

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Russel Twitty S17161

Transcribed by Will Graves

f24NC

rev'd 8/3/17

[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 Missouri, County of Franklin Sct.

On this day the fifth of February in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before William R. Ellett and John Gall Justices of the County Court of said County of Franklin now sitting Russel Twitty a resident of the Township of Boles in the County aged about 68 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 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated in the year 1780 this petitioner volunteered in the County of Rutherford in the State of North Carolina and joined the Company commanded by his brother William Twitty, the Battalion was commanded by Major Barber [John Barber] and the Regiment by Colonel William Graham.¹ The Company rendezvoused in Rutherford County. Sometime after this Petitioner joined said Company the British and Tories made an attack upon the troops of Col. Graham still stationed in Rutherford County at a place called Buffaloe in the fall of the year 1780, the enemy was defeated and retired from the battleground on the same day of the battle this petitioner was sent to the enemy a distance of about 3 miles with a flag for the purpose as this petitioner was informed to notified the enemy that they might have liberty to return and bury their dead in peace on the day after the battle that the enemy reinforced and again attacked the troop commanded by Colonel Graham still stationed at Buffaloe and the Americans were forced to retire and this petitioner was taken prisoner and kept for some days and was required by the British officer to discover some arms and munitions of war, that had been previously given up by the Tories in pursuance to a proclamation of said Colonel Graham – but this petitioner refused to make such discovery and after many days entreating him to do so, a British officer told this petitioner that he might go home and immediately after this petitioner reached home he again joined the Company commanded by his brother in the County of Lincoln State of North Carolina and afterwards was marched to the Catawba River under the Command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] to intercept the march of Cornwallis. The enemy were met at said River and as this petitioner understood a disagreement occurred between General Rutherford and Colonel Graham in relation to the probable place where the enemy would cross and the Colonel was arrested and remained so during the battle General Rutherford fell in this battle, this battle was fought in the year 1781² previous to the battle of Guilford, the British were not pursued by the Company to

1 [William Graham S8624](#)

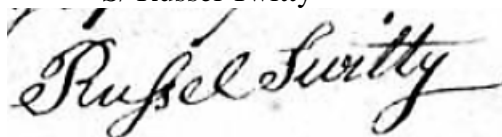
2 It sounds to me that the applicant is describing the opposition to Cornwallis' crossing the Catawba River on his march in pursuit of Nathanael Greene and his Army. Cornwallis crossed the Catawba on February 1, 1781. One point of crossing of at Cowan's Ford where General William Lee Davidson was killed while in command of his

which this petitioner belonged, and shortly after this, this petitioner received a discharge whether a written one or verbal is not recollected – serving in all nine months or upwards. This petitioner further states that he knows of no person & has no documentary evidence by which his services can be proven. This petitioner further states that he was born in Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina in the year 1762 as he believes that he has no record of age, that he has lived since the revolutionary war principally in the State of North Carolina and about 16 years in the State of Missouri And 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.

Sworn and subscribed to the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Wm G. Owens, Clk

S/ Russel Twitty

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russel Twitty". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Edmund Anderson and Henry Brown Dave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Missouri, County of Franklin} Sct.

On this sixth day of August in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before William or Ellett, Matthew Caldwell and John Gall Justices of the County Court of said County of Franklin now sitting – Russell Twitty – a Resident of said County aged about 70 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 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the year 1780 This Petitioner volunteered in the County of Rutherford in the State of North Carolina and joined a company commanded by his Brother William Twitty. The Battalion was commanded by Major Barber, and the Regiment by Colonel William Graham. The company rendezvoused at Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina. Some time after this Petitioner joined said company the British and Tories made a march on the troops of Col. Graham still stationed in Rutherford County at a place called Buffaloe in the fall of the year 1780. The Enemy was defeated and retired from the Battle Ground. On the same day after the Battle this Petitioner was sent to the Enemy a distance of about 3 miles with a flag for the purpose as this Petitioner was informed to notify the Enemy that they might have liberty to return and bury their dead in peace. On the day after the Battle the Enemy [was] reinforced and again attacked the troop commanded by Colonel Graham still stationed at Buffaloe and the Americans were forced to retire and this Petitioner was taken prisoner and kept for some days and was required by the British Officer to discover some arms and munitions of war that had been previously given up by the Tories in pursuance to a proclamation of said Colonel Graham. But this Petitioner refused to make such Discovery and after many days entreating him to do so the British officer told this Petitioner that he might go home – and immediately after this Petitioner

militia troop opposing the crossing at that point. It seems this applicant has confused Davidson with Rutherford. Rutherford was captured at the Battle of Camden in August 1780 and held as a prisoner of war in Charleston, SC until exchanged in June 1781. Consequently, Rutherford was not opposing Cornwallis at the Catawba in the winter of 1781. The disagreement the applicant describes must have occurred, if at all, between Davidson and Graham, not Rutherford and Graham.

reached home he again joined the Company commanded by his Brother in the County of Lincoln, State of North Carolina and afterwards was marched to the Catawba River under the command of General Rutherford to intercept the march of Cornwallis the Enemy were met at said River and as this Petitioner understood a disagreement occurred between General Rutherford and Colonel Graham in relation to the probable place where the enemy would cross and the Colonel was arrested and remained so during the Battle, General Rutherford fell in this Battle, this Battle was fought in the year 1781 previous to the Battle of Guilford: The British were not pursued by the Company to which this Petitioner belonged. And shortly after this, this Petitioner received a Discharge whether verbal or written is not recollected – serving in all nine months or upwards this Petitioner further states that he knows of no person and has no documentary Evidence by which his services can be proven. This Petitioner further states that he was born in Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina in the year 1762 as he believes that he has no record of his age that he has lived since the Revolutionary War principally in the State of North Carolina and about 16 years in the State of Missouri and he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the Pension roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Russel Twitty

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court, this sixth day of August, A.D. 1833

S/ W. G. Owens, Clerk

by S/ Jno. J. Porter, Deputy Clerk

[Edmund Anderson and Samuel Short gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And the court propounded to the said Russell Twitty following interrogatories, to wit:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina about the year 1762.

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

Answered by Twitty: I have no record of my age

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

Answered by Twitty: I lived in Rutherford County North Carolina when I volunteered in the service, from the date of the revolutionary war, until the year 1819, I lived in the State of North Carolina from the year 1819 until the present time I have lived in the State of Missouri and am now living in the County of Franklin in the State of Missouri.

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

Answer by Twitty: I volunteered into the service

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer of said Twitty: General Rutherford and Colonel Graham were with the troops where I served, I think they were Regular officers General Rutherford & Colonel Graham were in the Service a considerable time before I entered the service at the Battle [of] Catawba there were several regiments, but I don't recollect what regiments they were General Rutherford commanded the whole force which I think were chiefly all together militia previous to that battle there were no other regiments with us and our Regiment was commanded by Colonel Graham, after the battle at the Catawba River Colonel Graham ceased to command the Regiment and Col. Dickson as I was informed was commissioned to command our Regiment after the battle at the Catawba the militia composing Graham's Regiment returned to their homes and were never afterwards collected together as he believes, the war shortly after having ceased.

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

has become of it?

Answer of said Twitty: No discharge was given to me except this that after the battle [of] Catawba the officers discharged the men composing the Regiment for a short time to go to their homes and to return whenever called on to this duty in the Regiment, but they were never called together again by the officers the war shortly thereafter ceased

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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer by said Twitty: I am known to Edmund Anderson and Samuel Short & many others who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution.

The above named Russel Twitty being duly sworn – saith – that the above answers by him made to the above interrogatories propounded to him by the court are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this sixth day of August 1833.

S/ W. G. Owens, Clerk

S/ Russel Twitty

by S/ Jno. J. Porter, Deputy Clerk

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