

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Nathaniel Foster S16803

NJ PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

The State of Ohio, Adams County Ss.

Court of Common Pleas of the Term of October, 1832.

On this 25th day of October, 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before said Court of Common Pleas of Adams County, Ohio, now sitting, Nathaniel Foster, a resident of Jefferson Township, in the County of Adams aforesaid, aged seventy two years last February, 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 under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated. He first entered the service as a volunteer in the militia, in the latter part of July or early part of August, 1776; – his Officers, Captain Tinbrook, Major Hoop, Colonel Bunnell, General Doo. During this, his first tour, he was stationed and served in and about Amboy, in the State of New Jersey; – and was generally employed in aiding to entrench and fortify the Town, Amboy, and standing guard. This first was a short tour; he cannot distinctly remember whether one or two months. At the time of his first entering the service, he resided in Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey; and was marched from Hunterdon directly to Amboy. In the fall of 1776, he removed to Bucks County, Pennsylvania; and in the year 1777, he again entered the service as a substitute for Ezekiel Rogers, a drafted Militia man, of Bucks County, Pa. From Bucks County, he was marched through Newton to Philadelphia; from Philadelphia he was taken by water to Billing's fort and Wilmington in the State of Delaware; from Wilmington, he was marched up the Brandywine on the day the battle of Brandywine was fought [11 Sep 1777]; he was halted about a mile or two below the battle ground, till evening, when Colonel Moore's Regiment to which this Declarant was attached was ordered up near the battle ground; but Gen [James] Potter's Brigade, of which Colonel Moore's was one Regiment, was soon ordered to retreat back to Chester, Pennsylvania. After the retreat to Chester, he was pretty constantly on the march through Pennsylvania, generally on the Schuylkill. In the valley, near the white horse, he was in a slight skirmish with the rear guard of the British forces [3 mi W of present Malvern PA, 16 Sep 1777]; but a severe rain coming on, a general engagement did not ensue. In this tour, 1777, he belonged to Captain Dubouch's Company; his Major, Folwell; his Colonel, Moore. This tour he served two months, & reached home on the day of the battle of Germantown [4 Oct 1777]. In April, 1781, he again entered the service in Hampshire County, Virginia, as a substitute for Aaron Colvin, – his Captain, Thomas Anderson; but on reaching the Camp, near Richmond, he procured a rifle, and joined Captain Stump's rifle Company. Lieutenant, Samuel Hornback, Ensign, James Taft. In this spring tour of 1781, Major McPherson commanded the party to which declarant was attached; his duty was scouting, watching the movements of the enemy, protecting the line &c, in Virginia, generally in or near Richmond. This tour he served two months. After a respite of nine days, he again entered in Hampshire County Virginia as a substitute for David Newman, a drafted militia man. He was commanded on this occasion, at first by Captain McCarty but soon after reaching the Camp below Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg], I joined Captain George's Rifle Company – having my own rifle Major Reed commanded the scouting party. In the fall of 1781, he entered the service for two months to guard the prisoners at Winchester. this his last tour, he served two months under Captain Isaac Parsons, who was afterwards drowned in the South Branch of Potowmac [sic: Potomac]. He knew by sight, Gen Washington Gen. LaFayette Colonel Dark and many other regular officers, but he had no particular acquaintance with any of them. Michael Beddinger [sic: George Michael Bedinger, pension application W2992] late of Lower Blue Licks Kentucky, was Declarant's Adjutant on his last tour, in 1781. Declarant has no recollection of ever having had a written discharge. He expects to prove by Jesse Edwards [S17401] & Charles Osman [S4634] some general facts in relation to his service, above set forth, tho' not with much precision. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity, except the present and declares that

his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State. He served at least nine months

And to the following interrogatories put by the Court to the said Declarant as prescribed by the War Department, the subjoined answers were made viz.

1st Where and when were you born

I was born in Morris County in the State of New Jersey on the 9th of February 1760.

2nd Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

I have no record of my age except one made by myself about 12 or 15 years ago.

3rd Where were you living when called into the service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

At the time of first entering the service, I lived in Hunterdon County, New Jersey; in 1776, I removed to Bucks County, Pa. In 1780 I removed to Hampshire County Va. In 1781, I removed to Bourbon County Ky. In 1798 I removed to Adams County in which I have ever since resided

4th How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute; and if a substitute for whom?

I first entered the service as a volunteer; and I served three tours as a substitute; first for Ezekiel Rogers, next for Aaron Colvin, and last for David Newman, and last as a volunteer.

5th 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.

I was acquainted with Colonel Dark, Major McPherson, Major Reed. I have seen General Washington & Gen. LaFayette The names of Regiments I cannot state. Down near Richmond, the officers of my Company dined with Gen Lafayette. The general circumstances of my services I have stated. The prisoners whom I helped to guard under Capt. Parsons, were taken at Cornwallis's surrender [at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781].

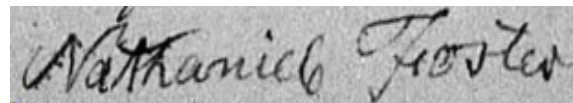
6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

I don't recollect that I ever received a written discharge from any officer under whom I served

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Jesse Edwards, Charles Osman, Simon Fuch, Thomas Black, Thomas Burkitt, Henry Aldred, William Wykoff, Joseph Collin, Moses Lockhart &c.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

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

NOTE: A Treasury-Department document states that the widow of Nathaniel Foster received his final pension payment up to 4 March 1841, possibly the date of his death.