

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Seth Manis S2739

f22NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 Hawkins County

On this 24th day of November 1835 personally appeared in Open Court Seth Manis resident of Hawkins County and State of Tennessee aged 73 years and 9 months who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 --

That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1780 the first of September under the command of Capt. Williams in the Regiment of Col. Casswell [sic, Richard Caswell] in Moore County State of North Carolina we met at Bar Creek [sic, Bear Creek?] a tributary stream of Deep River. I was drafted in the service. We marched for the purpose of intercepting small parties of Tories and British which were going through the Country and doing mischief -- we went on through Chatham County and some other Counties which I do not now recollect we crossed Cape Fear River in our route. We went on towards Wilmington. We marched on Southwest course marched through a swamp called the Raft Swamp where we understood there were outlying Tories near Pedee River where we met with one Fannin [sic, David Fanning] a Tory and his party -- we had a skirmish with Fannin and his men at a place called Baties bridge [sic, Beatti's Bridge, August 4, 1781]¹ we in the action had to retreat -- we collected together after the battle and marched on towards Moore County where we arrived about the first of January 1781 [sic] I served in the capacity of a private. I was gone four months. I volunteered myself again first of February 1781 under Capt. Williams and Col. Butler [John Butler] to go after Fannin and his men the report was he was a going to attack Hillsboro I went out of Moore County State of North Carolina and marched for Hillsboro we attacked Fanning at Lindley's Mills [September 13, 1781]² where we had a sharp action with him he retreated and we did not take him nor any of his men. We recruited our forces and still cautiously pursued him and his men on down towards Wilmington until our Col. thought it dangerous to follow him any further. We returned to Hillsboro -- lay there some time scouting about through the County after Tories and guarding the town and neighborhood. We then marched for Moore County we arrived home first of May 1781. I received no discharge was dismissed and returned home served four months. I served in the capacity of a private. Sometime in the month of September 1781 I think about the middle as well as I now recollect I volunteered myself again under Capt. Williams and Col. Butler to march to Yorktown against the British. We marched on to Hillsboro when we

¹ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/beattisbr.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_beattis_bridge.html

² <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/lindleysmill.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html

were stationed awaiting for levies to come and join us but while we lay there we received news that [of] Cornwallis' surrender [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] and we did not go. We then marched back and I was discharged being gone home one month and never was out anymore. This declarant says he always served with an embodied corps called into service by competent authority that he was either in the field on march or in camp and for the time during which the service was performed he was not employed in any civil pursuit. This declarant says he has no documentary evidence of his service nor knows of no one who he can prove the same by -- the clergyman who presides over the church to which he belongs is in another County and at some considerable distance so that he cannot without a great deal of [inconvenience] procure one to sign his declaration. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any State whatever. Sworn to and subscribed the 24th day of November 1835 in Open Court.
S/ W. B. Mitchell, Clerk

S/ Seth Manis, X his mark

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State of Tennessee Hawkins County:

On this 24th day of November 1835 personally appeared Seth Manis in Open Court and made Oath that owing to old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service neither can he give as minutely an narrative of his services as to dates, Counties and other particulars as is required to give a plain a satisfactory account to the department Best accounting to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades -- for four months I served as a private under Capt. Williams for four months I served a second time under Capt. Williams for one month I served as a private under Capt. Williams for which service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and Open court the day and date above mentioned.

S/ W. B. Mitchell, Clerk

S/ Seth Manis, X his mark

[John Gunter, Greene B. Mitchell, Alexander Mabe, and William Mabe gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions proposed to Seth Manis applicant for a pension

1st Question

Ans: I was born in Bedford County State of Virginia 1762.

2nd Question

Ans: I have none

3rd Question

Ans: Moore County State of South Carolina [sic, North Carolina] from there I moved to the State of Tennessee Hawkins County where I now live

4th Question

Ans: I was drafted once and volunteered twice

5th Question

Ans: Col. Caswell Col. Butler Capt. Williams

6th Question

Ans: I never received any

7th Question

Ans: John Gunter, Granberry Mitchell, William Mabe, Alexander Mabe, John Parrott, Anderson Fields, George Rogers Esquire

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State of Tennessee Hawkins County:

On this 21st day of April 1836 personally appeared Seth Manis resident of the County of Hawkins and State of Tennessee before John Mitchell one of the Justices of the peace for said County and after being duly sworn according to law on his oath make the following additional declaration. This declarant says he entered the service of the United States in the year 1780 under the command of Capt. Williams and Col. Caswell in Moore County State of North Carolina as a private. This deponent states he was principally engaged in marching through the Country intercepting bodies of Tories in their march to rob the settlers we engaged with Col. Fanning a Tory Col. and his men at Bettes bridge we had to retreat Small detachments of the Enemy were marching through the Country continually and it was necessary that they should be kept in awe we marched from place as necessity would require and where we were most needed. We were out four months. We could not quit our pursuit until men were brought into the field to take [our] place and they could not be brought out to a single day -- or week -- we therefore continued in service until men were supplied -- Men who served in small detachments as we did scouting about after foraging parties of the enemy and Tories could not act as a large Army we had to evade them if too strong and seek safety and we could not be disbanded when far from home for fear of being killed. In returning home by the Tories therefore we were not discharged until we returned home and kept embodied until we did return home. This declarant states he knows of no one who he can prove his service by -- and further states it is Impossible for him to recount every circumstance of small note that occurred during his service owing to the great length of time since it took place and old age and the consequent loss of memory his service was not noted by strong circumstances such as large and general Engagements that is left on record but such as he can recollect he states He states he had an engagement in his 2nd tour in 1781 with Col. Fanning at Lindley's Mill. He further states on his 3rd engagement he was at Hillsboro when he received news of Cornwallis' surrender. This declarant says he was actively engaged the time he states to the best of his memory this declarant says he will would have applied sooner for his right but he did not know that some would tell him one thing about it and some another and he did not going about any, and living in the mountainous part of the County remote from information of that kind, he did not know for some years there was an act for his benefit.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year before mentioned

S/ J. Mitchell, JP

S/ Seth Manis, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]