

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ashur Reaves S17649

f46VA/NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/12/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

The State of Ohio Green [Greene] County Court of Common Pleas of the Term of November 1832

Greene County/ Personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas aforesaid at the above Term and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November A.D. 1832 Ashur Reaves a resident of Silver Creek Township in this County of Greene aforesaid aged Seventy 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 9<sup>th</sup> [sic, 7<sup>th</sup>], 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as hereinafter stated. He states in the year 1778 to the best of his recollection and belief and in the Summer of that year and month he thinks in about the month of \_\_\_ he entered the service of the U.S. And was drafted for a tour of three months and marched under the command of Captain Comes his first name was George; the names of the other company officers if they had any he does not recollect from Halifax County and state of Virginia to Petersburg Virginia. He remained but a short time at Petersburg and the company not being needed at that time and place the company of Captain Comes was ordered on to Halifax County and each member of the company went to his own house but was not discharged but continued to muster once in every two weeks but was not called to march into active Service until the expiration of the three months for which they were drafted and were then discharged in writing by the Captain. He was in active service on this tour about three or four weeks and at the time he was drafted he lived with his Father in the County of Halifax and about 12 miles from Halifax Court House and ~~near what was called the Mulberry fields on the~~ on a Creek called Sandy Creek. Shortly after he was discharged as above stated himself and his father moved to the County of Wilkes in the State of North Carolina and about 2 miles from Wilkes Court House on the Yadkin River where he lived until the fall of 1789 and as well as he recollects about the month of October or September when he again entered the Service of the United States as a substitute for a man by the name of Fuller who had been drafted as he said for a tour of three months; under Captain Gordon whose name was either George or Charles and he cannot say which. He marched under the Command of Captain Gordon to Salem N. C. and there joined two other companies and they were taken command of by Major Hartgrove and they were employed in scouting through the surrounding country – some times all in a body and some times in separate companies. They marched as far as

Camden S. Carolina and were at one time united with other troops at that place, but for a short time only. The object was to prevent the Tories in that part of the Country from embodying themselves and conveying intelligence and provisions to the British. The Tories it was said were headed by the Celebrated Fannen [sic, David Fanning] who produced great disaffection among the Citizens in that part of the State. Major Hartgroves lived near the father of this applicant in Wilkes County. At the expiration of three months the Company of Captain Gordon marched home were in no battle of any kind and were discharged by Captain Gordon but not in writing.

In a few days after he returned home he enlisted as it was then called for a Term of three months in Wilkes County and went out again on horseback under the same Captain Gordon against the Tories – the Company of Captain Gordon was about 50 in number and he traversed over the most part of the State of N. Carolina, were at Camden in S. Carolina and on the Congree [sic, Congaree] and Enneree [sic, Enoree] Rivers and on Misery Creek and were at one time in hearing of the cannon of Cornwallis's Army at Charleston when that place was attacked or it supposed to be at that place. Captain Gordon fell in with a company of 12 or 13 Tories in the neighborhood of a small Town near the line between North & South Carolina; they were engaged in making Guns for the Tories. Captain Gordon took them or a part of them and condemned and hung three of them all on a limb and marched off and left them hanging. Shortly after this the three months expired in the company was discharged but not in writing and he returned home to Wilkes County.

In about one week he again volunteered and entered the service on horseback to go against the Tories who had collected to a considerable number at a place called the Shallow ford on the Yadkin River and marched out under Captain Cleveland. Colonel Gordon had command of the expedition and had about 300 men under his command. Colonel Gordon overtook them at the Shallow ford he packed and killed several and the balance were dispersed. He then returned home to Wilkes County and was discharged. He was absent from home on this expedition about three or four weeks.

He remained at home about three weeks and again entered the service as a volunteer horseman for no particular time and immediately went out against the Tories under the command of Captain Isbell. They marched to Salem and scouted in that neighborhood for about four weeks but finding no enemy Captain Isbell returned home and the applicant was discharged and returned home. There was about 50 men in Captain Isbell's company. He states that he remained at home at a few weeks he does not recollect certainly but thinks but two or three and again enlisted for a tour of three months under Captain William Nawls [probably William Nall] and this Company met at and started from Salem and marched under Captain Nawls on foot and joined the Main Army under General Gates [Horatio Gates] near Camden S. Carolina. This Company consisted of about 100 men and was not attached to any particular Regiment but were employed as a company of light and independent troops as spies and scouts. Shortly after he arrived the battle of Camden was fought [August 15-16, 1780] in which Gates was defeated, the fight was commenced by the company of Captain Nawls. After the defeat of Gates by Cornwallis he never saw either General Gates or Captain Nawls. The whole Army was scattered and the Militia was never formed after the battle. A few of the Militia that went from Wilkes County got together and returned homeward together; but before they reached home he volunteered to join the Army of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]

near Guilford Court House where he had a battle with the British but this applicant did not arrive until three days after the Battle he joined the Army of General Greene at Salisbury and marched with the Army as far as Halifax County North Carolina as it was retreating before Cornwallis's Army.

He states that he again entered the service as a volunteer under the command of Captain Cleveland [could be either John or Robert Cleveland, both of whom were captains of militia at King's Mountain] to guard some prisoners taken at King's Mountain and he volunteered shortly after the battle of King's Mountain. The prisoners were with brought to Wilkes County Court House by Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] the Father of Captain Cleveland and this applicant remained with the prisoners about two weeks at Wilkes Court House. They consisted of about 20 British and 20 Tories and they were then carried to Salisbury in North Carolina and he remained there about six weeks and was then discharged and returned home. The date of this last time he entered the service he cannot state with greater certainty than by saying it was shortly after the Battle of King's Mountain. Since the performance of the above services, he states that he has resided in Halifax County aforesaid about 16 years and was married in that County and moved from there into Hawkins County and State of Tennessee and lived about 11 years on the lands of William Cock [William Cocke] who was for many years a member of Congress from that State and lived in the State of Tennessee in all about 13 years. He moved from there to the State of Ohio the year that the late war was commenced with Great Britain and has lived in the County where he now resides about 20 years. He can neither read nor write and has no record of his age.

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 and that he has no documentary evidence of his services and that he knows of no person by whom he can prove his services above stated or any part thereof.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court November 23, 1832.

S/ J. Y. Grover, Clk

S/ Ashur Reaves, X his mark

[William Sutton, a clergyman, and Christopher Hussey gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 42]

The State of Ohio Green County Court of Common Pleas of the Term of April 1833

Green County: SS: Personally appeared in open court at the above Term before the Judges of the Court aforesaid on the 6th day of May 1833 Asher Reaves the same person who appeared in said Court at the Term of November 1833 and under oath doth make the following additional statement and explanation of the statement been made by him in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

He states that for the first Tour mentioned in his former declaration he was drafted as he verily believes from having refresh his memory in the month of May 1778 but what time in that month he cannot state and he did not leave the service until the expiration of three months from the time of his enlistment but was employed as his former applications states. In the statement formally made there is one mistake which he is now confident he made or which was made in drawing his declaration in which he entirely overlooked. The Declaration states that the second time he entered the service it was in the month of September or October 1789. He now states that there is a mistake of the year and that

statement of the Service and he now states that in the month of September or October 1779 & he cannot state the time with more old greater certainty and he served as he has before stated. He left the service after having performed the three months tour secondly above stated. He has in two or three instances in his original declaration stated that he served for three or four weeks he was particular not to state the time longer than he did actually serve & he was particular that he had served at least so long as the shortest time named.

He states that he has described his services and their dates with as much certainty as it is in his power to do. He has never been able to read or write and cannot have the benefit of any writing or other record and is left holy to the frailty of his memory.

He knows that he did serve and where he served the dates are out of his memory.

He states that he was born in the County of Prince William County Virginia and as well as he can recollect and as he believes in the year 1757.

He has no record of his age.

He has stated & now states that when first called into service he lived in Halifax County Virginia & at all the other times when he was called out he lived in Wilkes County North Carolina. He has stated how he was called into service in his original declaration.

He cannot state the officers nor the troops with whom he served nor the general circumstances more accurately than he has stated in his original application. The discharge mentioned in his original application was signed by the Captain and that discharge he has long since lost. He never had any other discharge.

He can prove by Isaac Lenord [Isaac Leonard?] Esq. Benj. Story or as he believes almost anyone of his neighbors that he is a man of veracity & that he is in their opinion a Soldier of the Revolution.

S/ Asher Reaves, X his mark

[f p. 11: letter dated November 14, 1859 sent from North Star, Darke County Ohio from Sarah Hadley addressed to the 3rd auditor of the US Treasury instructing him to pay to Elizabeth Cottrell for "for my use my share of the arrears due my late father Ashur Reaves decedent."]

[f p. 13: letter dated November 22nd, 1859 sent from Sumption Prairie, St. Js. Co. Ind. from Obediah Reaves addressed to the 3rd auditor of the U.S. Treasury instructing him to pay to Mrs. Elizabeth Cottrell "my share of the balance of pension due my late father Ashur Reaves."]

[f p. 14: power of attorney dated November 3, 1859 in Greene County of Ohio given by Elizabeth Cottrell in which she describes herself as a widow and the daughter of the late Ashur Reaves; that her father died July 31 1845 while a resident of Greene County Ohio where he had lived about 36 years; that her father was survived by only the following children the said Elizabeth Cottrell of Bowersville, Greene County of Ohio, Obadiah Reeves of Sumption Prairie, Saint Joseph County Indiana and Sarah Hadley a widow and resident of North Star Darke County Ohio.]

[Facts in file: A letter summarizing the contents of this file contains the statement that the veteran married in Halifax County North Carolina; the name of his wife and the date of their marriage are not stated. I did not see any reference to the fact of his marrying in Halifax County, NC in the file and wonder if that is a misstatement and that he married in Halifax County, VA.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$73.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 18 months in the Virginia & North Carolina militia.]