

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Guthrie S10776

f12NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/9/08 rev'd 11/30/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: The following transcript is heavily edited to correct spelling deviations]

Respective and Dear Sir – Mr. J. L. Edwards

in answer to your directions sent to me by the friendly hand of the honorable Felix Walker¹ Member of Congress I John Guthrie do hereby comply with your injunctions as Nearly as my memory and ability can do

1st as to my living permanently in North Carolina I have no thought ever to remove from the place I now live on in Buncombe County North Carolina

2nd and as to being transferred from Georgia to North Carolina I do not know any advantage I can have by it Tis as far for me to go or send to Fayetteville in North Carolina as to go to Savannah in Georgia therefore I submit that part to your own Judgment to transfer me or not my only petition is to have a Certificate authorizing me to Draw my pension where you may please to direct and the agents there notified that no Disappointment may happen to my Cost and loss

3rd The Rank I enlisted in was a private or common Soldier Agreeable to an act of assembly of North Carolina passed in September 1780 that every 10th man throughout the State That was not other ways Exempted by law should list or be Drafted and to serve as Regular Soldiers for twelve months and as I have worked for 3 years before that in a standing armory near Halifax town in North Carolina I was persuaded by Nicholas Long Quarter Master General for the State of North Carolina and General Sumner [Jethro Sumner] who was to have the Command of all these men who rose to turn out as one 10th man and served my twelve months in this above stated US armory which accordingly I enlisted and was Directed and sent by General Sumner to work in this factory and was not placed in any other Company or Regiment where I served as Armer in the United States Armory until I was wounded which happened on the 7th day of May 1781 at that time the British Army was marching rapidly through North Carolina & aiming to get to Petersburg in Virginia I was that day sent out by Colonel

¹ WALKER, Felix, a Representative from North Carolina; born on the south branch of the Potomac River, in Hampshire County, Va. (now West Virginia), July 19, 1753; attended country school on the Congaree River, near Columbia, S.C., and in Burke County, N.C.; moved with his father to what became Lincoln County, N.C., and in 1768, to what became Rutherford County, N.C.; was employed as a merchant's clerk at Charleston, S.C., in 1769; also engaged in agricultural pursuits; in company with Daniel Boone and others formed the settlement of Boonsboro, Ky., in 1775; clerk of the court of Washington district (most of which is now in Tennessee) in 1775 and 1776 and of the county court of Washington County (now chiefly in Tennessee) in 1777 and 1778; fought in the Revolutionary and Indian wars; clerk of court of Rutherford County, N.C., 1779-1787; member of the State house of commons in 1792, 1799-1802, and 1806; resumed agricultural pursuits and was also a trader and land speculator in Haywood County, N.C.; elected as a Republican to the Fifteenth Congress and reelected to the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Congresses (March 4, 1817-March 3, 1823); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1822 to the Eighteenth Congress; moved to Mississippi about 1824 and engaged in agricultural pursuits and trading; died in Clinton, Hinds County, Miss., in 1828; interment probably in a private cemetery.

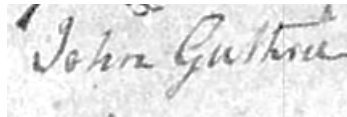
<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=W000050>

William Linton to spy out their movements and Unfortunately fell in the hands of Tarleton's Corps of horse and shot through

4th The amount of pension that I have Received has been only two dollars per month

5th and as to the exact time I was placed on the United [States'] pension list I cannot say This I do know that I first applied on the 10th day of January 1795 and on that Day was examined both myself and wounds by Doctor Murray & Doctor Dizard [?] the two men appointed by Judge Pendleton and two days after I brought in my witnesses & Discharge and was Noted then as a pensioner But what time I was enrolled in the pension office I know not But this I remember the Commissioners said I ought to Draw half pay as long as I live But when they made out the papers for myself & Captain James Lewis & others they Neglected to set what pension we should Draw per month or year and sent on the papers to the War office and the papers was sent back Directing the Commissioners to set what pension we should Draw and they (as they said) supposed whole pension meant whole pay & half pension half pay and set my to have half pension only this also I know that on the 1st of October 1795 I applied and got my Certificate from the Commissioners – and the first cent of pension I ever Drew was from Mr. Richard Willy in the March 1801 and then Drawed from the 4th of September 1798 and the 2nd and last time I drew from Mr. James Olgear [?] on the 4th of September 1802 which in all makes only 4 years & then Mr. Olgear kept back three months pay I Drew only ninety dollars in all first and last – my pension was so small that it was not worth applying for once in 2 or 3 years my pension is Now due to me from the 4th day of September 1802 that's Eighteen years the 4th of September last and three months was kept Back and further this deponent saith not sworn to Subscribed and acnoledg [acknowledged] Before made this 16th day of October 1820.

S/ John Guthrie

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Guthrie". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

S/ Z. Baird [Zabulon Baird], JP

MS if any should ask why I have neglected so long before I applied for the balance of what pension is due to me I honestly answer them whilst I lived in Georgia only 150 miles from Savannah I applied Two [sic, twice] for my pension by power of attorney & Drew nothing And the 3rd time I went myself and Drew some money and being sickly in Georgia I went to move up to the Mountains in North Carolina where I now live And went first to Savannah thinking to Draw what pension was then Due But found again no [sic ?] there he [the pension agent] had gone a journey I waited 4 days & went home Then I went again & Drew for the last time being the 4th of September 1802 which made 5 trips I sent & went only to draw ninety dollars which when I counted up my expenses and loss of time I did not draw enough to pay expenses & now I am 200 miles further off provided no accident should happen or disappointment I could not Draw enough in 3 years to pay Expenses so I have let it Run on until now and being now old Crosy [sic?] & sickly if I can draw what is my due with small Expenses it would be of service in old age though a person of property would hardly trouble themselves for the trifle that coming if it ever does come it cannot come too soon for my necessities.

From John Guthrie to an Inquiring friend