

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Toland S18628

f38DEL

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/19/14

[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.]

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State of Ohio Pickaway County: SS

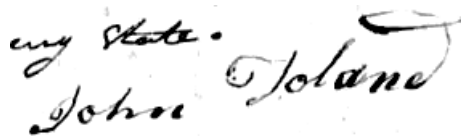
On this tenth day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Honorable David Kinner, Thomas Renick and Samuel Lybrand associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County of Pickaway holding a special session of said Court John Toland a resident of Wayne Township in the said County of Pickaway and State of Ohio aged Seventy years on the 10th day of July last past who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the Continental line in the month of March in the year 1780 at Elkton in the State of Maryland in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Henry Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] of Virginia, composed of three companies of Infantry & three companies of horse – that he served in the said Regiment in one of the companies of horse till the close of the revolutionary war in 1783 under the following named officers viz. Colonel Henry Lee, the Major's name not recollected, the officers of the company to which he belonged were Captain John Rudolph, Lieutenant James Heard the Ensign's name believed to be Faulkner. He enlisted in one of the horse companies, to serve during the War and the Regiment was an independent corps, not arranged into any Brigade, but employed in scouting & reconnoitering for the most part – that Sergeant Major John Champ who afterwards attempted to capture General Arnold [Benedict Arnold], belonged to this Regiment – that when he enlisted he resided in the County of New Castle & State of Delaware, about four miles from St. George's. The next day after his enlistment, he was marched to Christiana Bridge in the State of Delaware and from thence he was marched to Philadelphia & thence to Burlington in the State of New Jersey; where they lay till the month of May: From thence he was marched through Trenton, Princeton & [indecipherable word]¹ to Morristown in New Jersey. After lying a short time they took up their line of march through would very in New Jersey, where they halted a few days & they then marched by York in Pennsylvania, Fredericktown in Maryland, Leesburg and Fredericksburg in Virginia to North Carolina. Soon after their arrival in North Carolina, he was engaged with the Regiment in the battle of Guilford, in March 1781 [March 15, 1781]; which was the only battle in which he was engaged during his term of service. After this battle, he

¹ *Wachemrad*

marched to South Carolina & the Regiment was employed most of the time there on the Pedee and Santee rivers, in scouring the country and reconnoitering for General Green [Nathanael Greene] and was not encamped with the other American troops there. A company of infantry from the Maryland troops was attached to this Regiment a part of the time, while in South Carolina and assisted in storming to British posts there; one called Thompson's Fort and the name of the other forgotten. He returned to Philadelphia, in 1783, with Henry Archer who was a Captain in said Regiment and was there told by said Captain Archer, that peace was ratified & the term of his enlistment fulfilled; but he asked for no discharge, nor did he receive any in writing, as the Regiment did not ~~return~~ march to Philadelphia with them. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his said service, nor does he know of any person living whose testimony he can procure to prove said service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

S/ John Toland

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Toland". Above the signature, the words "my State." are written in a smaller, less legible cursive hand.

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

S/ Andrew Hustin deputy Clerk

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion that the above named applicant, was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states.

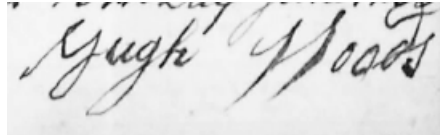
State of Ohio Holmes County SS

Personally came before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in said County Hugh Woods an inhabitant of said County and with whom I am personally acquainted and believe to be entitled to full Credit, – and being by me duly Sworn deposed and Saith, – that he was, and has been acquainted with John Toland when, and since he was a Lad, – that said Toland was raised and brought up with a certain John Ferris in the County of New Castle in the State of Delaware, about nine or ten miles from Elkton in the State of Maryland – that he recollects when the said John Toland enlisted (or was said by the neighbors to have enlisted) in the service of the United States – he further recollects when said Ferris went after said Toland and endeavored to get him back but did not succeed, that said Toland was absent from the Neighborhood of Ferris for a considerable length of time and was not as this deponent believes in the Neighborhood until the conclusion of the Revolutionary War – that this deponent saw said Toland Shortly after his return to the Neighborhood which he had left, and conversed with him as he thinks, and it was the unanimous say so of the Neighbors that he was enlisted and had been in the United States service during his absence, and of this, this deponent never doubted himself and believes it never was doubted in the Neighborhood – that this deponent was afterwards acquainted with said Toland until he had a family and has no doubt of the truth of the Narrative Stated in his declaration of his travels while he was in the Army. And is satisfied that said Toland is in very Moderate Circumstances this deponent believes himself to be between Sixty and Seventy years of age, and always considered Toland when they were boys as a few years older than himself and further this deponent cannot say –

Sworn and subscribed before me this 10th day of June 1833

S/ Lyman Shafer, JP

S/ Hugh Woods



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Martin Van Buren² President of the United States of America

It is pleasing to Every good Citizen of the United States to see that our government is disposed to make provision for the officers and soldiers that aided in the revolutionary war. It is certainly right that they should receive a support from the country that achieved all the blessings that we now enjoy by their Exertions but will [sic, while] we rejoice in this we have to Regret that there are some who partake of the bounty unworthily that have by some undue means imposed on government and by base defraud [sic] have got their names on the pension list that never took any part in the revolutionary struggle and are drawing money from the government that have in reality no more right to it than a citizen of France would have there is a man in this section of the country by the name of John Towland [sic] that has been drawing in this way a number of years. It is firmly believed by all who know him that he was not born in the time of the war or at least if he was he must have been in in that at the close of the war he has been frequently question relative to the war and is found to be perfectly ignorant of everything relative thereto he cannot tell of any officer that he served under or of any battle or any circumstances that took place during the war so that there is nothing can be more Evident than that he is drawing money every year from Government as unjustly as anything can be and it is thought Generally that it would be right and just to advise the paymaster at Cincinnati to withhold any further pay until he is strictly Examined on the subject by some Competent person and on Examination he is thought worthy of all good faith that him have it but if it is found on Examination that he is not entitled to one cent and that he is not such a person as the law Recognizes surely it is not right that he should be permitted to defraud the government any longer and it perhaps would be good policy to have and Examination in Every case where fraud is suspected with these remarks

I am Sir with great respect
obedient humble servant
S/ John Barritt

Honorable Martin Van Buren
Pr. of the United States

[Note: A note in the file indicates that the veteran's pension was stopped in 1840 until he could provide further proof of service. The record does not indicate whether or not the pension was reinstated. In Fulton, Hamilton County Ohio May 19, 1859 Sarah Trask wrote a letter to the Commissioner of pensions in Washington asking for information regarding her father, John Toland, who was placed on the pension list in 1833 at the rate of \$100 per annum for his service in the cavalry.



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² Martin Van Buren was President of the United States from 1837 to 1841

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private of Cavalry for 2 years in Lee's Legion.]