

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Malaby S1772

Transcribed by Will Graves

f19NC

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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 Tennessee, Bledsoe County: County Court February Term 1833

On this eleventh day of February in the year 1833 personally appeared in open court before the worshipful Justices of the County Court of Bledsoe County, now sitting, John Malaby a resident of the County of Bledsoe aforesaid and State of Tennessee aged eighty-four 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the State of North Carolina in Dobbs County he volunteered and entered the service in the company commanded by Captain Bryant [William Bryant] with whom he marched to Wilmington where he was stationed under the command of General Caswell [Richard Caswell], Colonel Abram Shepherd and Major John Shepherd, until he was discharged which was at the end of a three months tour. Declarant is unable to state the year he performed this tour but knows it was in the beginning of the war. He is very old & infirm both in body & mind having been a pauper in Bledsoe County for the last six years. Beside the above named tour he served four others, but cannot now remember which came first in order of time. One of said tours which was for three months he served at Salisbury under the command of General Butler [John Butler] Colonel Collier [John Collier]. He thinks Captain Haven [James Haven], and Lieutenant Thomas Sison -- for this tour of duty he has a discharge which he is told is dated 15th December 1780 (being unable to read himself) and which was a tour of three months and performed as a volunteer. He was on another tour, (having entered the service for it, & the last preceding tour in Wake County) under the command of Major Hinton [sic, Lieutenant Colonel James Hinton], who was during the tour appointed Colonel -- Captain Lewis Blecher [sic, Lewis Bledsoe]¹-- & Lieutenant Jacob Blecher [sic, Jacob Bledsoe]² his brother -- General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] was the chief commander -- this tour declarant was in service in North Carolina until near the expiration of his time which was to have been for three months & performed in the State but he was marched into South Carolina and to Charleston and kept in the service he cannot swear to the precise length of time but at least five months -- he is satisfied it was more. He was in Charleston & marched out of it on the evening of the 24th of March³ just at dark & on the same night the British took possession of it, he cannot remember the year, but it was the time the British took Charleston. He was marched from Charleston to either Moncks

1 [Lewis Bledsoe W17315](#) Lewis Bledsoe is known to have served as a captain in the Wake County militia during the period of time preferred to by this applicant, and Bledsoe's brother, Jacob, is known to have served as an ensign or lieutenant under him.

2 [Jacob Bledsoe S3012](#)

3 Charleston fell to the British on May 12, 1780, not on March 24, 1780 as stated by this applicant.
<http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

Corner, or the "25 mile house[", he is not certain which, and was there discharged. Another tour of duty he performed, having again entered the service in Wake County, as a volunteer in the troop of light horse commanded by Captain Wood [Solomon Wood] and Col. Malmedy's [Francis de Malmedy's, Marquis of Bretagne] Regiment under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. He turned out this time for a three months tour, General Greene stated that those who would find their own horses & equip themselves for the light horse should serve for two months which should answer for a three months tour. Declarant served for two months considering it the same as a three months tour in the foot – and was discharged by Major Henderson on the 22nd day of April 1781 – this tour he was principally stationed at Guilford court house, He was out on a scouting party with the light horse at the time of the Battle and was not in it – he was in hearing of the guns. He herewith sends his original discharge from this tour of duty, and his tour at Salisbury. For the other term of his service he states he entered the service again in Wake County in the company commanded by Captain Hye (or High) [Robert High] who was under General Butler. He was marched down to within two miles of Wilmington where he was encamped when the news of Cornwallis's defeat [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] was received at the camp. He was then & there finally discharged from the service. He had this time been drafted for three months, but did not serve the tour out. He can state positively that he was this tour in the service at least two months. Having in all served fifteen months, or sixteen months if his two months service in the light horse will be considered as three, the time for which he volunteered – And all performed in the capacity of a private soldier.

He has no documentary evidence of his service except the discharges herewith transmitted, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to it.

And he was born in the town of Newbern [sic, New Bern] in the State of North Carolina about the year 1748. He has no record of his age but has, as well as he could, preserved in his memory the account given him by his parents.

When called into the service for his first tour he lived in Dobbs County State of North Carolina – when he entered the service for his other tours he lived in Wake County, same State. He volunteered for three month for three tours and was drafted one, one he was a substitute for James Lea. He has stated the names of his officers, and the general circumstances of his service as well as he can. He received discharges for all his service but has lost all but two, which is herewith transmits.

He is known in his present neighborhood to John Dalton, a clergyman, John Sears and Josiah R. Allen & Samuel Billingsly who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief in his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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.

He continued to live in Wake County North Carolina for about seven or eight years after the war – from there he moved to Anderson County Tennessee where he lived better than two years – from there he moved to this (Bledsoe) County, where he has lived ever since & still lives.

S/ John Malaby, X his mark

[John Dalton, a clergyman, John Sears, Josiah R. Allen and Samuel Billingsley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

“1781 22nd April

I hereby witness that John Malleby a Volunteer Soldier in Capt. Wood's Troops of Horse in Col. Malmedy's Regiment has served a Tour of Duty, therefore the sd. Mallnby is disch^d

S/ Henderson⁴
Majr. Commdr”

1794 20th April
I hereby certify
that John Malaby a Volunteer
Sergeant in Capt. [unclear] Troop
of [unclear] Regiment, has served a Tour
of Duty, therefore the s^d Malaby
is discharged.
S/ Henderson
Major Commdr

“John Malaby Discharged from his Tour of duty by Genl. Butler's Orders
Salisbury 15th Dec. S/ Thos. Sison, Lt.”

John Malaby is Discharged
from his Tour of duty by
Genl. Butler's Orders
Salisbury 15th Dec. Thos. Sison Lt.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina militia.]

⁴ J. D. Lewis identifies three men surnamed "Henderson" who all served under Malmedy in the NC Light Dragoons. They are John Henderson, Pleasant Henderson and Samuel Henderson. See http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_majors.html and search "Henderson."