

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Wiggins S1739

fn23¹NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/10/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 55]

State of Tennessee Montgomery County: Circuit Court August Term 1832

On the 22nd day of August personally appeared before the Judge of the 5 Judicial Circuit for the State of Tennessee sitting for Montgomery County William Wiggins a resident of Montgomery State of Tennessee aged seventy-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 Army of the United States the first of April 1781 by enlisting for the term of one year with Captain Hargrove in the Continental line, that he served in the __ Regiment under the following named officers, That he was taken by Captain Hargrove beyond Smithfield North Carolina he was then put under the command of Colonel William Linton & was united to Captain Benj Greens² Company, not long after Colonel Linton was broke for executing some Tories improperly he was then put under the command of Colonel Kinyon [sic, probably James Kenan, a militia Colonel] near Wilmington; and was in the Battle at Rockfish Creek³ near Wilmington and was wounded in his right thigh a little above the knee. The Americans were routed, they then fell back to Neuse River near Smithfield and remained on Neuse River until after we heard of the capture of Corn Wallace [sic, Cornwallis] at Little York after this news came that the British had left Wilmington, we were then discharged, but from the fight at Rockfish Creek our Colonel had never again found us, & the Major that was there whose name I have forgot told us we might [?] be discharged for further orders. I never had a regular discharge owing to the circumstances before mentioned. At the time I enlisted I lived near Roanoke River County of Halifax North Carolina.

There is no person now living by whom I can prove my service, the last of my fellow soldiers, that lived anywhere in this Country that I knew of to wit General R. Carmy [?] &

¹ At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

² The war department interpreted this name as "Berry Grimes."

³ There were at least two engagements at Rockfish in North Carolina during the revolution. The first occurred on may 13, 1781 [one <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rockfish.htm>] and the second on August 2nd, 1781 [<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rockfish2.htm>].

Thomas Bayless died a few years since Thomas Bayless was commissary for our Regiment. 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 or territory. Sworn to and subscribed the 22nd day of August 1832 in Open Court.

Test:

S/ P. N. Marr, Clerk

S/ William Wiggins

[Robert McCorkle, a clergyman and Dawson Baylis⁴ gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[The handwriting of the scribe of the following document is totally abominable -- use this transcription with extreme caution and care.]

[fn p. 21]

State of Tennessee Montgomery County: Circuit Court August Term 1833

The explanatory statement of Will [could be intended to be "Wm"] Wiggins to his declaration heretofore made at the Circuit Court for the County of Montgomery at the August Term of said Court 1832 -- to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

Declarant states that he entered the service -- at the time mentioned in his former declaration which this is intended to amend and explain -- which Time was the first of August 1781 -- and that he remained in the service of the United States under the officers as before stated in his declaration heretofore made until the capture of Cornwallis which declarant alleges and states to have been on the 18th day of October 1781 -- which would make the time this declarant served -- six months and fifteen days -- declarant here states that he was discharged -- as before stated in his declaration heretofore made -- and that he enlisted as a common soldier and served as such until the discharge was given after the capture of Cornwallis -- by the Major heretofore referred to in his former declaration declarant states that he thinks the Major's name was Griffin but he cannot at this time certainly recollect his name -- Declarant here further answers to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department --

Interrogatory 1st

where and in what year were you born -- Ans I was born in this State of North Carolina in the County of Martin -- I cannot state in what year I was born -- precisely I now think I am in and about 73 or 74 years of age --

Interrogatory 2 -- Have you any record of your age -- and if so where is it --

Ans I have no record of my age -- I derived my information of my age from an elder sister

Interrogatory 5th

State the names of some of the your 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 -- as an answer to this interrogatory the department is referred to the body of my declaration heretofore made -- which gives the names of the officers under whom I served and also the general circumstances of my service as far as I can now recollect --

Interrogatory 7th

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who certify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the -- In answer to this interrogatory the department is referred to the certificate of Robt. McCorkle -- a clergyman and Dawson Bayless who are his neighbors -- & are known this declarant ever since [he] came to the state of Tennessee from the state of North Carolina

⁴ This appears to be the way this individual actually signed his name as opposed to the way the scribe spelled his name in the body of the document.

S/ William Wiggins

[attested by Peter N. Marr, Clerk]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 6 months and 13 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]