

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of John Stonecypher S16539  
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn18NC  
rev'd 3/15/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Georgia, town of Franklin

On this third day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared before the Inferior Court of the County and State aforesaid now sitting for ordinary purposes, John Stonecypher a resident of Captain Bryant's District in the County and State aforesaid aged seventy-five 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a private in the militia of North Carolina in May or June 1779 under Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] and he thinks Captain Shepherd. He entered the service at Wilkes C. H. North Carolina and was placed as one of the Guard under Captain Gordon over some prisoners at Salisbury. Served a three months tour & returned to Wilkes C. H. North Carolina and was marched to Ramsour's [Mills] on the Catawba River where he was in a battle, then marched to New River to try to stop Roberts and a gang of Tories came up to them at King's Creek, where he was in a battle & drove the Tories off. This ended a second tour of three months.

That he entered the service about the month of June 1780 at Wilkes C. House North Carolina in the militia of that state under Captain Rutledge & thinks the Regiment was commanded by Colonels Locke [Francis Locke] & Isaacs, was placed under command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], & General Gates [Horatio Gates] was commander in chief. Served at that time three months.

Again entered in the North Carolina militia at Salisbury and thence was marched to Charlotte Court House and from thence to the neighborhood of Camden South Carolina where he fought in a battle [Battle of Camden] under General Gates, the Army was defeated & he made his escape & returned home, remained at home but a few days and then again entered the North Carolina militia at Wilkes Court House under Colonel Cleveland, with whom he continued in service until the Battle of King's Mountain in October 1780, he was in that battle & was afterwards placed under the Command of General (formerly Colonel) Davidson [William Lee Davidson] and was at the Battle or skirmish at Beatties Ford [sic, Cowan's Ford] on the Catawba River where they were trying to prevent the British under Cornwallis from crossing, at this Battle Genl. Davidson was killed & we were defeated & retreated to Widow Torren's [sic, Tarrant's or Torrance's Tavern] & were attacked next morning in her Lane & again defeated, returned to Wilkes C. H. & again joined the North Carolina militia under Colonel Cleveland & served with him until he left the Troops to go to the Legislature, when he was

placed under the command of Colonel Hearn [sic, Hearn or Herndon?], with whom he continued to serve until the Battle of Guilford in March 1781, at the Battle of Guilford he was placed among the riflemen under Col. Campbell [William Campbell] and was wounded in the battle. From this battle he returned home and as soon as he is wound was healed he again entered the Army to wit in October 1781 at Wilkes Court House aforesaid under Captain Keyes, Colonel Hearn & General McDowell [Charles McDowell] and was marched to Pleasant Gardens on the Catawba and from there to the Cherokee Country against the Indians, where he was at the burning of Watauga, Cowee, Sugar & Burning Towns & several Indian villages. He served until December 1781 when he was discharged at Wilkes Court House by Colonel Cleveland. That he served all together three years as a private soldier.

1. He was born in 1756 in Culpepper [Culpeper] County Virginia.
2. He has a record of his age in possession of Peter Stonecypher in Wilkes County North Carolina.
3. When he entered the service he lived in Wilkes County North Carolina and in 1784 he removed his present residence where he has remained ever since.
4. Never was a substitute & never was drafted, always served as a volunteer.
5. Recollects De Kalb and Gates at Gates' defeat but was marched about so rapidly does not recollect more of the Regular officers.
6. Received several discharges for different tours of duty, one from Captain Keyes, one from Captain De Moss, one from Captain Sloan, one from Captain Jackson, one from Captain Allen, one from Captain Lenore [sic, Lenoir], one from Captain Rutledge, one from Captain Barton, one from Captain Henderson, who afterwards became a Tory, one from Captain Robert Cleveland & one from Captain Shepherd. All of which are lost and he never received one cent of pay other than the Liberties of his Country.
7. Is known to William Glover in his present neighborhood who knew him in the service & who can testify thereto. He is also known to Moses Guest and Dozier Thornton a preacher of the Gospel who can testify to his character & veracity and their belief of his having been a revolutionary soldier.

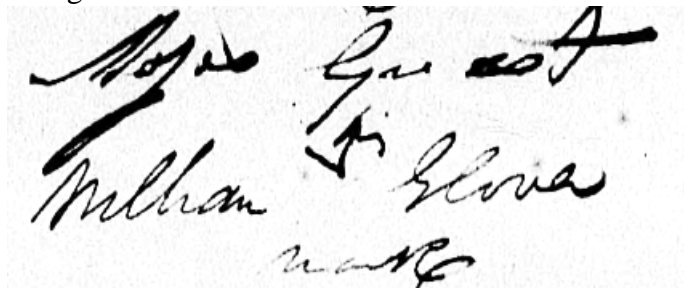
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State within his knowledge or belief.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year first above written.

S/ Thomas King, Clerk

S/ John Stonecypher, X his mark

[Dozier Thornton, a clergyman, Moses Guest<sup>1</sup> and William Glover<sup>2</sup> gave the standard supporting affidavit. In addition: "that said William Glover and Moses Guest saw and knew the said Stonecypher in the service of his Country during the war of the Revolution."

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature reads "Moses Guest" and the bottom signature reads "William Glover". There is a small mark below the bottom signature that appears to be "mark". The signatures are enclosed in a bracket on the right side.

State of Georgia Franklin County: SS

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, a justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid John Stonecypher who has heretofore sworn to and subscribed the original Declaration to

<sup>1</sup> [Moses Guest W11072](#)

<sup>2</sup> [William Glover W929](#)

which this is annexed, and who being again sworn according to law on his oath deposeth and saith That by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following Grades.

In May 1779 he served three months as a private under Captains Shepperd & Gordon & Colonel Cleveland & was discharged in August.

In August 1779 he again entered under Captain Falls & General Rutherford and served for three months as a private & was discharged in November.

In December 1779 he again entered under Captain Gordon & Major Lewis as a private & served two months & 10 days & was stationed at Salisbury to scout the neighborhood & served the three months excepting 20 days he was out on furlough.

In June 1780 he served for three months [several words obliterated, I think they would be "as a private under"] Captain Rutledge & was discharged in September.

In September 1780 he entered and served three months excepting one week he was absent about the defeat of Gates & dispersion of the Troops, say this service as a private 83 days under Rutledge & Major Johnson & Colonel Matthew Locke

In November 1780 he entered under Captain John Cleveland and served for three months as a private.

In February 1781 he entered again under Captain Campbell and served for three months as a private, was under Colonel Hearn, but before Guilford Battle was detached from him and put under Colonel Campbell & the riflemen.

In October 1781 he entered under Captain Keys & Colonel Hearn & served for 3 months as a private against the Cherokee Indians.

For particulars of service he refers to his original Declaration.

And for the aforesaid service he claims a pension.

He was during the service aforesaid in an embodied Corps called into service by competent authority.

He was either in the field or in Garrison, and for the time during which the services was performed he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 11th day of September 1833

S/ C. Addison, JP

S/ John Stonecypher, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$69.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 20 months and 23 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]