

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joshua Pharaoh S16509

f26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/27/09: rev'd 11/22/17

[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.]

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State of Georgia County of Richmond }

On this fifteenth day of June 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Superior Court of Richmond County in said State, Joshua Pharaoh, a resident of said County and State, aged seventy-five years on the 8th day of March last, 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, entitled "An act supplementary to the "Act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the revolution." That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated; whereupon the court propounded the following Interrogatories and to which the declarant made and returned answers to the court as herein recorded.

First Interrogatory: Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it? The answer of the applicant is "I have no record of my age, and obtained my knowledge of it by tradition from my parents."

Second Interrogatory -- Where and in what year were you born? To which the declarant answers & says, I was born in the County of Currituck in the State of North Carolina on the 8th of March in the year 1757.

Third Interrogatory. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary War, and where do you now live? Applicant answers & says "I was living in Currituck County in the State of North Carolina when called into the service of my Country; I lived several years in Bladen County, & after it was divided, in Robeson County North Carolina, after the close of the revolutionary War, & have resided about thirty-two years in the County of Richmond State of Georgia, and in which last named County I now reside.

Fourth Interrogatory. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? and if a substitute for whom? The applicant answers & says, "I volunteered my service as a soldier."

Fifth Interrogatory. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service? To which the Declarant says I was acquainted with General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and officer of the Continental Army at the siege of Charleston in South Carolina in 1779 – '80, and made returns to him for many days and months as a Sergeant-Major, and there frequently saw Colonel Washington [William Washington] also of the Continental Army, who commanded the Cavalry, I entered the service as a volunteer in the year 1775 shortly after the news of the Battle of Bunker's Hill under the command of Colonel

Samuel Jarvis a militia officer of Currituck County in the State of North Carolina, who commanded the troops of that County, who went out to reinforce the American Army then stationed or assembling at the Great Bridge near Norfolk in Virginia, where the command of Colonel Jarvis arrived in the time of the action [December 9, 1775], at the Great Bridge which terminated in driving the British to their shipping at Norfolk; and I was one of those stationed in the Fort, the enemy had evacuated. In this expedition I was in active service at least 6 weeks. I also served in a second expedition under Colonel Jarvis to New Bern in which I was in active service at least 2 months. I served again in a third expedition under the same officer to Cape Hatteras which kept me in active service at least 2 months, and I served in a fourth tour under that officer, where I was engaged in guarding the coast at least a year and to the close of the year 1777. In the expedition to Cape Hatteras Solomon Perkins was the Captain of the militia company with which I marched and in the expedition to the coast of Norfolk Dennis Dozier [sic, Dennis Dauge] was the Captain of the company of Militia with which I marched. Independent of these terms of active service, I was kept under arms, and acted under orders in various movements of too little note to be now distinctly remembered by me but my whole term of service as a private soldier was at least two years and six months.

Declarant has a perfect recollection that Colonel Jarvis commanded the said several expeditions, but as to the company officers names he cannot now recollect, except those mentioned:

He further states that in the year 1779 "I was drafted to go on an expedition to Charleston in South Carolina and marched to the reinforcement of the American Army at that place in a militia Company commanded by Captain Joseph Wood of General Lillington's [John Alexander Lillington's] Brigade. I was appointed a Sergeant-Major, and served in that rank for six months at least, over and above the services already enumerated to the best of my recollection of the time, making the whole term of service at least three years

Sixth Interrogatory. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? To which the declarant answers and says "I received an honorable discharge from my term of service last mentioned in the last campaign that I served at Charleston South Carolina from General Lincoln in April 1780, having served out the term with the Regiment that I belonged to. I volunteered to serve out the Siege of Charleston, and afterwards hired a substitute to take my place, I returned home and have never since heard of the fate of my substitute. I have long since lost my discharge from General Lincoln, and have no documentary evidence of my services in my possession nor do I know of any person living by whom I can prove my services as a soldier of the revolution or my rank as a Sergeant-Major in my last tour of service at Charleston. I have no recollection of ever having received any written discharge for my other services.

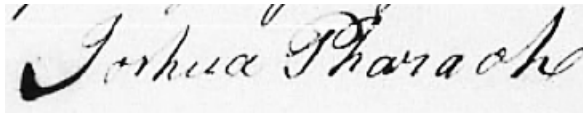
During the several times at which the said several services were performed by Declarant as before mentioned, he further answers & says, that he was not employed in any civil pursuit, and that he has no reason to believe otherwise, and that the said several services were performed by him, with embodied corps, called into service by competent authority, and that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot state any other facts than those already stated in relation to his services as aforesaid.

Seventh interrogatory. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution? To which applicant replies by stating to the Court the name of the Reverend James O. Andrew, a clergyman, and John H. Mann, both residents and citizens of said County, the latter of whom has known me for 30 years, and the former of about

18 or 20 years.

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 agency in any State.

S/ Joshua Pharaoh

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joshua Pharaoh". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year first aforesaid to wit the 15th day of June 1833

S/ Wm W. Holt, Presiding Judge

[James O. Andrew, a clergyman, and John H. Mann gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Richmond County Augusta, Ga.

Sir

I Received your Notice and am Glad to see that Officers in public Trust, do manifest an honest care to apprehend and detect everything that may appear Fraudulent in the declaration of Applicants for pension. I hope Sir that I shall make appear to your Satisfaction that I am not one of those. You wish to be Satisfied respecting the lengthy Tour of twelve months as a militia Soldier, I will explain to you how that was and why it was so, when the British first came to our North Carolina and Virginia Shores and were cruising and threatening of us, and we being destitute of any Regular Military help it was thought advisable by Colonel Jarvis that the Militia should put themselves into a posture of defense, he therefore proposed to the militia of Currituck County of which he was the Commander to volunteer and hold themselves under the name of Minute Men, and equip themselves as well as they were able with guns and ammunition that they might be capable of defense, Now Sir I was one of those volunteers and served under Militia Officers the time Stated in my Declaration therefore I called my service militia and as soon as the Minute Men was thus Prepared for defense, Lord Dunmore [John Murray, last Royal Governor of the Colony of Virginia] a Commander of the British Troops, sailed up to Norfolk in Virginia several ships of war, and landed an Army of British Troops, and said Troops marched to the Great bridge ten miles from the ships, and fortified themselves in, and was a great annoyance to the people of that place. Now the above mentioned militia troops were called for, Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan] with his Troop of Riflemen from the upper parts of Virginia came down and Colonel Howe [Robert Howe] with his Minute Men of North Carolina came to our help, Colonel Jarvis also marched his Minute Troops to the Place, and in a few days after those American Soldiers had arrived, the British Troops came out of their Fort against them, and through the kind Providence of God these untrained Militia Obtained a Signal Victory over the 14 Regiment of British Grenadiers killed a very considerable part of them and drove the survivors back to their ships then we of Currituck County were ordered to the City of New Bern I do expect our Officers thought the enemy would sail from Ocracoke Bar up to New Bern it being a Sea Port but they did not come, we were then ordered to Cape Hatteras and they did not come there -- then Colonel Jarvis ordered us down to the coast near the Cape of Virginia there to be stationed that we might be ready to repair to any place the enemy might attempt landing, in these services I served out the time stated in my Declaration this is all the Showing that I have in my Power to Make, I hope it may be Sufficient

from your Humble Servant

S/ Joshua Pharaoh

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Georgia Richmond County

Came before me Joshua Pharaoh and on his oath saith, that the facts stated in the preceding letter or true according to the best of his recollection and belief.

Sworn to and subscribed the 2nd October 1833

S/ Joshua Pharaoh

S/ Wm W. Holt, Judge Superior Court Middle District Georgia

[Note: Documents in the file indicates that the veteran was a Minister of the Gospel of the Methodist denomination.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$48 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private & Sergeant for 11 months and 12 days in the North Carolina militia.]