

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Freeman S1760

Transcribed by Will Graves

f11NC

rev'd 6/17/15

[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 Tennessee Williamson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions April session A.D. 1833.

On this 6th day of April A.D. 1833, personally [appeared] before us; Wm Johnson, Christopher E. McCouroy & Gilbert Marshall, Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter sessions held for the County of Williamson, John Freeman, a resident of said County & State aged 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 provisions of an Act of Congress passed the 7th day of June A.D. 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

I was born in the State of North Carolina in Onslow or Hanover [sic, New Hanover] County, I do not recollect which, in the year 1763 where I lived but a short time, my father moving with his family soon after my birth to Craven County in the same State where I lived until I was 11 or 12 years old when I moved to Jones County in the same State where I lived when I was first drafted the first day of March in the year 1780, & rendezvoused at a small town named Kingston [sic, Kinston] on the tenth day of March 1780. My Capt. was William Blanks, my Majors were Bonner & Brickell. I was marched under Gen. Caswell [Richard Caswell] with other troops from Kinston, Lenore [sic, Lenoir] County (N.C.) to the State of South Carolina crossing Peedee [sic, Pedee River], & Congaree [River] at Friday's Ferry. We set out for the aid of Charleston. Then we marched towards Charleston & got in about 35 miles of that place when we heard of the surrender of Charleston to the British. We then went down the Congaree & crossed Santee River & encamped at the high hills of Santee for a short time. We then marched on by Camden & then to Cross Creek on Cape Fear River now Fayetteville. There we remained until we were discharged which was three months from the time we crossed the South Carolina line. We were discharged in three months time from the time we crossed the (S.C.) line making at least three months & a half service but my discharge was but for three months signed by Capt. Blanks.

I returned home & in the spring of 1781 I entered as a substitute in the place of James Tippet into Capt. James Green's company & served a three month tour. This company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Avery [Francis Avery] who was under General Linnonton [sic, John Alexander Lillington]. The purpose of this expedition was against the British at Wilmington. We marched to Bluford Bridge [Beaufort Bridge] where we encamped & lay some time in consequence of the weakness of our force it not being sufficient to attack the enemy. I think we remained stationed here till my tour of three months aforesaid was out. Joseph Roads [sic, Joseph Thomas Rhodes] who had taken the company under his command in the place of Capt. Green [James Green] signed my discharge which together with my former is now lost.

I next while living at the same place, volunteered under Capt. William George who commanded a company against the Tories. I served one month & a half under Capt. George when he gave up his place to Daniel Simmons who commanded in his place. I served one month & a half under this latter

Capt. And he signed my discharge for three months. This tour took place about the time Cornwallis was going from Wilmington to Newbern [sic, New Bern], a short time before his surrender. We had several slight skirmishes with the Tories. I claim a pension for nine months & a half service. All my discharges are lost. I state Esqr. Anthony Jordan, Col. Newton Cannon, Samuel Perkins, Edmond Lawrence, Bartel Yergin, James Goat, Esqr., my neighbors to whom I refer as to my moral character & veracity & their belief of my service in the Revolution. There were no other officers except those named but Col. Kinion [James Kenan] who was with the troops where I served. Col. Kinion was with the troops in my first tour.

I was 17 years old the 5th of January 1779 & was drafted in March following. I had been bound out to an old man by the name of Thomas Doolan who kept me from being drafted when I was 16 years old. I have no documentary evidence of my service. I know of no person who can prove my service as stated. I have a record of my age in my son's family Bible taken from my father's. I lived in Jones County till after the Revolution when I moved to Warren County, Georgia, from which I moved to Tennessee 23 years ago & settled in Williamson County where I have been being ever since & now live.

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present & declare my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State.

S/ John Freeman, X his mark

Subscribed to & sworn in open court 5th April 1833

S/ Thos. Hardemon, Clk.

[Thomas L. Douglas, a clergyman & Nicholas Scales gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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