

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathan Grantham S31716

f35NC

Transcribe d by Will Graves

8/24/08 rev'd 9/24/15

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Georgia, Stewart County

On this fourth day May 1834 personally appeared before us Asaph R. Hill, Wm. H. Dismukes and Abraham Price [could be Prim] – Nathan Grantham a resident of the Twentieth district in this County of Stewart and State of Georgia aged Seventy-four 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1779 as a volunteer with General Richard Caswell and Colonel Thomas Brown and served in the company as a volunteer under the following named officers Colonel Thomas Brown the only field officer recollected by Applicant Thomas Page was the Captain of the company to which I belong, Thomas Grantham was Lieutenant to the same Company under this Captain and in the same company I served three or four months I was then turned [word torn out] to Colonel Benjamin Axum's [sic, Benjamin Exum's] Regiment or company [word or words torn out] Lofley [Daniel Loftley] was Captain of the company to which [word or words torn out] attached and I think that Travis Thigpen was Lieutenant to the same company. I do not Recollect the names of any other officers to said company under this officer I served three or four months I was then attached as I think to Colonel Nixon's [Lt. Col. Richard Nixon's] Regiment and served under Captain Joseph Sessions, Andrew Knox was in the first Lieutenant of this company Ensign was by the name of Smith General Nathaniel Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] was the field officer under the last named Captain I served three or four months. I was then attached to Major Hardy Griffin's Company and under General William Caswell the commanding officer I do not recollect any other officers' names. In this company I served three months or more I was then attached to a Horse Company under the command of General William Caswell and Benjamin Harrison was the Captain under Harrison I served one or two months I was then attached to another Horse Company General Caswell the commanding field officer and John Grantham was our Captain under the last Captain I served three or four months. From all the above named I received (except from Brown) a regular discharge which are lost. At the time of service I lived in the County of Wayne in North Carolina I was in two battles the first Engagement was under Hardy Griffin at Rock fish [sic, Rockfish] Creek [Rockfish Creek, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1782]<sup>1</sup> in Duplin County North Carolina the British officers name was Major Craigg [sic, James Craig] the Second Engagement I was under Captain Harrison in Onslow County North Carolina the battle was called the Battle of Sanders Bridge [Webber's Bridge, August 17, 1781]<sup>2</sup> Major Craig was the opposing British officer I first started from Kingston [sic, Kinston] in Dobbs County North Carolina marched through Duplin & Bladen Counties to Drowning Creek from thence back to Elizabeth on Cape Fear River from thence to Fayetteville or Cross Creek in North Carolina From thence to Wayne County in the State aforesaid from thence through Hillsborough and on by way of Bells Mills on Deep River to the Yadkin River from thence

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_rockfish\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_rockfish_creek.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_webbers\\_bridge.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_webbers_bridge.html)

Colonel Axum marched his Regiment back to Wayne County & there discharged them this all in the State of North Carolina the next tour under Captain Sessions I started from the original place Kinston in North Carolina and marched by Tarborough Tar River up Tar River to Harrisburg and thence to the Dan River and the [word torn out] on near the Mountains and thence on and [word or words torn out] General Greene at Guilford Court House from [word or words torn out] marched to Ramsey's Mills in pursuit of Cornwallis on Deep River and was there discharged. The next tour under Major Hardy Griffin I started from Kinston as that was the place of rendezvous and marched to Smithfield in Johnson [sic, Johnston County] NC from thence back & crossed the Neuse River and thence to Rockfish Creek where we had an engagement as stated against the Major Craig from Rockfish Creek to Goshen Bridge and there discharged. The next Tour under Captain Harrison we started from Joseph Greens in Wayne County NC and went to Goshen in pursuit of Tories and from there to Sanders Bridge where we Joined General Caswell where we had the other engagement and from there back to Wayne County in North Carolina where I was again discharged. The next Tour under Captain Grantham we rendezvoused in Wayne County NC and Scouted about took some Tories and there remained during the winter after the capture of Cornwallis and then discharged in February 1782.

The counties that I marched through to and from the above places is not recollected  
I have lost the discharge is given by the officers.

I was not engaged in any civil pursuit during my service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathan Grantham



[William Gasaway, a clergyman and Richard Kidd, Samuel Williams, Loverd Bryan, F. D. Wimberly gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1<sup>st</sup> I was born in Dobbs County North Carolina in 1759.

2<sup>nd</sup> I have the Record of my age at home in a Bible

3<sup>rd</sup> I was living in Wayne County when I volunteered I have lived in South Carolina 23 years and have lived in Georgia ever since the year 1822 where I now live in the County of Stewart Georgia

4<sup>th</sup> I was a volunteer except when under cap major Griffin under [him] I was a substitute for William Whitley

5<sup>th</sup> Colonel T. Brown, Benjamin Axum, General Butler, Colonel Nixon, General Nathanael Greene, Major Griffin, [word torn out] James Kenan, General W. as well does not [word or words torn out] the number of regiments – and all circumstances [word or words torn out] been related of any note

6<sup>th</sup> I Received a discharge from Colonel Axum Captain Sessions Major Griffin Captain Harrison John Grantham Captain they have all been lost

7<sup>th</sup> Mr. Richard J. Snelling, Loverd Bryan, Richard Kidd, Henry W. Jernigan, Samuel Williams, R. Bryan Tunnel Hayden will testify these several Questions Required

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Georgia Laurens County: Personally came before me Duncan D Munroe a Justice of the peace in & for said County Ezekiel Smith [sic]<sup>3</sup> & after being duly sworn deposed & saith that he is acquainted with Nathan Grantham & that his first acquaintance was formed with him in the year 1781, deponent further saith that he (Nathan Grantham) was then a soldier in the Army under the command of General Greene in the pursuit of Cornwallis from Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina to Ramsey's Mill on Deep

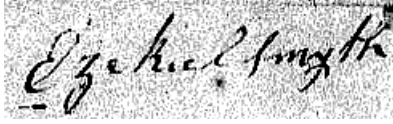
<sup>3</sup> [Ezekiel Smyth \(Smith\) W25480](#)

River.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 19<sup>th</sup> August 1833

S/ D. D. Munroe, JP

S/ Ezekiel Smyth



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State of Georgia, Laurens County

Personally appeared Elias Grantham before me Seaborn Rainey, a Justice of the Peace and after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he has been acquainted with the applicant Nathan Grantham ever since he was a boy and was acquainted with him during the Revolutionary War and was personally knowing to his serving as a soldier during the war aforesaid in behalf of America against the British & Tories and he the said Elias served several Tours of duty with the said Nathan & served in the Militia of North Carolina under Colonel James Kenan and Major Hardy Griffin and after serving as aforesaid Nathan Grantham as well as myself joined in the Horse company & served under John Grantham as Captain and General Caswell as commander in chief and the said Elias further deposeth that the said Nathan and he the deponent was messmates while serving as aforesaid.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29<sup>th</sup> of November 1834.

S/ Seaborn Rainey, JP

S/ Elias Grantham



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State Georgia, Stewart County

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November in the year 1834 personally appeared before of Asaph R. Hill, Welles Birmingham, Abraham Prim & James Hilliard Justices of inferior Court of said County Nathan Grantham a resident of the Twentieth district in the County of Stewart and State of Georgia aged Seventy-five years who being 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he turned out in the latter part of the year 1777 as a volunteer in the militia line in the cause of liberty against the British & Tories and served in that Capacity in succession under the Several officers herein after mentioned till the forepart of the year 1782 in all over two years the place where I turned [out] was in the State of North Carolina in Wayne County under the Command of General Caswell & rendezvoused at Kinston in Dobbs County & from there I was marched to Bladen County to a small village on Cape Fear River called Elizabeth [sic, Elizabethtown] and there joined under the command of Colonel Thomas Brown my Captain this for [sic, tour?] was Thomas Page from the Last mentioned place we marched to Drowning Creek in said County at this last place we remained some time where we captured and took a considerable number of Tories and from there we were marched back to Elizabeth yet under the command of Captain Page & Colonel Brown at this place I remained for some time & from thence marched up to Fayetteville in Cumberland County this last march I was under the Command of Major Richardson at this place I was discharged with orders to appear at Kinston in September 1780 which I did and was then and there attached to Colonel Benjamin Axum's Regiment and I think at this time the Captain was by the name of Daniel Loftley from there we marched to Hillsboro in Orange County in the said State of North Carolina in performing this march we marched through Wayne County Johnston County & Wake County to the place aforesaid from there we

marched to Bell's Mills on Deep River and here we joined General Butler, from thence to the Yadkin River to a place called the Island Ford here we remained until winter, then from there was marched back to Wayne County & discharged about Christmas Either just before or just after from there our returned to Kinston and joined Colonel Nixon's Regiment this was in January 1781 this Tour my Captain was by the name of Joseph Seasions [looked more like "Sessions" in other documents] and one of my Lieutenant was by the name of Andrew Knox and the Ensign was by the name Smith. From Kinston we marched to Tarborough on Tar River in making this we marched through Wayne, Edgecombe Counties from thence to a little village called Harrisburg in performing this route we marched through Nash County the names of other Counties not recollected from thence we marched to Dan River from thence up said River to near the mountains from thence we turned and a South direction passed by Old Colonel Moore's and thence to Guilford and joined General Greene's Army and thence marched in pursuit of Cornwallis to Ramsey's Mills on Deep River in Chatham County here we remained I think tour one month of May and then discharged from the last mentioned place I returned home to Wayne County and then in a few days joined the Army again as a substitute in the place of William Whitley at Kinston under the command of Colonel Spate from here we marched through Wayne County to Smithfield in Johnston County and after being there some time thence marched back to Kinston thence up the River and crossed the same at General Joseph Greens [?] this was in Wayne County from thence we marched to the Rock fish Bridge in Duplin County where we remained until late in the summer and was attacked by the British who was commanded by a Major Crage [sic, Craig] and here we were beaten with some loss from the time we crossed the River at General Joseph Green's. I was under the command of Major Hardy Griffin till discharged by him at Hunt's [?] Bridge on Goshen in the said County of Duplin from here I returned Home in Wayne County and [indecipherable word or words] horse and then proceeded and joined a Horse Company under Captain Benjamin Harrison and joined General Caswell near Sanders Bridge on Tucaho [? Tuckahoe] where we had another Engagement with the aforesaid Major Craig from thence we marched and joined General Linington [sic, Lillington?] in Onslow County this was in the autumn of 1781 from thence to Wayne County and discharged by Captain Harrison and then I immediately joined another Horse Company under Captain John Grantham in Wayne County and we continued in this County during the winter subduing the Tories and was discharged in the month of February or March in the year 1782 which closed my services. The Counties not named on the different marches not recollected. I have lost the discharge is given by the different Officers. I was not engaged in any civil pursuit during my Service I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare my name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathan Grantham

[Frederick D. Wimberley, Jared Irwin, Needham R. Bryan and Marmaduke Grisham gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1<sup>st</sup>. I was born in Dobbs County North Carolina in the year 1759.

2<sup>nd</sup>. I have the Record of my age at home in a Bible.

3<sup>rd</sup>. I was living in Wayne County when I volunteered have lived in South Carolina 23 years and have lived in Georgia ever since the year 1822 and am now living in said State in the County of Stewart

4<sup>th</sup>. I was a volunteer except when under Major Griffin then I was a Substitute for William Whitley

5<sup>th</sup>. Colonel T Brown, Benjamin Axum, General Butler [John Butler], Colonel Nickerson, General Nathaniel Green, Major Griffin, James Kenan, General W Caswell does not recollect the number of the regiments and all Circumstances have been stated of any note

6<sup>th</sup>. I received a discharge from Colonel Axum , Captain Sessions, Major Griffin, Captain Harrison, John Grantham as Captain they have been all lost.

7. Frederick W Wimberley, Jared Irwin, Needham R Bryan & Marmaduke Grisham will testify that they believe the above statements to be true

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Lumpkin Stewart County Georgia 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1835

Mr. J. L. Edwards

Dr. Sir

I received yours of the 7<sup>th</sup> ultimo requesting me to state by what authority I served as a soldier in the revolutionary war & from what source I received my pay. Now, Sir the truth of the matter is that, I served by & under the proper authority as I thought, General Richard Caswell was Commander in Chief of the Militia, where I lived and I believed by his orders the militia was divided into four divisions & I fell in the third division & when it came to the time for the divisions to which I stood to stand a draft, the Captain proposed to the Company to lay down money on the drum head which was done & then called for volunteers to turn out & the money should be equally divided, among us & I was one that turned out, & the money was divided, & I got three dollars for my share which I do declare solemnly was all the pay I ever got from the public, I got a horse from William Whitley for serving his tour, which horse I rode in the light horse Company under Captain Harrison & I lost the horse (But to Return to the subject). From the time I considered myself a soldier & obeyed the officers under which I was placed from time to time, till the time stated in the declaration & I believe some longer. But I cannot remember the exact time and I had rather be under then over the truth. And when we had orders to rendezvous at Kingstown, Dobb County North Carolina I obeyed orders & there we were stationed some length of time, but how long I can't remember, nor, why it was that Colonel Exum's Regiment did not march sooner than they did, I don't recollect, but I remember that I was permitted to go home, & when I got home several of my friends that was going out to Bladen County to Colonel Thomas Brown's Army and I went out under Captain Thomas Page & there served under Colonel Brown & Major Roberson to the last of the Summer, part of time I was marching & part stationed in a little town called Elizabeth Bladen County North Carolina & part of the time we were stationed in Fayetteville then called Cross Creek town, in Cumberland County North Carolina & for all this time I received no discharges, & while I was at the last place mentioned, I was ordered to return home, as the Company I was in was about to go to another place, & it was proper for me to go to my County where I resided (Wayne). I obeyed orders & went to Kingston again & Joined Colonel B. Exum's Regiment, & marched & served the tour of duty for which I first turned out, making those marches under those officers until the time mentioned in my former declaration. But I think before this time, Old General Caswell had resigned & his son, Wm Caswell, had taken [command] & by his authority and under him as head Commander of the Militia I continued to serve, next to the last mentioned; my father James Grantham was drafted & rather than he should go & leave my mother & the little Children, I went & served his time in this tour. After marching as stated in my former declaration, we joined General Greene at Guilford Court House North Carolina & marched in pursuit of Cornwallis to Ramsey's Mills, where I was discharged & went home, and to my mortification Cornwallis was then in our County and I had to take the Swamp a few days & as soon as I could (which was but a few days) I went to Major Griffin's Company & took the place of Wm Whitley and served his tour & was discharged, And then immediately joined the light horse as before stated and after being discharged by Captain Harrison & by the authority of General Caswell, there was a Company of light horse to be raised in each County and as I did not wish to be compelled by a draft to defend the Cause of liberty, – I turned out again as a volunteer & served that capacity until the Close of the war, as I have stated in my declaration. You requested me to state all the particulars, But I cannot remember any other transactions of importance, then I have already stated, I have declared in plain terms to the best of my recollection the authority by which I served my Country as a soldier – You also request me to state from what source I received my pay. My answer is None, for I left Wayne County in 1783 – and never expected to get any pay, therefore never sought it till now, & would not now, do it if I was able to live without it, But I am old & afflicted and very needy and as it is my right for which I risked my life I shall be very [happy ?] to receive it, not only my pension but also my pay, if admissible.

Yr. Obt. Sevat  
S/ Nathan Grantham

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15<sup>th</sup> of May 1835

Hon<sup>l</sup> Sir

I was in Lumpkin when I received a letter from you requesting me to state under what authority I served as a Soldier in the revolution war; also to state from what Source I derived my pay (and as I am a poor pensman and very slow to write I showed the letter to a friend who lived there & requested him to write an answer for me) which he said he would do that night, but could not do it then, he was so busy in his store and I was obliged away so I gave him some directions and left your letter with him and I never saw the letter that he wrote to you But I perceive by your letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> March, that he made a misrepresentation or you have misunderstood the matter, therefore I'll point out the mistakes and then state the facts, 1<sup>st</sup> mistake that I served more than two years in succession and only received \$3 pay; 2<sup>nd</sup> that I served as a partisan soldier by mutual consent with some others to protect each other against the Tories; and now in stating the facts I hope to make the matter plain to be understood; I did not say that I was two years in actual service, I only meant by succession that one tour of duty succeeded another; from the time that I first turned out as a volunteer, till February or March 1782 including something more than 2 years, though I expect that I was not exceeding two thirds of that time in actual service as a soldier. Sir when I turned out as a Volunteer (then it was that I got the \$3 that was spoken of; (as a bounty and not as pay) and I went as a volunteer & served under Colonel Brown till after Gates defeat at Camden South Carolina [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] – all the time was lost to me for it did not exonerate me from standing my draft according to the military law, as stated in your letter, therefore I did stand a draft and was drafted for three months, and served my time under Colonel Benjamin Axum, and was discharged by him: and about that time my father – James Grantham – was drafted for three months, and I will was received as a Substitute in his place & went & served his tour; this was the time that we took that long & tedious march and at last Joined General Greene at Guilford C. H. N. C. & marched under him to Ramsey's Mills on Deep River and there, I was discharged & went home, and about that time William Whitley was drafted for three months, and he employed me to take his place, and I served his time under Major Hardy Griffin and was discharged by him: and went home again: and General Williams Caswell commanded in person in a Troop of horse about 200 when they were all together – which was kept in operation to annoy the British under Major Craigg, who were come out of Wilmington and were ravaging those counties on the way to New Bern N. C. and I had a good horse which was subject to press in the light horse Service, I concluded to ride him myself & did so, and served in the light horse till the time before stated – I admit your statement of the pay being regulated by law for the soldiers; but what it was or how it was to be obtained I know not – one thing I remember hearing some talk about the soldiers Indents, but I do solemnly declare that I never had or saw one that I can recollect, I know that I was entitled to pay, and some person might draw my pay for all that I know, but if they did it was without my consent or knowledge. But I'm not asking for pay. I am only asking for my right as a pensioner which Congress has guaranteed to me, which I make no doubt but you will send it, or give me instructions where and how to obtain it. Your compliance will be gratefully acknowledged by your Humble Servant

S/ Nathan Grantham

PS Where it is stated in the declaration (wrote by Mr. Deloney) served 2 or 3 months at a time only meant that I was out from home that long but our time was not recorded till we marched from the place of rendezvous.

[Note: The letters from J. L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions, to which the veteran refers to in his letters are not contained in the file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the North Carolina militia and State Troops.]