers as a collector of the taxes in corn & having it taken to the Mills, ground and delivered for the Army. He was in no battles. The Country through which he traveled was in Caswell County North Carolina and Halifax County Virginia -- his term of service was 3 months. From old age and consequent loss of memory he is not able to state the names of any of the regular Officers and states that his acquaintance with such Officer was very limited as the regular and Militia mingled together for matters of an acquaintance but very little. He knows at this time of no person by whom he can prove his service or whose testimony he could now obtain. The person by whom he can prove his character for honesty and that he was generally reputed and believed in his neighborhood that he was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states are ~~William Covington~~ and Rev \_\_ a Minister of the gospel. He states that his name is not on the pension list roll of any other State or of any territory being aged and infirm he is unable to procure the testimony of any person other than his own oath as to the fact of his said service nor does he know of any person living by whom he can prove his said services. The reason he did not apply earlier for a pension is that he

had understood that the pension of the militia or State line was not entitled to the pension under the laws of the U S and that he knew of no person whom make out his application to be placed on the pension roll –

[fn p. 10]

War Department Pension Office may 29, 1839

Sir,

In reply to your letter in the case of John Roberts I have to inform you that he is not entitled to a pension. It would appear from the statement made that he was employed to collect taxes in corn and to have it ground for the use of the Army, and that he was so employed for a term of 3 months. The act of 7 of June 1832 does not provide for any person who did not perform 6 months actual service under military obligations.

[unsigned but in the handwriting of James L. Edwards, the commissioner of pensions]

Stephen Cocks, Esqr.

Columbus, Mississippi