

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John O'Sheals (O'Shields) S18146

f12SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/21/10 & 6/2/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of South Carolina }

Spartanburg District }

On this 26th day of September A.D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two personally appeared in open Court being the court of Session & Common pleas for the District of Spartanburg now sitting, before John B. O'Neal presiding judge, John O'Sheals a resident of the State and District aforesaid aged seventy-one 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as is herein stated. He drafted & went into service in the Spring of 1777 under Captain Thomas Blasingame in Colonel William Wofford's Regiment in Union District, South Carolina; he marched from Union District into the lower part of South Carolina, crossed the Savannah River below Augusta & went into the State of Georgia to a fort about twenty-five miles from Augusta, which was in the possession of the Tories, for the purpose of taking the fort, but the Tories left there before Colonel Wofford's Regiment reached there. He was then marched back, re-crossed the Savannah River near Ebenezer into South Carolina where he remained opposing the Tories, sometime, when he was marched back to Union District until the latter part of the winter of 1780 when he again drafted & went into service under the command of Captain Thomas Blasingame, Lieutenant Samuel Jackson, Major Bullock's Battalion in the regiment commanded by Colonel Stean [sic, James Steen], marched to Liberty Hill in Edgefield District opposite to Augusta, Georgia where he remained guarding prisoners until the expiration of six months when he was dismissed & returned home where he remained a few months. When he drafted again & went into service under Captain Thomas Blasingame, Major Ford's Battalion in the regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Blasingame. He then marched toward Charleston to the Ten Mile House where he was stationed for the purpose of protecting the City. He remained there a few months, was marched back to Union District & was dismissed having served six months. He then remained at home a month or two & entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Thomas Blasingame in Colonel Brandon's regiment & marched to Augusta, Georgia - from there he was marched toward Savannah & met with Colonel Hammond's [Leroy Hammond's] regiment about four miles from Augusta. The two regiments marched on toward Savannah until they met General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] army about the last of May or first of June 1779. General Lincoln took the command and marched back across the Savannah River into South Carolina & on to Parkers Ferry on Edisto River where the

army remained a few days, when General Lincoln with the main army crossed the river & marched on toward Charleston. He remained under the command of Captain Blasingame to guard the ferry until his term of service expired which was seven months when he was dismissed & returned home where he remained but a very short time when he was deceived by the Tories & went & joined General ~~Greene's~~ Morgan's army at Smith's Ford on the Broad River in Union District in the Fall of 1779 [sic, 1780] as a volunteer in Captain John Thomson's company, Major McJunkin's Battalion in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Brandon; marched from there to the Grindal Shoals on the Pacolet River where the army halted & remained about two or three months; from which place he was marched in a detachment under the command of Colonel Hayes in the direction of Ninety-Six in pursuit of a party of Tories under the command of a Major Lanthrope, which party Colonel Hayes met & defeated in Laurens District. When he returned to the main army at the Grindal Shoals, General (Daniel) Morgan lay there until news reached him that the British army under Colonel Tarleton were pursuing him. He then retreated with the army into Spartanburg District to the Cowpens, where the army was halted & preparations made for the Battle which commenced early the next morning being the 18th January 1781 [sic, January 17, 1781] which terminated in the defeat of the British army. This deponent then went to Salisbury, North Carolina as one of a guard who carried the prisoners to that place & delivered them to the American army then stationed there. He returned to South Carolina about the last of February & was dismissed having served about five months; he remained at home but a very short time when he again joined the same company in Colonel Brandon's regiment with the same officers & in the Spring of 1781 marched to the siege of Ninety-Six where he joined General Pickens; they remained around Ninety-Six, now Cambridge, until the news reached them that a strong reinforcement of the British army under Lord Rawdon was advancing. General Greene then quit the siege & retreated with Colonel Brandon's Regiment, to which this deponent belonged, Greene's army & returned home where he was dismissed having served about two or three months. This deponent then moved to Spartanburg District & joined Colonel Benjamin Roebuck's regiment in Major John Ford's Battalion in the company commanded by Captain Joseph Wofford in which company he was elected 1st Lieutenant & as a Lieutenant he served in Colonel Roebuck's regiment in South Carolina skirmishing with the Tories from the Spring or first of the Summer in 1781 until the end of his revolutionary career which terminated with the war, which time was, he thinks, about 18 months or two years. After the termination of the revolutionary struggle, this deponent settled himself in Spartanburg District, South Carolina where he has lived ever since.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the pension & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Ans. 1<sup>st</sup> : Born in North Carolina about the year 1761.

Ans. 2<sup>nd</sup> : I have a true record of my age in a family bible in the possession of my sister which belonged to my father.

Ans. 3<sup>rd</sup> : Was living in Union District, S.C. & removed to Spartanburg about the time of Tarleton's defeat where I now live & have lived ever since the revolutionary war.

Ans. 4<sup>th</sup> : Was drafted (for full answer see declaration)

Ans. 5<sup>th</sup> : See declaration

Ans. 6<sup>th</sup> : Never received a written discharge nor held a commission

Ans. 7<sup>th</sup> : In support of my declaration and my character as a man of veracity, I refer to William Smith, Jethro O'Sheals & James Howard who knew me in the service of the United States in the war of the revolution.

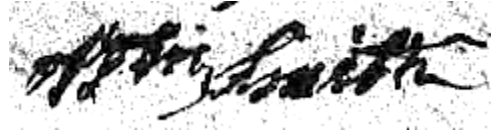
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John O'Sheals, his mark

South Carolina Spartanburg District

I William Smith<sup>1</sup> residing in the State & District aforesaid hereby certify, that I am well acquainted with John Osheals present applicant for a pension, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be seventy-one years of age, that I knew him in the time of the revolutionary war & saw him in the service of his country at Bacon's Bridge under the command of Major Ford and Pickens' Brigade about the year 1782: & I do hereby further certify that the said John Osheals is reputed & believed in the neighborhood in which he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution etc.

S/ Wm Smith

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Smith", written in a cursive style.

South Carolina Spartanburg District: I Jethro Osheals<sup>2</sup> residing in the State & district aforesaid hereby certify that I am well acquainted with John Osheals who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration that I believe him to be seventy-one years of age; then I knew him in the revolutionary war and served under him as first Lieutenant in Captain Joseph Wofford's Company in a campaign of six months on Spirit Creek in the State of Georgia after the fall of Savannah; & do hereby further certify that the said John Osheals is reputed and believed in the neighborhood in which he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution

S/ Jethro Osheals, S his mark

State of South Carolina Union District: Personally came James Howard<sup>3</sup> before me the Subscribing Justice and being duly sworn saith upon oath that he was and am now well acquainted with John Osheals and this deponent further states on oath that John Osheals was in the Revolutionary Service he marched in the month of November to Charleston & was stationed at or near the Ten Mile House he marched in Colonel Thomas Brandon's Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel James Steen and he got his discharge in the month of February following and in May following Cornwallis took Charleston and this deponent also states that John Osheals is a man of good ordinary character & is entitled to credit. Sworn to and subscribed & before me this 8th September 1832

S/ J Palmer, JP

S/ James Howard, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two years service as a drive in the South Carolina militia.]

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<sup>1</sup> [William Smith W22272](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Jethro Osheals \(O'Sheals, Osheal, Oshiel, O'Shields\) S18144](#)

<sup>3</sup> [James Howard S20406](#)