

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Carter S3127
Transcribed by Will Graves

f20NC
rev'd 11/8/10 &

6/11/17

[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, Smith County

On this 9th day of November 1838 personally appeared before me A. A. Brevard one of the acting Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid and state of Tennessee, William Carter resident citizen of the County and state aforesaid aged seventy eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the month of September 1778 (the day of the month not recollected) and was mustered for the term of six months under Capt. Harvey and Col. James Allen and resided at the time of his engagement in Halifax County North Carolina and marched from Halifax town of said state through Warren County and Granville to Hillsborough in Orange County, thence to Charlotte in Lincoln County. He was discharged from this engagement in the month of March 1779 having served six months and was in no engagement with the enemy. Col. Allen had the chief command during this expedition, and the object seemed to be to subdue and keep down the Tories in that section. He entered the service again as a volunteer in the month of September 1780 at Halifax town North Carolina under Capt. John Powers, Lieutenant William Angel, and Ensign Abner Fluellen. Col. Whiteman Hill [sic, Whitmill Hill] had the command of the Regiment. He was marched from Halifax to Harrisburg now called Oxford, thence to Hillsborough, thence to High Rock ford on the Haw river, [and] the waters of Cape Fear River. [At] this place William Linton became the Colonel of the Regiment and marched from thence to Guilford [sic, Guilford] Court House and was in the battle with the British at or near that place on the 15th day of March 1781. General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] had the Chief Command in that battle. General Eaton also had an important command.

After the battle at Guilford Court House he was encamped at the Iron Works on Troublesome Creek and from thence was marched to Ramsey's Mill at which place the term of six months for which he volunteered expired sometime in the month of March 1781 the day not recollected. [And] he was discharged by his officer but immediately volunteered again for the term of six months under Capt. Nicholas Long in Col. Guilford Dudley's Regiment and was marched to Camden on the Wateree River in South Carolina and was in an engagement [Hobkirk Hill, April 25, 1781] with the enemy near that place in the month of April 1781. [And] under General Greene marched from thence across the Wateree River to Ninety Six, and at the time of the engagement at Ninety Six was not in the battle but on a tour of fatigue driving beef Cattle for the Army. He was also with the Army of Genl Greene at the time of the battle at the Eutaw

Springs but was not in that battle. [He] was detailed and engaged at the time of that battle in collecting provisions for the Army and was with and knew well Joseph Thomas an acting Commissary, and while on the detachment driving and collecting beef cattle for the Army he was a while under the command of Capt. William Nettles. After the battle of the Eutaw Springs he was marched to Rugeley's Mill and was discharged sometime in the month of September or October having completed the term of six months. He then returned to his father's in Halifax County, North Carolina having been absent from home in the service of the United States more than twelve months. The discharges which he received he deposited with his father and he never asked for them but removed to Smith County, Tennessee in the year 1804 and left them with his father who departed this life sometime in the year 1810. And his brother Francis Carter who was the Executor of his father's will told him not more than two years previous to this time that he saw his discharges sometime in the year of 1810 among his father's papers and thought them of no value and consequently destroyed them. He has no documentary evidence of his service in any of the above named tours of duty and he knows of no person now living of whom he can prove the above mentioned service.

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

Interrogatories propounded:

Q. 1. Where and in what year were you born? Ans. Halifax County, North Carolina in the year 1760.

Q. 2. Have you any record of your age and where is it? Ans. I have in my family bible drawn from my father's register.

Q. 3. Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? Ans. Halifax County North Carolina. From said County I removed to Warren County in said state where I remained two years from whence I removed to Smith County, State of Tennessee in March 1804, where I now live and have lived since that time.

Q. 4. How were you called into service? Were you drafted or did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for whom? Ans. I was a volunteer.

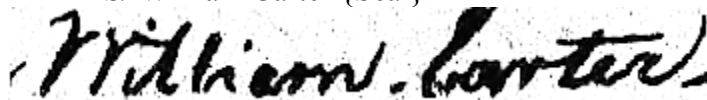
Q. 5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. Ans. General Greene was a Regular officer of the Militia, Gen(s) Eaton and Butler & Colonel Haynes. I belonged to the 1st Regiment. The general circumstances of my service have been set forth in my declaration.

Q. 6. Have you ever received a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Ans: I received two discharges the first from Col. James Allen and the other from Col. Guilford Dudley. I placed them with my father's papers and they have been destroyed since his death.

Q. 7. 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.

Ans. Cyrus W. Brevard, John Rankin, Joseph Gifford, Francis Duffy, William Hall, William B.

Campbell, David Burford, Robert Allen, William C. Brunsford & Joseph F. Hibbett.
S/ William Carter {Seal}



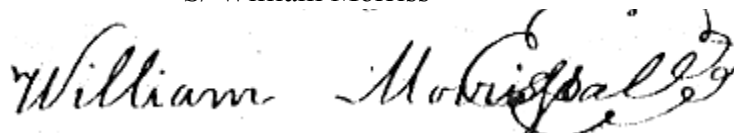
[William C Bransford, a clergyman, and Joseph F Hibbell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interlined before signed,
Sworn to and subscribed before me this date above written.
S/ Alfred A. Brevard {Seal} Justice of the Peace

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State of Tennessee Sumner County: This is to certify that I William Morriss¹ of the County and State aforesaid was well acquainted with William Carter of Smith County and State of Tennessee in the Time of the revolution war in Halifax County in North Carolina and do further certify that I know that he William Carter was in the service of his Country as a volunteer soldier. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of October 1839.

S/ William Morriss



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State of Tennessee Smith County

This day personally appeared William Carter Senior before me Alfred A Brevard one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County and made oath that his reasons for not making earlier application for a pension is that his circumstances in life was totally good and was not dependent on the Government for assistance although he was legally entitled, but as it had become, and for all the Soldiers rich & poor to apply and received the Government's bounty he had concluded to apply. He further states that as respects the last tour mentioned in his declaration that he was not regularly attached to the Commissary Department – but was detached and engaged in that service for perhaps two months (term not precisely recollected) engaged in driving beeves for the Army and that he knows of no persons now living by whom he can prove that particular service all his Associates and companions in arms nearly so being dead. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd day of November 1839.

S/ William Carter, Senior

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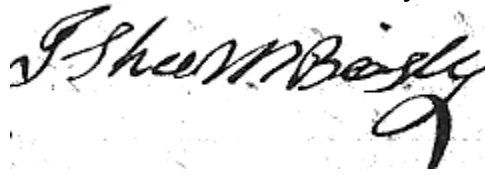
State of Tennessee Smith County

Personally appeared before me Charles McMurry an acting justice of the peace for said County Isham Beasley,² who states that he was a Revolutionary Soldier, that in the year 81 he passed through North Carolina through that part of the State, where the British had done great deal of injury by fire, particularly in Chatham Court House from thence to Ramseys Mill & that from circumstances I have reason to believe that William Carter was in company with me. Sworn to & subscribed this 16 December 1839.

¹ [William Morriss \(Morris\) S2864](#)

² [Isham Beasley S1943](#)

S/ IShaM Beasly

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "I. Shum Beasly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "I" and a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months service as a private in the North Carolina militia. The pension payments were suspended in 1838. Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1840 and ending March 4th, 1844 for six months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]