

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Justice (Justus) S32351

f19NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/22/16

[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 Illinois, Schuyler County: Circuit Court October Term A.D. 1832

On this third day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Judge of the Circuit Court of said County & State now sitting in Rushville (the same being a court of record) Moses Justus a resident of the County of McDonough and State of Illinois aged Seventy Seven 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 June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: Entered the service as a volunteer in 1774 (month & day not recollected) in the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina, under Captain John Fifer [sic, John Phifer], Lieutenant Samuel Patton, Ensign William Houston, as a volunteer served three months, marched to Cross Creek in North Carolina about one Hundred miles and was there discharged by Samuel Patton he being Captain, Captain John Phifer having been promoted to Col. Soon after returning from Cross Creek aforesaid the place of discharge to Mecklenburg aforesaid, he entered the service again as a volunteer at the County of Mecklenburg aforesaid in July 1774 as well as he recollects under Captain Caleb Fifer [Caleb Phifer], Lieutenant William Houston Ensign's name not recollected, commanded by Colonel John Phifer and marched to the Cherokee nation at the Valley Towns, after serving three months returned to Salisbury in North Carolina about fourteen miles from Mecklenburg aforesaid, and was there discharged and paid. That he entered the service a third time as a substitute in Captain Haven's [James Haven's] Company (Lieutenant & Ensign's names not recollected) in the Third Regiment Commanded by Colonel Tinnen [Hugh Tinnen], General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] commander in chief, we marched to Stono twenty miles from Charleston and was in a Battle at Stono [June 20, 1779],<sup>1</sup> and was discharged there after serving three months. Afterwards he removed to Virginia & entered the service a fourth time in February following at New River in Montgomery County Virginia, as a volunteer under Captain James Newell, Lieutenant William Glaves [William Glavis], Ensign Richard Muse, Colonel Preston [William Preston] commanding, we marched to Haw River in North Carolina below the Moravian Towns had a skirmish at Whitesells mills [sic, Wetzel's Mill, March 6, 1781]<sup>2</sup> was defeated, then marched to Guilford Court House in North Carolina and was there discharged. That he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service; and that 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.

Questions by the Court

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_stono\\_ferry.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_weitzells\\_mill.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_weitzells_mill.html)

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

A. In the year 1753 in the State of Maryland

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A. I have a record of my age at my house where I now reside.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

A. I was living at the time I volunteered into the service, in the State of North Carolina, afterwards removed to Virginia, then removed to East Tennessee, then to West Tennessee, then to the State of Indiana, and then to Schuyler County in the State of Illinois and then to McDonough County in the said State of Illinois where I now live

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

A. I entered service as a volunteer minute man and served as a volunteer during the whole of my Service, except one tour of three months, which I served as a Substitute for a man whose name I do not recollect under Captain Havens.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A. General Lincoln was with the troops among whom I served, also Generals Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] & McDowell [Charles McDowell] and Colonel Preston, Tinnen and Phifer of the Militia

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

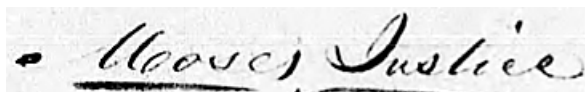
A. I received a discharge from Captain Fifer, and one from Captain Havens, and have lost them both, was not careful to preserve them, thinking them of no Consequence.

7<sup>th</sup> 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

A. I am acquainted with William Skiles, George Skiles and Samuel Bogart, who can testify as to my character for veracity & behavior, but am not acquainted with any person, who can testify to my Services in the revolution from his own knowledge. Sworn to & subscribed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October A.D. 1832.

S/ Richard M. Young, Circuit Judge of the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois

S/ Moses Justice<sup>3</sup>

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Moses Justice". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Samuel Bogart, a clergyman of McDonough County, and George and William Skiles gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Illinois, County of Schuyler

On this third day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of County Commissioners now sitting (the same being a Court of Record) Moses Justus a resident of McDonough County and State of Illinois aged now Seventy Eight years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in Amendment to a declaration made by him on the said third day of October 1832 in order to obtain the benefit of

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<sup>3</sup> I do not believe this is the actual signature of the veteran since the handwriting is identical to the body of the application.

the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he volunteered a minute man some time in the summer of 1774 (day and month not recollected) and the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina. That in the month of March 1775,<sup>4</sup> he was called into actual service of the United States as a private under Captain John Fifer, Lieutenant Samuel Patton Ensign William Houston and served as a volunteer three months, during which time he marched from Mecklenburg aforesaid to Cross Creek in said State about 100 miles and was there discharged by Samuel Patton then Captain, Captain John Fifer having been promoted to Col. That the Statement made in his original declaration of having entered the Service as a volunteer 1774, is the time when he volunteered as above stated, and not the time when he actually entered the service. And that he entered the service as stated in this his amended declaration.

That he entered the service of the United States a second time at Mecklenburg aforesaid in July 1775<sup>5</sup> under Captain Caleb Fifer, Lieutenant William Houston (Ensign's name not recollected) Commanded by Colonel John Fifer and marched to the Cherokee Nation at the Valley Towns and from thence returned to Salisbury in North Carolina and was there discharged having served three months that the statement made in his original declaration that he entered the service in July 1774 a second time is incorrect, and that he entered the service in July 1775 as above stated. That he entered the service a third time at Mecklenburg aforesaid in June or July 1780<sup>6</sup> a Substitute and private in Captain Havens Company (Lieutenant's and Ensign's names not recollected) of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Tinnen, General Lincoln Commander in chief and marched to Stono about 20 miles from Charleston and was in a Battle at Stono and was there discharged having served three months; from thence he returned to Mecklenburg and soon after removed to Virginia: that he entered the service a fourth time for three months in said worry 1781 at New River in Montgomery County Virginia as a volunteer and private under Captain James Newell, Lieutenant William Graves, Ensign Richard Muse, Col. Preston Commanding and marched to Haw River in North Carolina below the Moravian Towns had a skirmish with the British at Wetzel's Mill and was defeated, from thence he marched to Guilford Court House in North Carolina and was there discharged having served the said term of three months. For reasons that he did not make his declaration in the County of McDonough he assigns the following. That at the time of making his said declaration he was not aware of the necessity of making it in the County of his residence, or of assigning a reason for not doing so and he now assigns as such reason that he had recently moved to Schuyler County to the County of McDonough. That his witnesses resided in Skylark County that he himself was best known there and that it was most convenient for him: that McDonough County has been but recently organized and it appears by the certificate of the Clerk that no public Seat is yet provided for said McDonough County. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

(signed)

S/ Moses Justice

[William Skiles and William Carr gave this standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$38.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 11 ½ months in the North Carolina militia.]

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4 Probably 1776 when the Scotch Tories was defeated at Moore's Creek Bridge on their way to meet the British forces anticipated at Wilmington, NC.

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_moores\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html)

5 Probably the summer of 1776 in which a campaign was waged against the Cherokee Nation.

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cherokee\\_expedition\\_1776.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html)

6 The Battle of Stono was fought in 1779, not 1780 as asserted by the claimant.