

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abraham Sevier S1589

Transcribed by Will Graves

f32NC

rev'd8/16/09 & 11/8/16

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of Tennessee, Overton County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions: October Term 1832

This 31 day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the worshipful Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Overton in the State of Tennessee, the same being a court of record, and now in session, Abraham Sevier, a citizen of said County of Overton aged seventy years past, who being first duly sworn according to the laws of the land doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. He entered the service of the United States as a private soldier under the following named officers and served as herein after stated.

In the summer or fall of 1778, he states he went out as a spy under Ensign Robert Sevier against the Indians, was out about 15 days; then lived in the County of Washington, North Carolina (now Tennessee).

In the spring of 1779 in the same County of Washington, he volunteered and joined a company under command of Captain Valentine Sevier and marched to the Cherokee Nation of Indians. They descended the Holston River in boats & canoes. The term of service was three months. They killed a few Indians & took some prisoners but they did not have any battles or engagements. They returned home after the expiration of three months. The officers were Captain Valentine Sevier, Major Charles Robeson & Colonel Evan Shelby.

In the summer of 1780 he was hired as a substitute for one James Edin [James Eden?] and again entered the service, and joined the company commanded by Captain Valentine Sevier in the same County of Washington, and marched from that place to South Carolina. The term of service was three months. The officers in command were Major Charles Robeson & Valentine Sevier, Captain, as he now recollects. When they reached South Carolina, they joined that Regiment of Colonel Charles McDowell on Broad River and met with the British at a place called Moffett's Iron works, and there had a small engagement. He states that he was in no other Battle during his said term of service and when it was expired, he returned home.

About the last of September 1780 as he recollects he was hired as a substitute by Marshal Hale for a term of service of three months and joined the company commanded by Captain Valentine Sevier for a term of service of three months. The company to which he belonged joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Sevier. They then joined the regiments commanded by Colonel Campbell [William Campbell] and Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and marched to Kin's Mountain and he states he was there in what is called the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780].<sup>1</sup> General [sic, Colonel] Campbell commanded. After this he returned home; did not receive any written discharge. They

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_kings\\_mountain.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html)

did not serve out a full term of this service, as he recollects, they served but about five weeks.

Immediately after his return home to said County of Washington, he volunteered and marched against the Cherokee Indians under the command of Colonel John Sevier, his Captain was by the name of Landon Carter. They went into the Cherokee Nation and had a battle with the Indians on a Creek called Boyd's Creek<sup>2</sup>; killed about twenty seven Indians; took no prisoners. They then returned to a large island in the French Broad River and there awaited the arrival of Col. Campbell. Then marched against the Indians, crossed the Tennessee River and burned several Indian towns, the names of the towns as far as he recollects were Chota Town, Toker Town, Tellico town. After this [they] marched down the Hiwassee [River] and burned some more towns, lay there sometime and ranged through the country and took some prisoners. They then returned home. The tour for which he volunteered was three months, but they did not continue in service till the end of the time, as he now recollects, they were out about two months.

In the last of September or were first of October 1781 as he now recollects, he was hired as a substitute for three months in said County of Washington. He cannot recollect the name of the man by whom he was hired. He joined a company commanded by Captain Valentine Sevier, and their company joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Sevier. They marched to the high hills of the St. Lea [Santee River] in South Carolina. On their way, they joined a Regiment commanded by Colonel Shelby at the high hills of Santee. They joined a Regiment of light horse commanded by Colonel Mayhem [sic, Hezekiah Maham]. They were then placed under the command of General Marion [Francis Marion]. A part of the Army marched against the British post, took it with [p 10] about ninety-five prisoners, no battle was fought. -- the enemy surrendered at this time he was sick. After this a part of the Army marched to take another Fort, but the enemy left it & burned it, Soon after this he was discharged this tour he was out about four months.

About the last of June 1782, he again volunteered for a tour of three months and joined a company commanded by Captain George North, and the company joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Sevier, and marched to Hiwassee River in the Cherokee nation. They were out some over two months, during this time they killed some Indians, took some prisoners, and burned some Indian towns.

Soon after this in the same year he again volunteered for three months, and joined a company commanded by Captain James Richardson, and their company joined a Regiment commanded by General Martin. They marched again into the Cherokee nation, to the Lookout mountain & there had a battle with [p 11] the Cherokee Indians, in which they were successful, killed some Indians. He states that two of their captains were killed his Captain John Harden & Captain Joseph Butler, They had no other engagements and returned home. They were out about two months and discharged.

All the foregoing tours were tours of three months except the first. He states that in addition he frequently went out as a spy and indeed he was generally in the service of his country as a soldier for about 3 years. He has been as definite as he could about dates, but his memory is very defective.

He states he has no documentary evidence of his service.

He states he believes he can prove part of his service by Walter Greer<sup>3</sup> and part by Abel Pearson<sup>4</sup> of White County. He expected to prove some of his service by Major Jonathan Tipton<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> December 16, 1780 <http://www.tngenweb.org/revwar/boydscreek.html>

<sup>3</sup> [Walter Greer S3415](#)

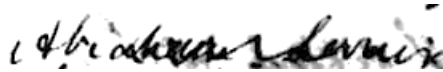
<sup>4</sup> [Abel Pearson S3661](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Jonathan Tipton W1098](#)

who now lives in Kentucky and promised to give his evidence but has disappointed him.

Sworn to in open Court 31st day of October 1832.

S/ Abraham Sevier



S/ Wm Gore, Clerk

He hereby relinquishes all claim to any pension or annuity whatever, nor is his name on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Abraham Sevier



Sworn to in open Court October 31st 1832.

S/ William Gore, Clerk

[p 8]

1. I was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1760 in the County of Shenandoah Virginia.
2. I have the record of my age in a family Bible at home.
3. I was living in Washington County North Carolina (now Tennessee) when called into service; moved after the close of the War to this County where I have ever since lived.
4. I was three times as a substitute for Marshall Hale; the other I do not recollect. On all other tours I was a volunteer.
5. I knew General Marion [Francis Marion], General Clark [Elijah Clarke], General Lee, General McDowell [Charles McDowell], Colonel McDowell [Joseph McDowell], Colonel Cleveland, Colonel Brandham [Thomas Brandon], Colonel Sevier [John Sevier], Colonel Campbell [William Campbell], Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby]. In my declaration I have stated what I knew as to regiments and circumstances.
6. I never received any written discharge.
7. I am well known to Joseph Bates, Esq., Colonel C. Mattock, Captain John Kennedy, all of whom with many more can testify as to my character for veracity and my reputation as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to in open court the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1832.

S/Abraham Sevier

S/William Gore, Clerk

[James McDonnald [sic], a clergyman and Langdon Armstrong gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9]

This day Walter Greer personally appeared in Court and made oath that he is well acquainted with the applicant Abraham Sevier, and can say from his own knowledge that he served one three months tour in the service of the United States, as he recollects in the year 1781, that he marched from where he lived in Washington County, then North Carolina to the high hills of St. Tea [sic, Santee River] in South Carolina. He was out in the same campaign under Colonel Shelby.

S/ Walter Greer



Sworn to in open court October 31st 1832

S/ William Gore, Clerk

[p 21]

The amended declaration of Abraham Sevier for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832

State of Tennessee Overton County: 10th day of August 1833 this day personally appeared Abraham Sevier before me Alfred C. Robertson one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and one who by law as authorized to administer oaths and he being first duly qualified according to law made the following statement as an amendment to his former declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

He states that by reason of old age and bodily infirmity and consequent loss of memory he cannot precisely state the length of term he served in the revolutionary war but is confident he served at least terms as stated in his first declaration.

that is he served one tour of fifteen days as a spy against the Cherokee Indians: that he served one tour of three months against the Cherokee Indians as a private: that he served as a private one tour of three months against the British & Tories in South Carolina on Broad River: that he served one tour as private of five weeks against the British and Tories in what is called the Kings Mountain Campaign: that he served one tour as a private of two months against the Cherokee Indians: that he served one tour as a private of four months against the British and Tories in South Carolina at the high hills of Santee: that he served one tour of two months as a private against the Cherokee Indians: that he served one tour of two months as a private against the Cherokee Indians: as to his other services as a spy he cannot recollect the time he was in service but as to the tours which he has stated he is confident he served at least as much as he has stated and that he was always called on by a competent authority as to any other particulars about his service he cannot state no more than in his first declaration he states that during his said periods of service as above stated he was all the time in the actual service of his country that during the time he was in no civil pursuit -- he states that he is well known to Lewis Stoven a clergyman and to Captain John Kennedy to Mr. William Wray to Mr. Doke H. Capps and to Mr Landon Armstrong all of whom can testify as to his veracity and his reputation as having been a soldier of the revolution. Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year before written  
S/ Alfred C. Robertson, JP

S/ Abraham Sevier, S his mark

[Lewis Stoven, a clergyman, DH Capps, John Kennedy, Landon Armstrong and William Wray gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$58.88 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 17 months in the North Carolina militia.]