

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Wood [Woods] S1887

f25NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 2/16/17

[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, County of Bedford]

On this 15th day of August in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open Court, before John L. Neill, Samuel Phillips and John B. Armstrong, Esquires, Gentleman Justices of the Peace, appointed to hold the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Bedford County in the State of Tennessee, now sitting, John Wood, a resident of the County, State aforesaid, (a blind man) aged Eighty years, seven months and twenty one days, who being first 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 June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated, to wit, That He entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in a Company of Mounted Gunmen commanded by Captain Hugh Tinnon [Hugh Tinnen], he states he thinks it was the year 1776 in the Fall or Winter. He states it was in Orange County and State of North Carolina, when he first entered the service, and was marched from that County to the neighborhood of the town of Cross Creek, during the whole of this tour [sic, tour] of duty, he states the troops he was attached to were principally engaged or employed in guarding against the depredations frequently committed on the citizens living on Deep River, Rocky River, Haw River and Cape Fear River, he states that on the expedition. Captain Tinnon's Company were engaged in several Tory raids but does not recollect of any lives being lost on this side. He further states that he served on this occasion a tour of three months service, and then discharged at Hillsborough in the State of North Carolina by Captain Tinnon in writing.

He further states that afterwards, he volunteered again the same County in Captain Douglass' [William Douglas'] Company of Mounted Gunmen, and he thinks Col. William McCalley [Major William McCauley] was their head commander; he think they were marched very nearly the same rout [sic, route] as mentioned in his first tour of duty but had no engagement whatever. He states that on this expedition, he served three months, and was marched back to the Town of Hillsborough and was discharged again in writing the discharge was signed by Captain Douglass. He further states that after of these two expeditions against the Tories and outliers the Tories became so enraged against him that they threatened his life, he states he sold his land and purchased again in a Whig Settlement on Little River near my Father's. He further states that after that he was ordered out by Captain John Thompson [of the Wake County militia] who commanded the company where he then lived on Little River and was attached to Captain Thomas Farmer's [of the Chatham County militia] Company of guards who were Guarding the Tories, prisoners then confined in the Jail of Orange County and continued with him for the term of two months and was again discharged in writing signed by Captain Thomas Farmer. He further states that after that when Cornwallace [sic, Lord Charles Cornwallis] came to Hillsboro he together with a great many others joined Genl. Butler [John Butler] and marched on down to Granville Old Court House; he states he was engaged with others in annoying Cornwallis' picket guards frequently. He states that Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] of the Tories came to Hillsborough

[September 12, 1781]¹ and plundered the town with a band of Tories and took the most of the citizens of Orange County prisoners and marched them all down to Linley's [sic, Lindley's] Mill [September 13, 1781].² He states that the Citizens of Orange County in the neighborhood of Hillsborough collected together and marched on in order to rescue the prisoners taken at Hillsborough and met with Colonel Butler [sic] and Colonel Mayben [sic, Robert Mebane] and on that tour which was only about a week and a small engagement or skirmish with the Tories near Lindley's Mill, but was not able to retake our prisoners—Making in the whole a term of service, of about eight months or thereabout.

He hereby relinquishes all and every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of and Agency in the United States. And that he has no documentary evidence whatever at this time and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify as to his service.

Interrogatories by the County:

Intry. 1st: Where and what year were you born?

A. I was born in Orange County and State of North Carolina on the 25th day of December 1751.

Intry. 2nd: Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A. I have a record of my age at home, taken from the record in my father's Bible.

Intry. 3rd: Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

A. I lived in Orange County of North Carolina when I entered the service of the United States and remained in the same County until the close of the Revolutionary War, and afterwards I removed to Lawrence [sic, Laurens] County in the State of South Carolina, I think in the year 1780 and from that I moved to the State of Georgia in 1792 and from that to the State of Tennessee in 1809 in Franklin County, I then removed to Bedford County, Tennessee in the year 1814, where I have lived ever since.

Intry. 4th: How were you called into service? Were you a volunteer? Were you drafted or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

A. I was a volunteer during the whole of my service.

Intry. 5th: State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with you, or the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiment as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

A. I understood that Col Mebane was a Regular Officer who was with us at Lindley's Mill, I also recollect Colonel Archibald Lytle, and Captain William Lytle. As to any Continental or Militia Regiments, I know of none but what I have mentioned in my declaration.

Intry. 6th: Did you ever receive a discharge from service and if so, what has become of it?

A. I received three discharges and I think I lost them while I lived in the State of Georgia.

Intry. 7th: State the names of some of your neighbors to whom you are known, who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Ansr: The Reverend William Mullins, Thomas McGuire and William Hoozer Esq.

Sworn to and subscribed this 15th of August 1832 in open Court.

S/ Jno Woods, X his mark

S/ Jas. McKisick, Clk

[William Mullins, a clergyman, and Thomas McGuire gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

An amendment to the declaration of John Woods (a blind man) made at August term of Bedford County Court, 1832 in order to obtain a pension under the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. The State of Tennessee: SS

On this 11th day of December in the year 1832 Personally appeared before me, the undersigned

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hillsborough.html

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html

a Justice of the Peace for Bedford County in the State aforesaid, John Woods, who after being duly sworn Deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot state the precise length of time his served in the War of the Revolution but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods below, and in the following grades (to wit) That he served on the first Tour of duty mentioned in his declaration above alluded to, not less than three months as a private Soldier in Captain Hugh Tinnen's Company of Mounted Gunmen; on the Second tour of duty he says he actually served three months in a company of Mounted Gunmen under the command of Captain Douglas as a private Soldier and the third tour he was ordered out by Captain John Thompson (he thinks now perhaps in the nature of a draft) and was placed in a company of Guards under the Command of Thomas Farmer, as stated in his declaration above alluded to, and served as such not less than two months as a drafted Soldier – and that the last tour he served was not less than one week, making in the whole a term of actual Service of eight months and one week for which he claims a pension and that from the great length of time since the Revolution and the consequent loss of memory it is in possible for him to state the precise periods of the war and where he served, except the first tour of duty in 1776.

Sworn to before me, and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Samuel Phillips, JP

S/ John Woods, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$27.43 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months and 7 days in the North Carolina militia.]