

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Blalock (Blalack) R919

fn18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/13/10

[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. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina County of Rutherford

On this 28th day of October in the year 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for County aforesaid David Blalock a resident of Rutherford County aforesaid aged seventy-eight years 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 in Granville County North Carolina in a company of militia Infantry commanded by Captain Cuthbert Hudson and Lieutenant Richard Champion that was raised to act against the Indians – they marched to a place called the Quaker Meadows in (as the deponent thinks) what is now Stokes County where they were joined by several detachments from other Counties and were commanded by Colonel Ramsey and General Parsons these troops were as the deponent understood intended for an expedition over the mountains against the Indians but after advancing some distance the object was relinquished as he understood for want of pack horses and other requisites – and the men were marched back and discharged the declarant was out six weeks on this trip – did not fall in with or have any battle with the Indians – he is an unlettered man and cannot give the day or year of this service but recollects that it was shortly after the defeat of the Tories and Highlanders at Moore's Creek bridge. His next tour of service commenced shortly before the Battle of Guilford – he served in a militia Troop of Cavalry commanded by Captain John Henderson and Lieutenant Sherod Harris and was placed under the command of a Colonel Malmedy a Frenchman and was engaged in scouring the Country in pursuit of the Tories who were numerous – on the day of the Battle of Guilford we heard the firing and immediately marched to join General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] but did not arrive until the action was over – a day or two after the battle Captain Henderson and his Troop to which I belonged was ordered by General Green to Cross Creek to remove some public stores – we succeeded in removing a part of them but on account of the rapid advance of a part of Cornwallis his Army were compelled to destroy and abandon them in this tour I served two months and was then discharged.

My next service was also in a troop of horse Militia under Captain James Blackwell and Lieutenant Henry Petillo [sic, Pattillo?] also of Granville County I think in September of the same year we again marched to Cross Creek and were there joined by Troops from other

Counties we were sent from there to the North East bridge nine miles from Wilmington to watch the Garrison – and traversed the Country between Cross Creek and Wilmington to keep down the Tories, in one of these excursions we fell in with a party of them (Tories) near a place called the Raft Swamp commanded by an Allrod [sic, John Elrod?] whom we attacked and defeated killed several and took fifteen or twenty prisoners – soon after we heard of the capture of Cornwallis I was discharged – in this Tour of duty I served sixty-four days the Declarant further states that in the second tour of service which he above states to have made under Captain Henderson he found his own horse and that he and all the other soldiers who so found their own horses was by the terms of their agreement to be considered as having served 3 months on doing 2 months duty and that in consequence of said agreement he was admitted as having served 3 months.

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 any State and he further saith that he has no documentary evidence of his services and that he does not know any person now living by whom he could prove it.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid –

S/ T. F. Berchitt, Clk,

S/ David Blalock, X his mark

Questions by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer, I was born in Hanover County Virginia – do not know the year but that I am by the account I have always received 78 years old

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

Answer – I have no record of my age

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 Granville County North Carolina when called into service and continued to live there until about 7 years ago when I removed to this (Rutherford) County where I now live.

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 – In the 1st tour of duty I was drafted, in the 2 last I volunteered

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 – My recollection does not enable me to add much to the statement made in my Declaration – in the third term of service I was under the command of Colonel James Taylor the Regiment I do not recollect, I also remember a General Butler and General Rutherford being in command at some time – I have nothing to a added to the general circumstances of my services more than is before stated, except the state the time with more precision – save the first tour 6 weeks – the second one 3 months and the 3rd one 2 months and 4 days in the whole 6 months and 18 days.

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 received a discharge from Captain Blackwell only which was long since lost or mislaid

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 – Granville County where I lived when in the service and for many years after being about two hundred miles from my present residence I cannot consequently name any person in the vicinity who knew anything of my services – but name the Reverend John Blackwell, Daniel Edwards, Ephraim Littlejohn & John Moore as acquainted with my general character

[John Blackwell, a clergyman, and John Ellison gave the standard supporting affidavit.¹]

[fn p. 13-- the document from which the following transcription was made is extremely faint. Use the following transcript with great caution.]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: [illegible] the 3 Day 1837 before me Martin Beam an acting Justice for the County & State aforesaid personally appeared Joseph Pitman² aged seventy-seven years and swears that he was personally acquainted with David Blalock in the war of the Revolution and knows that he served two towers [tours] [illegible words] one tower three months each & further swears that he Blalock was a true Whig and was after the Tories the most of that time and believes it was in the year 1781 & that he Blalock [served under] Captain Waller one tour & the next tour under Captain William Moore and that he was also under the command of General Butler at also swears that he knows him to be the same David Blalock. Subscribed and sworn to before me the day and date above.

S/ Joseph Pitman, P his mark

[fn p. 6: William C Blalock executed a power of attorney in Cass County Georgia on the 25th of March 1853 in which he states he is the son of David Blalock.]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: Court of Pleas &c July Session 1837

On the 12th day of July 1837 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for said County now sitting David Blalock a resident of Rutherford County aged eighty-two years 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 Officers hereinafter named and served as herein stated.

In his first tour of military service he (Blalock) was drafted in the Militia of Granville County North Carolina to go on an expedition against the Indians is Company was commanded by Captain Cuthbert Hudson & Lieutenant Richard Champion Colonel Ramsey and General Parsons commanded the troops we marched to near the foot of the mountains where we remained for some time to be furnished with military stores and provisions but not receiving these the expedition was abandoned and the men were dismissed after about forty days service, being an unlettered man and his memory impaired by age the declarant cannot ascertain the year of this service but thinks it was in 1778 or 1779 – the troops were mustered in August.

His second tour of service was in a troop of Horse Militia raised in Granville County commanded by Captain John Henderson and Lieutenant Sherod Harris for three months and when joined by others were commanded by Colonel Malmedy and were employed in scouring the Country to keep the Tories who were numerous in check. The day after the battle of Guilford we joined the Army under General Greene, and the Troop of Captain Henderson was by him

¹ The certificate is actually signed by John Blackwell and John Moore.

² This is probably the same man as [Joseph Pitman S7314](#)

ordered to Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) to secure the public stores there but from the near approach of the British and the want of means of conveyance this was not accomplished. The stores principally [indecipherable word] and corn meal were burned or sunk in the River. I was then discharged after serving three months.

My third Tour of service was also in a Troop of Horse commanded by Captain James Blackwell and Lieutenant Henry Postelle – Colonel Moore and General Butler commanded the Detachment we were marched to the lower part of the State near Wilmington to suppress the Tories and had some skirmishing with them – the principal one at the Raft Swamp, while out on this trip I was put under command of a Captain N. Waller and received a discharge from him. I served in this tour two months but on condition of my having furnish my own horse was allowed to have served three months – I cannot ascertain the exact time of his service but it was sometime before the capture of Cornwallis.

The deponent further states that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his Revolutionary Services – and that he knows of no other person by whom he can prove them other than that of Joseph Pitman whose deposition is here unto appended and that the said Pitman served with him, and is now as he is understood drawing a pension for his services – He (Blalock) 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. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court.

S/ David Blalock, X his mark

[John Moore and William Wilkins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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[the interrogatories were put to the applicant and he gave a substantially identical responses as though set out above with the exception of his response to the 7th interrogatory which he answered as follows: "Answer – I give the Honorable James Graham, John Smith Esquire, William Wilkins Sheriff of the County Reverend Joel Blackwell, Reverend S G Hamilton, John Moore p.m. at White Oak and can give many more respectable names if necessary."]

The declarant further states on oath that in May last Joseph Pitman whose affidavit is hereunto appended and who lives in Greenville South Carolina called at his (Blalock's) house on his way to see a son who lives in this State and that the declarant then endeavor to get his Declaration drawn to be ready to prove it before the Court of probate for this County and May last but failing in getting this done had Pitman's probate taken.

Sworn to in open Court 12 July 1837

S/ David Blalock, X his mark