

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Skipper R9639

fn17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/17/11

[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. 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 Alabama Henry County: September the 16th 1834 this day appeared before me Judge of the Circuit Court of said County James Skipper a resident of Henry County in the open Court of Henry County and State of Alabama of the age of 78 years who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 September the 16th with John Herritage a Lieutenant and served in the 2nd Regiment commanded by Robert Howe Colonel John pateson [sic, ? possibly an attempted reference to Col. John Patten] Major and a man called English adjutant Simon Bright Captain Herritage Lieutenant and William Caswell Ensign left then the Regular Service the first day of May 1776 in North Carolina then Dobbs County was marched from thence to New Bern in Craven County from thence to Edenton [Edenton] from Edenton to the great Bridge in Virginia where had been a battle fought on the 9th of December and we arrived there the 11th. I saw the Blood on the ground said to be foredices Blood [Charles Fordyce's blood] and saw all the wounded and the place where the slain were buried and from thence we marched to Norfolk and from there when it was burnt it being set on fire the first day of January 1776 and till we was there Colonel Howe went to Williamsburg and after he returned to Regiment again he was called General Howe and patrison Colonel after returned the balance of the town was burnt we then marched to Suffolk town where we were stationed till March and then we marched back to Edenton and stayed there about 3 weeks and from thence we marched again to New Bern where I received a furlough for 15 days at the end of which I was to meet Captain Bright at Kingston [Kinston] on news [sic, Neuse River] in my own County and according to his appointment I met him in the next May the first 1776 he gave me a discharge which I was as Tour of as the [sic, if?] it had a been golden till after the treaty of 1783 and being an emigrating man no land of my own and having to move from place to place by some means, I finally lost it and the 20th of May 1776 there was a draft at the Court house in my home County and not withstanding I had so few days been at home from the Regular Service I volunteered for 3 months tower [tour] under Joseph Green matchel Herring [sic, Mitchell Herring?] Lieutenant and William McDaniel Incine [Ensign] and they under Colonel Brown Major Hogin [Hogan or Hogun?] Comanded by General ash [sic, John Ashe] and served out the last named 3 months. In the summer 1781 there landed a man at Wilmington North Carolina called Crag [sic, Craig] he

and the Tories embodied and was said to be likely to do our Country much damage I turned out again under Captain Shirod Barrow [Sherrod Barrow?] for a 3 months tower again we was then commanded by Colonel Mitchell to Jones County where we had two little combats Craig's Horse and Caswell's horse and also the foot men had a small skirmish which last 3 months I also served then the same summer Season there was a Rule made that the men should be and was classed 20 in a class in the whole class stand their draw for the man as the class could hire a man to go in my class furnished David Dunken [sic, David Duncan?] and I think that he went under Captain Robert Raiford and served the tower. I hereby relinquish every claim what to a pension or an annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State. It is impossible for me to produce in this State any testimony Except my own oath of my services as I call myself and it is called six hundred miles from here to North Carolina and if I was there by this time it might be as much impossible as it is here for when I left there in 1829 there was only Henry Martin¹ and Elishua grant [Elijah or Elisha Grant²?] Revolutionist that I knew in the service that was then alive. I was from my mother's Information to me born in Dobbs County North Carolina the 25th day of August old style in the year 1756 and I lived around about my old Nativity till the year 1829 December I then came to this County in pursuit of my children. I have at present no record of my age though I once had a Bible that contained it but it is like myself give out some few years past and it was neglected to be taken of and so it got lost but thank God my memory yet remains. I lived near the line that divides Henry County and Pike and not knowing that it made any difference which County I applied in United States Business therefore I now confine myself to Henry County Court for guidance. This applicant further states that the whole time of his actual service as set forth above was the space & time of 13 months & 14 days all his services were as a private.

S/ James Skipper, X his mark

[Edmond Talbert, a clergyman, and James Carter gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 7: In a letter dated October 6, 1835 from Simon Skipper, the son of the veteran, to the Commissioner of Pensions in response to a letter of objection issued by the Commissioner, the son notes that his father died July 25, (presumably in 1835); he states that: "and in pursuing your printed sheet I find it to say that in consequence of death that the parties concerned should make the best proof in their power I will now relate the best that I can give and then you may know whether it's worth my while to be at any further troubles or not I myself can relate many periods that I have heard him relate of the Revolution and that before ever there was a pension law in America for one I well remember that about the winter of 1794 and 1795 that he entered in a job of work with one John Smith and while [they] was in the woods at work much of their conversation was in talk of the Revolution in which Smith related that the troops of North Carolina under General hogan [sic, James Hogun] and that had just of while before they got to the line between the two States that one Samuel Glover and a party beside him formed a resolution not to cross the line until they were paid of their Resolution being made known to the General he said he had sixteen apprehended and swore that one of their number should be put to death and he said that the sentence came out against Glover and was shot and I do think that from Smith's realization that they both shed tears for their Brother soldier...."



¹ The application of [Henry Martin S41791](#) appears to give testimony consistent with the information contained in this veteran's application.

² The application of [Elisha Grant S41587](#) appears to give testimony consistent with the information contained in this veteran's application.