

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Spears S1779

f15VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/24/12

[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.]

State of Tennessee Bedford County: On this 12th day of November 1832 personally appeared in the Open Court of pleas and quarter Sessions of the County and State aforesaid before James Brittain, Samuel Phillips and John B Armstrong Justices of the peace in members of the Court aforesaid Samuel Spears a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy-two 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as follows – in the State of Virginia in Albemarle County he entered the United States Army as a drafted man under Captain Benjamin Harriss [Benjamin Harris] and was stationed at Albemarle Barracks called to guard the prisoners called Burgoyne's prisoners from that tour he was discharged he thinks in about one month, he then entered the Service as a Substitute for a certain James Moore of that County for a three month tour under Captain John Toliver James Barret [Barrett?, could be James Basset] Lieutenant we marched to Richmond where he thinks the company was attached to the 1st Regiment of Virginia commanded by Colonel Richardson under General Nelson from there Applicant states the troops marched down James River where they were reinforced and continued to March to different points at length they marched near to Williamsburg to a place called the old Magazine where he was discharged for his three months tour. After this Applicant entered the Service again for himself as a Drafted man under Captain Martin and was marched first to guard the Ford on the North fork of James River in order to guard Charlottesville should the creation come to that Ford but applicant says the British crossed at another place and he was in the town when Charlottesville was taken and the legislator [Legislature] driven after which the troops were immediately sent in pursuit of them and applicant was with the troops in the pursuit down to Little York and helped to build breastworks at that place his first Captain being promoted to the command of Major and a certain Nat. Ton [?]<sup>1</sup> commanded as Captain. Applicant recollects that he belonged to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Linseyh [probably Reuben Lindsay] a Colonel from his own County at little York he got his discharge for his three months tour and after he got home he heard Wallace [Cornwallis] was taken [October 19, 1781] – So that he thinks his discharge could not have been more than seven or eight days previous to Corn Wallace's [Cornwallis'] Surrender. Applicant has no documentary evidence to refresh his memory and knows of no living testimony that he could procure to testify to his actual Service

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*Nat. Ton*

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 or Territory of the United States.

S/ Samuel Spears, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in Open court on this [[certification ends here]

[James Y. Green, a clergyman, and James Patterson, Esquire gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. In Albemarle County State of Virginia in the year 1760

Q 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have from my Father's family record

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

Ans. In Albemarle County State of Virginia I was called into service I have lived in the State of North Carolina since but am now living in Tennessee Bedford County

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

Ans. I was drafted, volunteered & substituted for James Moore

Q 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Ans. I recollect no officers nor regiments more than I have set forth in my declaration

Q 6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I recollect of receiving no written discharge

Q 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

James Patterson Esquire, James Y. Green, Jos. Resson, Esqr., Hugh McClelan, &c.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 1/2 months in the Virginia militia.]