

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Merritt S2821

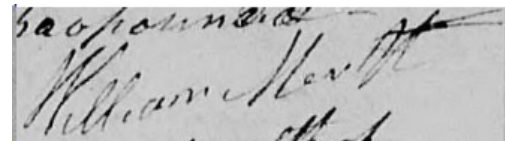
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Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 Nov 2014.

State of North Carolina }
Stokes County } SS.

On the 14th day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting for the County aforesaid William Merritt a resident of the County of Stokes aforesaid aged Seventy years last December 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 after stated (towit) That he entered the service as a Volenteer for three months a private under Captain John Halbert & Lieutenant Rob't Hill [Robert Hill, pension application S7012] at Surry County Court house for three months commencing about four weeks before the Battle of Camden [in South Carolina, 16 Aug 1780], the exact date he does not recollect. But he marched from said Court house under the command of said Lieutenant Rob't. Hill to Salisbury in North Carolina aforesaid came with part of the Company composing the Captains Company from Surry & joined those commanded by Lieutenant Hill, when Capt. [William] Meredith commanded said Company at head quarters in Salisbury. from there marched to Anson County in North Carolina and under the Command of General [Griffith] Rutherford, where Lieutenant Hill was badly wounded in a Severe Storm of Wind by the fall of a tree, when and where this applicant & two other Soldiers was ordered by General Rutherford to wate on & take care of his Lieutenant Hill, and conveyed him to his place of residence in Surry County N. Carolina. during this Service the memorable Battle of [Gen. Horatio] Gate's defeat [Battle of Camden] happened this applicant having served this three months was discharged. and immediately there after entered the Service as a Volenteer horseman & found his own horse under the Command of Capt. Thomas Evans in Surry County aforesaid and march'd from Capt. Bynums in said County as a Ranger to Scurge the Tories that were pestering some sexions of the County in the mountains and tributary waters of the Yadkin River and Served in Service as Ranging through Surry & Rowan Counties one expedition after another when ever call'd on untill he Served five months and two weeks. during this Service he was in one small skirmish at Surry Court house called Richmond [8 Oct 1780] when he rec'd a ball through his hat & one through his shot bag & [powder] horns Colo. Jo Williams [Joseph Williams] & Colo. Lenear [sic: Robert Lanier] were the field officers. Capt. Halbert, Capt. Woldridge [sic: Gibson Wooldridge], Capt. Krouse [sic: John Crouse] & Capt. [Arthur] Scott commanded as Captains & were compelled to retreat from the Tories. one month of the above service was an expedition under Capt. Horn [John Horn] & Colo Joseph Williams from Surry County to the Mulberry fields in Wilks County [sic: now Wilkesboro in Wilkes County] N Carolina & guarding the prisoners that were taken at the Battle of Kings Mountain [7 Oct 1780] at the old Moravian Towns [Bethabara, Bethania, and Salem]. all these are facts tho he has no documentary evidence. But can prove by the Testamony of his former Lieutenant Rob't Hill as to the greater part of his Service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the Agency of any state. Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year first above mentioned.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature appears to read "William Merritt" with some additional scribbles below it.

The following Interogatories were propounded –
(towit) first. Where were you Born

Answer. In Essex County in the Commonwealth of Virginia

2nd have you any record of your age

Ans'r. yes have the record in his fathers Bible that he was born the 20th December 1762

3rd where were you living when call'd into the service where have you lived since the Revolution and where do you live now

Ans'r. I lived in Surry County in North Carolina when call'd into service and by the Division of said County I fell in that part call'd Stokes County & have resided there ever since

4th how were you call'd into Service, were you drafted, were you a Volenteer or were you a substitute –

Ans'r. in all my Services rendered I was a Volenteer

5th State the names of the Regular officers with whom you were acquainted if any with the troops where you served and the Regiments as you can recollect & the General Circumstances of your services

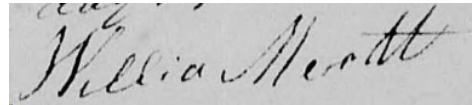
Ans. I knew Gen'l. Rutherford, Maj'r. John Armstrong who were Regular officers, and as respects the Militia officers that I knew I have already named as also the General circumstances I have heretofore stated

6th he never rec'd a written discharge

7th he says he is acquainted with citizens of Stokes County who can Testafy as to his character & veracity but on this occasion can produce Maj'r. Rob't. Hill who was his former Lieutenant above mentioned & Charles Banner citizens residing in said County of Stokes

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

Sworn & subscribed the day & year above mentioned

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Merritt". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: A Treasury-Department document states that Merritt's widow received the final pension payment up to the date of his death, 22 May 1841.