

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Fowler S16809

Transcribed by Will Graves

f37NC

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[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.]

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State of North Carolina, County of Columbus: Superior Court of Law: Fall Term 1832

On this the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_, personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Moore Lennon, Bythell Hawes & Lot Williamson, Justices of the Peace for the County of Columbus, presiding in the Superior Court of and for said County, now sitting, John Fowler, a resident of the County of Columbus, and State of North Carolina, aged Eighty-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 7th, 1832:

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

Shortly after the commencement of hostilities in this part of the Country, but the year & month not recollect, he enlisted as a private (having received a bounty of three dollars and a pair of Boots) at Matthews' Old Field in the County of Sampson (then a resident of said County) for a service of six months in a company of Minute men of which Richard Clinton was Captain, Patrick Stewart, Lieutenant and one Bowen, Ensign. The company marched to Wilmington, North Carolina, and there joined another company of Minute men under the command of Captain James Love, both companies being commanded by Colonel James Kenan of Duplin County; that while at Wilmington, they were employed in scouting parties and various services against the Tories and in guarding the Town. That after remaining there a considerable time, intelligence was received that the Tories were marching towards that place; upon which the Minute man were marched out to oppose them and took up their station at Moore's Creek Bridge where we were joined by several Regiments of North Carolina Militia under General Caswell [Richard Caswell]. The morning after the junction, the Whigs were fired upon [by] the Tories from the opposite side of the Bridge [Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776]<sup>1</sup>. The fire was immediately returned and McLeod, the Tory Colonel and commanding officer, who was at the head of his men, was killed. A Captain Campbell of the Tories, called the Captain of the Broad swordsman, was also killed. Upon the fall of McLeod, the Tories immediately made a precipitate retreat. He received a discharge from Captain Clinton which he delivered to one Jeremiah Queen [?] in order to receive his pay for him. Queen has been long since dead & he knows [not] what has become of his Discharge.

2. He enlisted in the Army of the United States, the time not recollected, but at an early period of the War, for twelve months in a company of which Alfred Moore was Captain and in the first Regiment of the North Carolina line, on the Continental establishment, of which \_\_\_ Moore [Alfred Moore] was Colonel. He enlisted in Wilmington, North Carolina (being then a resident of Sampson County North Carolina). From Wilmington the Regiment marched to Charleston, South Carolina; after remaining

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_moores\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html)

there sometime, they returned to Wilmington and after having served the period for which he was enlisted, he was discharged and received a written discharge, which he afterwards gave to one Jeremiah Queen of South Carolina in order to get his pay. He never received any pay and Queen has been long since dead & he knows not what has become of the discharge.

3rd. About twelve months after his tour in the Continental service, he volunteered as a private, then residing in Sampson County, in a company of Militia commanded by Captain William Vann and of which one John Matthews was Lieutenant for a service of three months. Marched first to Blueford's Bridge on the North East River; thence up the North East River to a place called Holly Shelter where they were stationed some time. While stationed there, a detachment of British then under the command of Major Craig [James Craig] at Wilmington came out to attack the American force stationed at Holly Shelter. From inferiority of force, Captain Vann ordered a retreat and they were so closely pursued by the British as to be obliged to throw their ammunition in the River. The men under Captain Vann were ordered to disperse and return home. By the time he (Fowler) returned to Sampson, his term of service had expired. He received no written discharge. He was discharged as above stated. He has no documentary evidence of his service.

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 the agency of any state.

S/John Fowler, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed the day & a year aforesaid.

Answers by the applicant to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department as propounded to him by the Court:

1. In Sampson County (then Duplin) in the year 1747, as I have understood.
  2. I have not.
  3. In Sampson County, I resided about 20 years in Lancaster district South Carolina and since then in Columbus County North Carolina.
  4. I enlisted in the Minute service and in the Continental line and was a volunteer in the service last mentioned.
  5. This interrogatory is answered as far as I can recollect in the body of my declaration.
  6. I have answered the in her auto Tory fully in the body of my declaration.
  7. Edward Wilson, John Wilson, Duncan Sykes, Elijah Sellars, John Miles, Joshua Henson.
- [Luke R. Simmons & Joseph Nobles gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Columbus County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions November Term 1832  
Personally appeared in open Court this the 12th day of November 1832 Charles Hay,<sup>2</sup> who after being duly sworn according to law -- deposes as follows --

That he recollects that the applicant for a Pension, John Fowler, served with this deponent during the Revolutionary [war] in a company of Militia that were called into service for three months under the command of Captain William Vann Captain, and John Matthews, Lieutenant -- that they marched to Blueford's Bridge on the No. East River where they were stationed, until they were obliged to retreat before a superior force of the British from Wilmington, then in possession of that place. Further this Deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Charles Hay, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court

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<sup>2</sup> No federal pension application was filed by anyone of this name claiming service in NC.

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Personally appeared in Open Court this the 12th day of November in the year 1832 Ezekiel Hawes<sup>3</sup> who after being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, depose as follows --

That he was one of 8 Company of Sampson Militia, during the Revolutionary War, under the command of Captain William Vann, and Lieutenant John Matthews -- that John Fowler the applicant for a Pension, served in the same Company, and they marched together to Bluefort's Bridge on the No. East River -- where we completed there term of service & were discharged -- further this Deponent saith not.

S/ Ezekiel Hawes, X his mark

[p 8: On October 7, 1843, veteran applied for a transfer of his pension payments to Pike County, Alabama to which he removed in 1837; he says he moved to be nearer his children.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>3</sup> [Ezekiel Hawes R4760](#)