

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Beck S2376

fn21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/23/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

North Carolina Stokes County: Superior Court of Law October 1832

On this 12 [could be 10] day of October personally appeared in open court before the judges of the Superior Court of law for Stokes County now sitting William Beck a resident in the County and State aforesaid, aged sixty-six years on the 12th day of February last 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 and served as herein stated, that he entered the service as a substitute for his father John Beck, at the court house in the County of Granville and State of North Carolina on the 10th day of June 1780 in the company commanded by Captain Peter Bennet, Lieutenant Crafton or Grafton as well as he now recollects that he with his company marched to Hillsboro in the County of Orange, when they halted a day or two, when they marched within about four miles of Fayetteville, when they remained about a week, and they then crossed Cape Fear River and marched to Randolph old court house at the crossroads recrossing in their march the Cape Fear. From there they marched to South Carolina (crossing the Yadkin [River], near the mouth of Rocky River), that they marched within a few miles of Camden and halted near some mills, Rugeley's Mills as well as he now recollects that he was there at the time of Gates defeat, that he was not in the battle on that day although he was within hearing of the firing, that he was one of the guard on that day, who had charge of the baggage-wagons and some prisoners that General Caswell had commanded the North Carolina militia, that his Regiment was commanded by Colonel Taylor from Hillsboro in North Carolina, that after the battle they retreated back to Hillsboro where they remained a week or two, that he recollects that the battle of Gates defeat was fought on the 16 day of August, that from Hillsboro, they marched to the Waxhaw settlement in South Carolina to six mile Creek, where they remained two or three weeks, when they retreated back as far as Salisbury in North Carolina, where he received a written discharge from Captain Harrison, he having been transferred to Harrison's Company after Gates defeat, that he received his discharge sometime in the last of October or first of November 1780, that he served during this year not less than four months.

That sometime in the month of February or March 1781, he again entered the service for the term of three months as a substitute for his father John Beck at the court house in Granville in

North Carolina in the company of Captain Hicks & Lieutenant Gilliam as well as he now recollects their names, that shortly before the battle of Guilford he was placed under Captain Hodges & Lieutenant Hester, that he was in the battle of Guilford, he remembers that General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], was the highest officer in command, that his Regiment was commanded by one Colonel Taylor from Granville, that he was not the same Colonel Taylor before spoken of, he well recollects that Colonel Taylor had posted himself behind the stump of an old tree mounted upon his horse, he also remembers that his Regiment retreated after one or two fires, that after the battle of Guilford he went home remained there a few days & joined the Army again at Ramsey's Mill on Deep River, that from Ramsey's Mill they marched to a Fort on Pedee [River] where they remained a few days, from there they marched in sight of Camden, the enemy having now possession [of] Camden at that time, that they remained in sight of Camden a day or two, that they were marching & scouting about in that neighborhood for two or three weeks, recollects they marched a day or two towards Charleston & then returned, that they continued in that neighborhood until his three months had expired, when he returned home, that he received no written discharge at this time, that in the last expedition he was placed under one Lieutenant Campbell, the Captain being absent, his Colonel was Pink Eaton, that at this time he served not less than three months. That he again entered the service as a substitute for his father John Beck in the County of Granville in the year 1782 for the term of three months, that as well as he recollects it was in the month of March he entered the service at this time, that he marched to Hillsboro where he remained for one month when he was discharged, that he received a written discharge, which is lost,

That he knows of no person by whom he can prove his service except Sowell Frazier,<sup>1</sup> who knows that he was in service at the 2nd time above mentioned.

Sworn to & subscribed

S/ Wm Beck

in open Court

S/ Thos. T. Armstrong, Clk

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

S/ Wm Beck

[William Hester & John Null gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Where and in what year were you born?

I was born the 12th of February 1766 as I have always been informed, in the County of Granville North Carolina

Have you any record of your age and if so; where is it?

I have a copy of a record of my age, the original of which was made by my grandfather in a book belonging to my father, which record stated my birth as above mentioned

Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live

I was living on the ledge of Rocks Creek in the Dutch District as it was then called in the County of Granville, North Carolina. I resided in the County of Granville and you will 1793, in the month of December, when I removed to the County of Stokes where I have resided ever since.

How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

My father John Beck was drafted each time and I was a substitute for him

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such

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<sup>1</sup> [Sowell \(Lowell\) Frazer \(Frazier\) R3767](#)

Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service

I can recollect little more on the subject than I have stated in my declaration I however now recollect that Colonel Thackston a regular officer of the light horse was one of the officers at the time I have mentioned I was in the service the second time in the Waxhaw settlement

Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it

I have received 2 discharges as mentioned above, they are both lost, the 1st was given by Captain Harrison it was for 3 months of service, the other was given by Captain Groge [? George?], It was for one months service at Hillsboro as above mentioned.

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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

William Hester, John Null, Jacob Conrad & many others.

Sworn & subscribed in open

S/ Wm Beck

court. S/ Thos. T. Armstrong, Clk

[fn p. 18]

State of North Carolina Stokes County: Superior Court of Walton & Equity April term 1833

Sowel Frazer maketh oath, that he was well acquainted with William Beck that he now lives in Stokes County where affiant likewise resides – affiant further maketh oath that whilst in service during the revolutionary war in the year 1780 in a militia company from the County of Granville State of North Carolina – having been marched to or towards South Carolina, whilst on the march on their return, he got acquainted with William Beck who was likewise in the service in the same corps, but not in the same company – affiant understands & believes that said back in that particular tour was engaged three months.

S/ Sowell Frazer

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]