

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Mitchel Childress S2426

fn23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/15/10

[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.]

State of Tennessee Knox County: County Court January Sessions 1833

On the 10th day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court at a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County now sitting, Mitchel Childress, a citizen of said County, aged eighty-two years who having been duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. – That he was born in Henrico County Virginia on the 23rd day of October 1750, where he lived but a few years till he moved to Amherst County Virginia where he lived and married there and then moved to Wilkes County North Carolina where he lived about one year and then moved to Georgia – he recollects that he reached Georgia some time in May, and he does not now recollect whether there were any counties then laid out and that part of Georgia, but his impression now is that he went to what was then called the Province [?] of Georgia – he remained in Georgia until sometime in the latter part of November following, when having taken the fever and ague he moved up on the waters of Low River in Burke County, North Carolina, for the object of recovering his health, where he lived until sometime in May or June when being alarmed at the outrages of the Indians he moved back into the same neighborhood in Wilkes County North Carolina where he had formerly lived – he states that he cannot at this time recollect what year it was he moved from Georgia, but he recollects distinctly that a few days after he had left Georgia, the news reached him that the Whigs and Tories had had a battle at a place then called the Snow Camps, afterwards Ninety Six, and that the Whigs were victorious – he continued after this second settlement in Wilkes County to live there during the whole of the Revolutionary War – Applicant states that very shortly after his second settlement in Wilkes County, he entered the Army of the United States as a volunteer for a tour against the Indians – he was enrolled in Burke County North Carolina into a company commanded by Captain Frank Hargroves, which company was attached to a Battalion under the command of Major Jesse Walton, and he now thinks his Regiment was commanded by Colonel Armstrong and the whole Army by General Rutherford as commander in chief – he also believes that his Lieutenant was William Lenoir – Applicant states that the whole Army consisting of about five thousand rendezvoused at Buck Creek in Burke County North Carolina and after remaining there a few weeks to get supplies marched over the mountain to the headwaters of French Broad River, crossed it, Little and Big Pigeon rivers, Little River, Little Tennessee River, and the Hiwassee

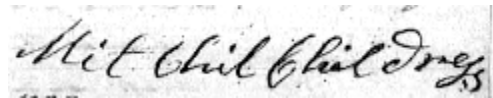
River – Applicant states that the main Army lay at the Middle towns in the Cherokee nation, while he with a detachment of about fifteen hundred men marched up the Hiwassee River, he thinks under Colonel Locke or Knox, for the purpose of destroying the Overhill towns of the Cherokees – this detachment marched up the Hiwassee but before they reached the place where the Indians had embodied, they met a part of the southern Army, who had been in pursuit of the same object and had scattered and defeated the Indians, upon which our detachment marched about through the nation and destroyed the crops of the Indians, and burning their towns, and killed those that could be found the main Army marched back along the same general route to Burke County North Carolina the Army was disbanded and applicant returned home – applicant thinks he got home in the latter part of November and thinks as well as he now recollects that he was in actual service in this campaign at least three months – Applicant states that some time as well as he now recollects in the middle of August he does not know whether the August immediately succeeding the first campaign or not, he volunteered to take another tour against the Indians – he joined and enrolled himself at same place in Burke County North Carolina into a Company of horse commanded by Captain John Foster, who was under the command of Colonel Benjamin Harrington – Under the command of the said officers applicant marched across the mountains to the borders of French Broad River which they crossed, and crossing Little & Big Pigeon rivers, Little River, and Little Tennessee, they marched about through the Cherokee nation, killed a few of the Indians, burned their towns, cut down their corn, and returned by the same route, and were discharged applicant thinks he was in service in this campaign between two and three months – Applicant states that sometime in the month of June 1781 as well as he now recollects, he recollects well that he was plowing his corn at the time, the militia of Wilkes County were ordered out to suppress the Tories, he was one of the class who were ordered out and was enrolled as a private into a company commanded by Captain James Henderson, who was attached to a Regiment under the command of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland – under these officers applicant marched with his Regiment to Ramsour's mill in what is now Lincoln County North Carolina where it was understood the Tories had embodied in considerable force. Before applicant and his Regiment however could reach Ramsour's mill the Whigs and Tories had met their and the Tories were driven off – Applicant well recollects when he reached the battleground the Whigs were engaged in burying the slain. The night after they reached Ramsour's there came an express to Colonel Cleveland informing him that the Tories under Colonel Fannan [sic, David Fanning] were collecting near Salisbury – Colonel Cleveland ordered his men to march there with all haste – Applicant states that he marched with his company in that direction until his horse was so overcome that he could go no further, and his Captain gave him leave to go home. Applicant thinks that he was out in actual service at least one month in this campaign – Applicant states that sometime in the month of March or April following the last campaign, the militia of Wilkes County were all ordered out, and applicant was enrolled in a company commanded by Captain John Cleveland, who was under the command of his father Colonel Benjamin Cleveland – under these officers applicant marched down to Cross Creek, or Salisbury where it was said the Tories, under Colonel Fannan were collecting – applicant states his Regiment marched to the Swan ponds on the Yadkin River and were stationed at Major Lewis', eleven days, when Colonel Cleveland discharge one half of his Regiment applicant among the rest when he returned home – Applicant thinks he was in service in this campaign at least one month. Applicant states that from his age and the long time which has elapsed since his services have been performed, he cannot recollect distinctly the time he was in service but feels confident that he must have been in actual service at least seven months as a private, for which he claims a pension – Applicant

states he has no record of his age, but from the information of his mother he believes he has stated his age truly – He states that he lived in Wilkes County North Carolina during the whole of his services in the Revolutionary War and for several years after the war, when he moved to Greene County Tennessee where he lived about one year when he moved to Knox County Tennessee where he now lives and has lived for 40 years – he states that the persons with whom he is acquainted in his neighborhood who can testify as to his veracity and the reputation of his military services are Joshua Frost, Mordecai Yarnell, Elijah Hickey, James Scott, William Morris he states that he never received a discharge, to the best of his recollection, for any of his services, nor has he any documentary evidence whatever of his services, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services – he hereby relinquishes all claim to and annuity or pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 10th January 1833

S/ Wm Swan, D. Clk

S/ Mitchil Childress

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mitchil Childress". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

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

[Notes: Veteran died August five, 1844; the place of his death is not shown; there is no family data in this file.]