

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathan Gan (Gann) ¹ S1820

f23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/8/06 rev'd 7/5/14

[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, Washington County: September Term 1832

On this 10th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Samuel Powell, Judge of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity for the County of Washington within the State of Tennessee, Nathan Gann, aged 73 years and resident of said County who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That being at the time a resident citizen of Halifax County, State of Virginia & raised therein, in the fall of the year 1778 (as well as now recollected about October) this declarant volunteered under Captain Verney of the militia to go a six months tour to this South, and rendezvoused in the State of North Carolina near Guilford Court House under the command of General Gates (as well as recollected) and marched directly to Charleston and the British being on board their ships kept off and did not land and the American Army being four thousand strong was difficult to obtain subsistence and returned back to Camden & there encamped & took up winter quarters & there remained until March, when the term of time for which he volunteered had expired & two months more, which was rendered in coming to & returning from the Army being eight months altogether which he served on that expedition and was discharged by his said Captain Verney at Halifax which he has lost in the lapse of time.

Second tour: That in 1778 he removed to the frontier of North Carolina and Tennessee & settled in Washington County (being the County bordering on the Cherokee Nation); he volunteered under Captain Michael Harrison of Col Sevier's [John Sevier's] command to go on an expedition against the Cherokee Indians, and rendezvoused on the Nolichucky River & marched through what is now Greene, Cocke, Sevier & Blount Counties & penetrated the Nation as far as Coosa, and burned & destroyed all their towns & killed Indians and stock & drove their residue from the borders & returned home after being four months in that service & verbally discharged by Capt Harrison.

Third tour: In 1778, he enrolled himself under Captain Gibson in the same County for six months as a horseman to range the frontier and prevent Indian incursions, said service commenced in the winter of 1779 and which service he performed under said Captain Gibson until near the time at which his six months would expire and on hearing of the approach of

¹ BLWt50893-160-55

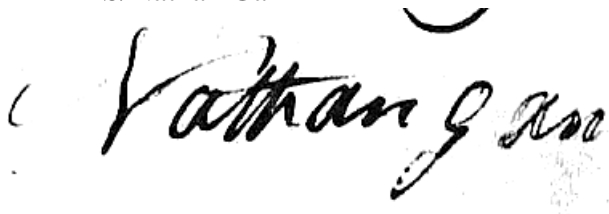
Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] & the men going against him from the vicinity, he obtained leave from Captain Gibson to go on said expedition & enrolled himself under Captain Christopher Taylor, for said campaign & was marched under Col Sevier in which Taylor commanded to Gap Creek & there joined the forces under Col. Campbell [William Campbell] & Shelby [Isaac Shelby] & marched on through Burke & Rutherford [Counties] & met Col Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] with the North Carolina militia before the battle of King's Mountain [October 7, 1780] in which declarant was under said Capt Taylor & after the battle & complete overthrow of the British under Ferguson returned home being three months on said tour & near six under Gibson in immediate succession & without interval between but received no written discharge from said Taylor.

That immediately on his return home, the Overhill Indians had been depredating on the settlements & Col Sevier called upon Capt Taylor & company with others to go against them & declarant went under said Taylor and marched through the Greasy Cove & up Indian Creek to the State of North Carolina (now) & drove & disbanded said Indians & returned home and was discharged by Capt Taylor (verbally) after three months service. That afterward and until the definitive treaty of peace he served in frequent [indecipherable word], for short tours of time against the Indians, but was not regularly officered & commanded, but on the spur of the occasion turned out to repel Indian invasions & returned when accomplished. That in the before mentioned service, thus specifically set forth, he served twenty-two months under proper officers & discipline & for the residue of his time as emergencies might require, but served until the close of the war at shorter & more irregular periods until 1782 and indeed, long since though the latter service was not of the revolutionary war. He positively states that he is served before the treaty of peace against the British, Indians & Tories for more than three years in the revolution, twenty-two [months] of which he has set forth & also served another Indian campaign under Capt Taylor above which he had omitted to insert in its proper place for three months against the Indians on the Tennessee River. That said tour was performed under Capt Taylor the winter after King's Mountain & declarant under Taylor in Cols Sevier's and Campbell's command served in the Cherokee Nation as stated by Taylor. That he has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any other persons by whom he can establish his said services except that annexed hereto of Capt Christopher Taylor.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the roll of the pension agency of any state nor is there a minister of the Gospel resident in his vicinity by whom he can have made the required statement.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid.

S/Nathan Gan

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Gan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/Nathan Gan".

[Jacob Brown & John Kennedy gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 7]

Captain Christopher Taylor personally appeared in open Court & made oath that the before named Applicant was a private in his company in the expedition to Kings mountain, was

commanded by him the whole campaign & after the defeat of Ferguson's Army was verbally discharged by him. He states further that said applicant Nathan Gann was under his command in the expedition against the metal or Overhill Indians & served a 3 months tour on that campaign & was discharged by him at the expiration of his 3 months. He also was under the deponent in the expedition against the Cherokees under Colonel Sevier, which service this affiant has not specially set forth in his own declaration being in so very many engagements – and not recollecting the length of time & knows of said Nathan Gann having served the 3 campaigns amounting in the whole to something near 9 months.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this 10th September 1832

S/ Christopher Taylor²

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Christopher Taylor²".

[p 9]

State of Tennessee, Washington County: May Session 1833

On this 3rd day of May personally appeared before me, Levi Bowers, one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, Nathan Gann, a citizen of said County & who is a pensioner under the act of Congress of 7th June 1833 [sic, 1832] and for the purpose of increasing his said pension to correspond with the service by him rendered the United States in the Revolutionary War, made, swore to and subscribed before me the following explanatory and additional statement, to wit: that in his original declaration now on file in the War Department and upon which he obtained his pension, he set forth about twenty-two months service & has been pensioned for the same as a private being seventy three dollars & thirty three cents. That in making out his said declaration accounting for transactions & services long gone by, he omitted from then want of memory to give in a tour of duty performed by him of three months against the Chickamauga Indians, also another to the south after Ferguson's defeat on his way to the up country. That from frailty of memory, as well as ignorance in him as to the Law & provisions made, he has not received the amount which he is entitled & presents this additional statement of service. That in the month of March 1778 as well as now recollected (he being at the time a Lieutenant in Captain Milliken's company of North Carolina militia) and residing west of the chain of mountains in what is now East Tennessee, the Chickamauga Indians, part of the Cherokee tribe, in league with the British were killing and deprecating in the frontier. The company of which he was Lieutenant volunteered to go on expedition against said Indians & at the time aforesaid rendezvous at Cloud's Creek & were under Genl. Dougherty, he in Captain Hubbard's [James Hubbard's] company. Milliken, who was the Captain disdained going & Hubbard had the command. That he as Lieutenant marched under Hubbard & in Dougherty's Regiment of militia to the Chickamauga towns & burned & destroyed their town & property & put said Indians to flight & returned home after being three months in service. Again in the winter after Ferguson's defeat (in which declarant was) & which he gave in his original declaration, in the month of December 1780, one Joseph Bullar [sic, Butler?] was drafted for a six months tour duty to go to the South where the British was passing through the Carolinas & hired declarant to go & perform his tour of duty. He accordingly enrolled himself under Captain Moore in the aforesaid militia, Colonel Walton was

² [Christopher Taylor R10420](#)

Colonel and marched across the mountains, Yellow and Appalachian, and fell into the old settlements of North Carolina and joined Cleveland's command; that on said campaign he being a Lieutenant in the company was still continued therein as Lieutenant, commanded as such on said tour & after falling in with Cleveland & the British having made their way down to the seaboard & provisions being so very scarce, that the officers discharged the frontier troops who had crossed the mountains & allowed them to return home, after being on service two months & he with Captain Moore & the men under them returned home. That he served in the two tours above stated and in forced and irregular tours when the Indians would break in upon the settlements nine months as a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War for which he has no compensation. Though he cannot specify the short & irregular tours, but was in two regular calls five months as before stated. That he did not set forth his services as Lieutenant on the grounds that he nor none of the offices of the frontier in that part of the Country never received commissions owing to the great distance from the seat of Government & the Indians being between the frontiers & seat of Government of North Carolina. That he & the other officers acted upon the election in the companies & were recognized by the field officers & ordered to do all the duty as if commissioned knowing the probability of getting commissions in that far separated & stated quarter. He was not aware that anything short of actual commission would suffice until others of his company & fellow officers similarly situated have received the reward to which they were entitled under like circumstances. He therefore pleads that his pension may be increased according to the aforesaid grade if to no greater extent and to the two tours stated though he served irregularly as Lieutenant several months more.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this date first before written.

S/Nathan Gann

S/Levi Bower's, Justice of the Peace, Washington County

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$73.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 22 months in the North Carolina militia.]