

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Fowler S31033

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 23 Feb 2014.

State of Kentucky } SS.

Fayette County }

On this 17th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Hon. Thomas M. Hickey Judge of the Fayette Circuit Court, now sitting, John Fowler, a resident of the city of Lexington in the county aforesaid, aged 76 years, 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 7th June 1832.

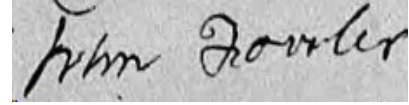
That he was born in Chesterfield county, Virginia on the 27th April 1756, as appears by the register of births kept by his father, which is not now in his possession. That he resided in Chesterfield county, when he entered the service; he resided in Virginia until the close of the war in 1783, when he removed to Kentucky, where he has resided ever since.

He entered the Service in the year 1777 in the early part of the war, being commissioned as a lieutenant in Captain [David] Patterson's company in Col. [Robert] Goode's regiment of militia, in which station he remained during the war. In the spring of the year 1779, on the invasion of Virginia by General Matthews [sic: Gen Edward Mathew and Commodore George Collier, May 1779], Goode's regiment was ordered into active service and marched through Petersburg toward Portsmouth; but the enemy having destroyed the stores &c in the vicinity & evacuated Portsmouth the regiment returned after a short tour, the time not recollection. About the 1st January 1781 the militia was again embodied. He was still in his former post. His regiment was ordered to Manchester and thence to meet General [Benedict] Arnold, whose army marched to Richmond, and returned, crossed James river at Westover [in Charles City County], thence through Smithfield to Portsmouth. Goode's regiment following, under the Baron Steuben or General [Robert] Lawson and approached near the lines of the enemy on the arrival of General [William] Phillips in March, who took command of the enemy, the British army marched to Manchester, the militia retreating the whole way without a skirmish. The warehouses of tobacco were burned by the enemy [April 1781], when they returned to Hog island and thence to Petersburg, where they joined Lord Cornwallis [20 May], who immediately advanced towards Richmond. The Marquis Lafayette retreated before him 70 or 80 miles on the north side of James river, above Richmond. Col. Goode's regiment, under Baron Steuben, was on the South side of James river and marched up to point of fork [at the confluence of James and Rivanna rivers]. Upon the approach of the enemy to that place, the Baron evacuated it & retreated [5 June]. The enemy after destroying the public stores, returned to Richmond. After Lord Cornwallis' return to Richmond, a part of his army being in Manchester, a skirmish took place near Manchester, in an old field belonging to Sam Branch, between Col. Symco's [sic: John Graves Simcoe's] legion of the British, and a part of Good's regiment, in which he was severely wounded on the head by a broadsword of the enemy, and was taken prisoner along with Col. Goode & Major Langburn [William Langbourne], aid to Marquis LaFayette, and several privates. He was taken to Richmond, covered with blood, and soon became insensible from loss of blood and the effects of his wound, and remained so for two days. Three or four days after he arrived at Richmond, the enemy evacuated the city, leaving him on parole, and retreated to Williamsburg. Exclusive of the above services he was often employed on short tours in conducting & escorting public stores from place to place. His recollection is not clear enough to state precisely his services, prior to 1779, although he served on several occasions in 1777 & 8. During the whole war, he is fully convinced that he served between 1777 & 1783 more than two years. In all that time he was a 1st lieutenant; his commission he has lost, and has no written or documentary evidence of his services, nor are there any living witnesses to prove them within his reach. But he would refer to Mr Francis Smith [pension application R9732], living 5 or 6 miles from Manchester, and the sister of the applicant, living about 7 miles from Manchester who can prove them.

Col Goodes regiment, was generally considered a separate command, but he was several times under the command of other officers, such as Gen. Lawson & Baron Steuben. He was introduced to General Lafayette previous to his capture, who had so much confidence in him as a partizan officer that he was selected by him to accompany his and Major Langburn to go within the enemys line, on which occasion it was, that the above named skirmish took place in which they were both taken prisoners.

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 or territory.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Fowler". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

State of Kentucky

Fayette Circuit Sct. September 17th 1832

This day Thomas Bodley aged about sixty years, made oath in open Court; that about the month of September 1807 this affiant in Company with Colo Robert Goode, John Fowler, Judge Todd, Hubbard Taylor, and others, were riding from Manchester Virginia, to the residence of Colo. Ro. Goode, for the purpose of dining with s'd. Colo. Goode. And on the road Colo. Goode Called to Capt. Fowler, and observed "Fowler, I suppose you recollet this place," Fowler say'd he did; and Colo. Goode then stated the circumstances of their being attacked on that ground, by a detachment of Symcos or Tarltons horse [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion] (which is not now recollected) that Fowler was cut down by a stroke from a broad sword & left on the ground & afterward taken prisoner, with some others which Colo. Goode mentioned – who were afterwards paroled. To the best of this affiants recollection, the Circumstances related by Colo. Goode on that occasion, were the same in substance, as stated in the declaration of Capt. Fowler, this day made in Court; the occurrence made a strong impression on this affiant, as he had been intimately acquainted with Capt Fowler for many years & never had heard the above mentioned circumstances spoken of before & he then for the first time, saw the scar on said Fowlers head, which at this time in plain to be s[page damaged]

Given under my hand this 17th day of September 1832 Thos. Bodley

NOTE: A document in the file states that Fowler died on 22 Aug 1840.

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Fowler John
Transcribed by Fred Weyler

VA

S31033
26Oct2013

[p2] Kentucky certificate 1259
John Fowler of Lexington
Lieutenant under Captain Patterson, Colonel Goode
In Virginia, 2 years & upwards
Issued 30Oct1833 @ \$320/annum

[p3] let 7 May 1840
Hon. R.M. Johnson
Died Aug 22, 1840

[p4]
State of Kentucky

Fayette County SS

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That he was born in Chesterfield county Virginia on the 27th April 1756, as appears by the register of birth kept by his father which is not now in his possession. That he resided in Chesterfield county where he entered the service. He resided in Virginia until the close of the war in 1783 when he removed to Kentucky where he has resided ever since.

He entered the service in the year 1777 in the early part of the war, being commissioned as a lieutenant in Captain Patterson's company in Col. Goode's regiment of militia in which station he remained during the war. In the Spring of the year 1779, on the invasion of Virginia by General Mathews, Goode's regiment was ordered into active service and marched through Petersburg toward Portsmouth, but the enemy having destroyed the store &c in the vicinity & evacuated Portsmouth the regiment returned after a short tour, the time not recollected. About the 1st January 1781, the militia was again embodied. He was still in his former post. His regiment was ordered to Manchester and thence to meet General Arnold, whose army marched to Richmond and returned, crossed James River at Westover thence through Smithfield to Portsmouth. Goode's regiment followed under the Baron Steuben or General Lawson and approached near the lines of the enemy on the arrival of General Phillips in March who took command of the enemy. The British army marched to

[p5] Manchester, the militia retreating the whole way without a skirmish. The warehouses of tobacco were burned by the enemy. When they returned to Hog Island and thence to Petersburg where they joined Lord Cornwallis who immediately advanced toward Richmond The Marquis Lafayette retreated before him 70 or 80 miles on the north side of James River. Above Richmond Col. Goode's regiment under Baron Steuben, was on was on the south side of James River and marched up to point of fork. Upon the approach of the enemy to that place, the Baron evacuated it & retreated. The enemy after destroying the public stores, returned to Richmond. After Lord

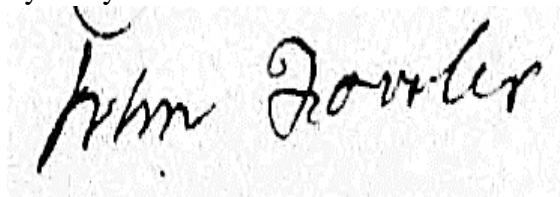
Cornwallis' return to Richmond, a part of his army being in Manchester, a skirmish took place near Manchester in an old field belonging to Sam Branch, between Col. Symco's legion of the British and a part of Goode's regiment in which he was severely wounded on the head by a broad sword of the enemy and was taken prisoner along with Col. Goode & Major Langhorn, aid to Marquis LaFayette, and several privates. He was taken to Richmond, covered with blood and soon became insensible from loss of blood and the effects of his wound and remained so for two days. Three or four days after he arrived at Richmond the enemy evacuated the city, leaving him on parole, and retreated to Williamsburg. Exclusive of the above services he was often employed on short tours in conducting & escorting public stores from place to place. His recollection is not clear enough to state precisely his services prior to 1779 although he served on several occasions in 1777 & 8. During the whole war, he is fully convinced that he served between 1777 & 1783 more than two years. In all that time he was a 1st Lieutenant. His commission he has lost and has no written documentary

[p6] evidence of his services, nor are there any living witnesses to prove them within his reach. But he would refer to Mr. Francis Smith living 5 or 6 miles from Manchester and the sister of the applicant living about 7 miles from Manchester who can prove them.

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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 or territory.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

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

[routine county supporting statements and certification

Caleb W. Cloud, clergy

Wm R Morton, neighbor

J.M. Hickey, judge

Thomas Bodley, clerk

[p10]

State of Kentucky

Fayette Circuit, Sct. September 17th 1832

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That Fowler was cut down by a stroke from a broad sword & left on the ground & afterward taken prisoner with some others which Col^o Goode mentioned. Who were afterwards paroled. To the best of this affiant's recollection, the circumstances related by Col^o Goode on that occasion were the same in substance as stated in the declaration of Capt. Fowler this day made in court. The occurrences made a strong impression on this affiant as he had been intimately acquainted with Capt. Fowler for many years _____ heard the above mentioned circumstances spoken of before the then for the first time, saw the scar on said Fowler's head which at this time is plain to be s [right margin missing]

Given under my hand this 17th day of September 1832.

s/ Tho^s Bodley

[p11] certification of Thomas Bodley statement by Harry J Bodley, deputy clerk