

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ledstone Noland S16992

f34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Missouri, County of Jackson} SS

On this fifth day of December 1833 personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace within and for the County of Jackson and the State of Missouri Ledstone Noland a resident of Blue Township in the County and State aforesaid aged Eighty-Three 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. "That he entered the service of the United States in August 1776 under the Command of General Griffith Rutherford and Colonel Francis Lock [Francis Locke] of the State of North Carolina and belonged to a Company commanded by Captain John Johnson of Rowan County North Carolina – he belonged to Captain John Johnson's [John Johnston's] Company before the call for men and resided at that time in Rowan County North Carolina, near the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin [River]. Captain Johnson had his Company divided into four classes at the above mentioned time there was a call for men. Captain Johnson took half of his company and went under the Command of the above named officers (to wit) General Rutherford and Colonel Locke from Rowan to the Catawba River in pursuit of the Cherokees.¹ I was one of those who went under Captain Johnson. The Indians had been committing depredations on the Catawba River. The Army pursued them as far as the Hiwassee River in the Indian Nation, which was about four hundred fifty miles. We crossed the French Broad River, Pigeon River and Tennessee River. The Indians fired at the Army wants between the Pigeon River & Tennessee and then fled, though after that they had several skirmishes with the South Carolinians. The South Carolina troops were commanded by Colonel James Wood² – General Rutherford crossed the Tennessee at a town called Watauga, but found no Indians there, at that place General Rutherford detailed 1000 or perhaps 1200 men, under the Command of Colonel Locke to go on to Hiwassee River, and on the march there he the said Noland was one of the number they met with some Indians killed 17 and took one Indian, two squaws and a boy prisoner-- one of the squaws said that a chief of the Indians "Maneater" by name had 500 Indians at his Camp on a certain Creek called Mahomelick. On this same day Colonel Wood from South Carolina had an engagement with the Indians and killed a large number lost some of his own man and got 32 wounded, when we reached the encampment on the Mahomelick the Indians were all gone, we found a house there full of shelled beans, which we burnt. The Indian women said that the Indians must be at a place called Creek Town, we marched on there found no Indians, cut down a quantity of Green Corn, the Horsemen were put out to Guard while we were cut the Corn. They caught a Negro boy, who told them that his

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

² Sic, the South Carolina forces in this campaign were commanded by Andrew Williamson. I am unable to identify an officer by the surname of Wood who served in this campaign.

Master Hicks and Scott his son in law with a large number of Indians were on their march retreating from us, two of the Horsemen came back to the Colonel and told this news, we took up the line of march about Dark and marched all night, next morning between daylight and sunrise we heard Bells, but knew not where our horsemen were, we soon heard firing and pushed to the place, we found Hicks and his wife wounded and some of his Negroes killed which was done by our Horsemen. The Horsemen pursued and took Scott and his family, but the Indians having no baggage fled out of the way, we then returned to Tennessee River to the Army under General Rutherford, we scouted about through the country for some time found very few Indians and then marched home to Rowan County – on this foregoing Expedition I served three months. In the beginning of the year 1777 (I commenced my services as a Fork Ranger under the command of the aforesaid Captain Johnson in which capacity I served not less than three years – the duties of these Troops that is the Fork Rangers was to protect and defend the country from the Depredations of the Tories as well as the British, we furnished our own provisions, horses &c – for which services I never received any compensation at intervals during this period of three years – I was engaged in a number of Expeditions against the Tories and the British a kind of predatory warfare). In the spring of the year 1780 – General Rutherford ordered Captain Johnson to raise a Company to assist in relieving Colonel Buford [Abraham Buford], who was pursued by the British Col. Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton], when he the said Noland went with him to Salisbury to General Matthew Locke's and there raised about 400 men, who went under the Command of Colonel Frank Locke to Charlotte with a view of covering the retreat of Col. Buford, whose troops were dreadfully mangled [Battle of Waxhaws, May 29, 1780] – we there met with Colonel Buford's troops returning on parole after their defeat and surrender to the British. After a short Scout among the Tories we returned home. I remained at home about two days and then proceeded on an Expedition to Colson's under Command of Captain Johnson to fight the Tories, we went on with him down the Yadkin below the trading Ford there fell in with a Company with General Davidson and some 60 or 70 miles below the road forked and the Troops were divided General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] and Captain Johnson took one road with about 100 men and Captain James Craig with the residue of the men took the other road-- he the said Noland was in the company commanded by Craig General Davidson commanded the whole – after they separated Davidson & Johnson took prisoner a Tory Lieutenant who informed them where the Tories were – they marched near to them that night and next morning early they had a fight [Colson's Mill, July 21, 1780] and General Davidson was severely wounded in the side though they whipped the Tories and being near to the British they returned but Captain Craig with whom he the said Noland was marched towards the firing and met General Davidson & Johnson's men retreating – after Davidson was wounded Colonel Locke commanded – we then all returned to the Battle Ground. The British & Tories came in sight and retreated. A party was detached to go in pursuit of the enemy Captain Johnson commanded and he the said Noland went with him to Mass Ferry [Mask's Ferry] they were informed that the enemy were on the far side of the River at Mass Ferry so they crossed the River some distance above the ferry and went down to the ferry but when we got there we found the Enemy on the opposite side of the River we fired across at them and killed eleven out of thirteen we then returned home – these two trips constitute not less than three months service – from this time until June 1781 I served as a fork Ranger under Captain Johnson as aforesaid.

In June 1781, I went to Wilmington under the Command of General Rutherford in a company commanded by Captain Gabriel Enox [Gabriel Enochs] -- Colonel Rutherford Sent Col. Smith [Robert Smith] (who commanded our Regiment) down on the South side of the Cape Fear River and he the said Noland went with said Smith and at the mouth of Cape Fear River opposite Wilmington, we attacked a large party of Tories and ran them into the River and destroyed in all about 400 General Rutherford then detached Col. Smith with his troops to

proceed on to a place called Lockwood's folly to guard against the British passing there I was on this Expedition and we remained there until General Rutherford recalled them to Wilmington the British having abandoned Wilmington upon receiving intelligence of the Surrender of Cornwallis – after hearing of the Surrender of Cornwallis, we were all dismissed and returned home. This constituted a tour of four months service. I left the service about the first of November 1781.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any State.

I was born in the County of Charles in the State of Maryland then a province of England in the year 1750.

I had a record of my age in a family Bible but it was left in North Carolina when I moved to the State of Kentucky.

When called into service I was living in North Carolina in the County of Rowan until the year 1800, and in the State of Kentucky until the year 1825. I live at present in Blue Township in the County of Jackson in the State of Missouri.

I was called into service three times by being drafted and afterward a volunteer, I was not a Substitute.

General Davidson, General Rutherford and Colonel Locke were part of the time with the Troops where I served the number of the Regiment I do not recollect. I was in service against the Indians at the Hiwassee and Tennessee Rivers and against the British at Colson's where General Davidson was wounded and also at Wilmington.

I never applied for or received a Discharge.

William Ferrel, Lilburn W. Boggs, Gan Johnson, Gabriel Fitzhugh, Henry Barker, Thomas Pitcher, Eli Glasscock and John Fitzhugh can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

S/ Ledstone Noland, X his mark

[William Ferrill, a clergyman, and Lilburn W. Boggs gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Charity Glasscock and Senah Parish also gave a supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]