

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Zachariah (Zacharias) Lierly (Lyerly) S32389 fn33NC

Transcribed by Will Graves 4/15/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Please call them to my attention.]

State of Illinois Jackson County: On this 9th Day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Thomas C. Brown Judge of the Circuit Court of Jackson, now sitting, Zacharias Lyerly, a resident of said County & State, aged 77 years on the 2nd of June next who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers & served as herein stated: He states that he was born in Culpeper County State of Virginia and as well as he recollects, having no record of his age on the 2nd day of June in the year 1755. That he continued to live in said County & State until he was 8 or 10 years of age, when his parents removed to Rowan County North Carolina where he resided at the commencement of the Revolutionary War, & also at the time of his entering the service in 1777 to the best of his recollection. He states as well as he remembers that sometime in the year of '77 the day & month not recollected, while living in Rowan County NC near Salisbury, he was called on to take up arms against the Tories, & volunteered under the command of one George H. Barger as Captain one Rutherford being our Colonel. That commanded by these officers he marched immediately to Fayetteville about 150 miles distance in the neighborhood of which place a certain portion of the people in favor of the British usurpations had begun to take up arms & to rise against the Country -- thence called Tories. That the Tories being affrighted at the sudden & unexpected appearance of an armed force were awed & quelled without much bloodshed. That having taken some of them prisoners & caused others to take an Oath of Allegiance to their country. That having accomplished the object of this expedition by subduing in this manner their domestic & unnatural foes, they returned home after having been out 2 or 3 months he does not recollect which. That he obtained from his officers a written & regular discharge as he supposed, but has lost it long since, from some of those numerous & unavoidable accidents incident to the lapse of time. This applicant further states, sometime in the year 1778 he again Volunteered, for the purpose as he believes and understood, of marching against the British, Lord Cornwallis & preventing them from passing or crossing the Savannah River. That in & through this expedition one Cook was there Captain (Thomas Cook perhaps). That they joined the American forces (he forgets now by whom commanded) at a place then called Turkey Hill where they had been laying some time previous to his arrival. That as the British forces moved up or down the River, they moved opposite them

on their own side. In this manner he continued employed until his time of service of five months having expired he was discharged and returned home, having had no battle. He further states that his discharge was lost as the former, no care being taken of them as he imagined it they would be of no further use to him. He does not recollect the year, but sometime after he heard of General Gates defeat¹, Volunteers were again called for & that he Volunteered under the command of one Captain Richard Grimes & joined the Army commanded by General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. That during this expedition he was in a small skirmish, a party of them being attacked by the enemy on a little Creek called Reedy at or near the place called Weigle's Mill.² That about one week subsequent to this he was at the battle of Guilford Court house³ where Major General Greene commanded. He thinks the North Carolina Militia of which he was one commenced the action, & next came the Militia of Virginia & then the regulars. He further states that shortly after this battle his period of service expired & that he was discharged as before & again returned home. That this his third discharge shared the like fate with the others. He further states that he was not engaged in any regular militia service after this, but they were frequently scouring the country in small scouting parties against the Tories quelling & subduing them either by persuasion or force. He further states that he served in no other manner or with any other troop than as above stated. He states likewise that he lived in North Carolina until the year 1818 or '19 when he removed to Union County Illinois & from there to Jackson, where he now resides, in the year of '22 or 3. He further states, he has no documentary evidence, & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Subscribed, & sworn to the day & year aforesaid

S/ Zacharias Lirely, X his mark

[James Harreld and Micajah Etherton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Illinois Jackson County: The affidavit of Zachariah Lierly supplementary to a declaration or affidavit of said Lierly taken & made before the Honorable Thomas C. Brown Judge of the Circuit Court of said County & State on the 9th of October 1832 in the matter of an application for a pension in consideration of Revolutionary Services: -- also the answers, on oath, to certain interrogatories prescribed by the War Department in such matters & cases.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the peace Zachariah Lierly, who being first duly sworn, deposeseth & saith, that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grade. For __ years & two months (1777) For five months (1778) For six months shortly after General Gates defeat in 1780, three for myself & three as a substitute for Melcher Elder. I served as a private & for such service I claim a pension. Interrogatory 1st Where & in what year were you born? Ans: In Culpeper County Virginia in 1756. 2nd: Have you any record of your age, & if so where is it? Ans: none save that of memory.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, where do you now live?

Ans: In Rowan County North Carolina & in this State, I have lived since I left there where I now

¹ August 15-16, 1780 at the Battle of Camden.

² This MAY be a reference to the engagement on March 6, 1781 at Weitzell's Mill.

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/weitzell.htm>

³ March 15, 1781

live.

4th. How were you called into service: were you drafted, did you A volunteer or were you a substitute & if so for whom? Ans: I volunteered twice & was a substitute once, which also a voluntary thing. 5th: State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental & militia Regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service. General Rutherford Colonel Locke & General Greene the two first of whom I know not whether they were Regular or militia.

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge & if so from whom & what has become of it? Ans: Yes, but know not from home unless from my Captain & have lost it long since. 7th. State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity, & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution? Ans: James Harold & Micajah Etherton.

S/ Zachariah Lierly, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed this __ day of 1833 before me

S/ James Harold, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$43.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 13 months service in the revolution.]

[The Bounty Land Record Card for George Liesner, Private, Massachusetts Line, Warrant Number 4573, Acreage 100, Issued Feb. 23, 1796 [issued] to Joseph Brown is erroneously included with this file.]