

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Painter (Panter) S32432

f31NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/31/09 & 10/15/17

[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.]

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State of Illinois Greene County SS

Be it remembered that on this Tenth day of September 1835 personally appeared before the County Commissioners Court, the same being a court of record of said Greene County now in session John Painter a citizen of said County & age at this time Eighty-one years, who being first duly sworn according to law in open Court, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was born the 2nd of February 1754 & that he entered the service of the United States as a private & a volunteer in the Revolutionary war sometime in the year 1776, and served in the war against the Indians in North Carolina under the command of Captain John Robinson, our Colonel's name was Joseph McDowell, and our General Charles McDowell, in which service I remained about one year. -- we fought the Cherokee Indians on French Broad River and its branches, -- After which I served under the same Captain & Colonel and our General was Davidson [William Lee Davidson] we marched from Burke Court house in North Carolina to Ramsour's Mills in Lincoln County in the summer of 1780 where we had a battle [Battle of Ramseur's Mill, June 20, 1780] with the Tories under the command of General John Moore in which battle we killed & took the whole Tory forces, -- From thence we marched to Batey's Ford [Beatties Ford] on the Catawby [Catawba] River where we had a battle with the British troops where General Davidson fell in battle [Cowan's Ford, February 1, 1781] crossing the River to charge the enemy. -- After General Davidson was killed we recrossed the River and retreated back to Charlotte Court house in Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina where we remained several days, here I was transferred under the command of Captain John Culvertson [John Culbertson], of the rifle company and under General Marion [Francis Marion], under General Marion we had a number of skirmishes with parties of British & Tories in one of those skirmishes we surprised and killed upwards of 20 Tories & took their Negroes & horses. -- after which in the fall General Gates [Horatio Gates] & DeKalb took the command of our troops and we marched to Camden in South Carolina where we battle [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] with the British troops under Lord Cornwallis. Here General DeKalb was killed and we retreated back upon Charlotte under General Gates. Here we remained until General N. Greene [Nathanael Greene] took the command of our troops; and then we marched into Virginia to recruit the Army here we were reinforced and, we then marched to Guilford Court house in North Carolina where we had a hard fought battle [Battle of Guilford County Court House, March 15, 1780] with the British under Lord Cornwallis, we then fell back a mile and a half from the town and formed in line of battle & a waited the advance of Lord Cornwallis, but he retreated, and I will Army pursued the Enemy about 7 miles, And being worn down with fatigue made a halt, here we took care wounded and buried the Enemies dead, -- From here we marched

to Camden in South Carolina where we had a battle [Battle of Hobkirk Hill, April 25, 1781] with the British troops, and we then retreated a short distance and remained some days and then we marched to Ninety Six [Siege of Ninety Six, May 21-June 19, 1781] from thence if I recollect a right we marched to the Eutaw Springs where we fought a severe and successful battle [Battle of Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781], we then returned to Charlotte Court house where we remained some months and I was still in service when Lord Cornwallis was taken, and then I was discharged, but took no written discharge, I was in the service as before detailed from 1776 to 1781, nearly 5 years. I have a record of my age in my family Bible. I know of no person by whom I can prove the facts set forth in the foregoing declaration. -- I was a citizen of Lincoln County & State of North Carolina at the time I entered the service and after I left the service until about the year 1810 when I removed to Rutherford County & State of Tennessee where I lived about twelve years, and then I removed to Madison County Illinois where I lived four years and thence to Greene County where I have lived for fourteen years and now live. -- I am known to Charles Kitchens.

And the said John Painter hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency of any State.

Subscribed & sworn to before the court aforesaid the year aforesaid.

S/ Moses A. Bledsoe, Clk

S/ John Panter, X his mark

[Charles Kitchens, a clergyman, and Jacob Fry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Illinois, Greene County

On the 6th day of September one thousand Eight hundred and Thirty six, personally appeared in open court before the County Commissioner's Court, being a court of record of said County now sitting. John Painter, a resident of said Greene County and State aforesaid, aged eighty two 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 Seventh 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1779 or 1780 (which year the deponent does not collect) under Captain John Robinson and served in the North Carolina Line from the time he entered the service until he was finally discharged by Genl. Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] at Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina in the year 1781 after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York Town [sic, Yorktown]. This deponent says that at the time he went into the service under Capt. Robinson, William Davidson [William Lee Davidson] was Brigadier General—and Joseph McDowell was Colonel, under which officers this deponent served. Under the command of Genl. Davidson, Col. McDowell and Captain Robinson, I marched on to the Catawba River at Baties Ford [sic, Beatties' Ford] where we had a battle with the British Army under the command of Lord Cornwallis, where after a desperate defense of the Ford, General Davidson was killed and we were compelled to retreat, with some loss. This battle was fought by the Militia, and in the engagement Col. Hall of the British Army was killed— From this defeat, we were marched to Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina where we remained in camp until the spring (or summer) of 1780—when I was transferred to the Company of Captain Culberson,-- General Gates [Horatio Gates] and the Baron DeKalb were the General Officers. Under these officers, I was marched with the Army to Camden in South Carolina, where we fought a battle with the British troops under the command of Lord Cornwallis some time in August 1780—and we were defeated. Immediately after this battle, we retreated back to Charlotte, and soon afterward was under the command of Genl. Marion, until Genl. Greene took

the command in the winter of 1780. I was still in Capt. Culverson's Company, and under the command of General Greene and was marched with the Army to the Cheraw Hills in North Carolina [sic, South Carolina]. From thence we marched into Virginia where we received reinforcements and then marched back to North Carolina and after a series of movements, we reached Guilford in March 1781 where we were encamped within a few miles of the British Army under Lord Cornwallis, and the next day the British Army advanced upon the American Army and after a hard fought battle General Greene order a retreat, and after falling back a few miles our army was again drawn up for battle, but the British Army did not pursue us, but retreated, and as soon as our Army got supplies of provisions, we pursued Lord Cornwallis as far as Ramsey's Mill where we were halted for about three weeks. From this place we marched back to Hobkirk's Hill near Camden, and soon afterward, we were attacked by the British Army under the command of Lord Rawdon and after a hard fought battle we were compelled to retreat. This battle was fought, as well as my memory serves me, in April 1781. From Camden, we were marched by Genl. Greene to Ninety Six, where we besieged the place for near four weeks, when we were ordered by Genl. Greene to take the Garrison by storm. This was a bloody business in which we lost a great many men in killed, and we were compelled to raise the siege and retreat. We were then marched over the Saluda [River] and we recrossed the Saluda and pursued Lord Rawdon, but we were unable to bring him into another engagement until some time in September we assembled all the American forces and attacked the British Army under Col. Stewart (if my memory serves) at the Eutaw Springs. There we were commanded by Gen. Greene, and I was under the same Captain Culverson. General Marion was also with us and ~~Genl. Pickens who commended the~~ commanded the North Carolina Militia to which I belonged. This battle was severe, and the day was excessively hot, and we had the satisfaction of claiming the victory, though at a loss of a good many of our brave men. We left the field of battle and encamped for the night about one mile off. The next day we marched over the battle ground in pursuing the British Army who had retreated toward Charleston. We followed the enemy to Monck's Corner, about sixty miles from Eutaw Springs, but the enemy eluded our pursuit since we saw no more of the enemy. We remained at Monck's Corner about three weeks, and then went back to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County North Carolina where we were encamped for seven weeks, and then we were disbanded and I returned home. I have omitted to state in its proper place that a battle was fought by the American forces under General Marion, in which I took part, after the suspension of Gates and before General Greene took command of the southern Army [Nathanael Greene took command of the Southern Division of the Continental Army in Charlotte North Carolina on December 2, 1780]. This battle was fought by our Army with a part of Tories and British in South Carolina near a Tory plantation in the night where we killed forty three and took two hundred horses and their equipment, and as many guns.

This deponent says he was a citizen of Lincoln County North Carolina when he entered the service and lived on the south fork of the Catawba River. This deponent further says that he entered the service as a volunteer in the North Carolina Line, in 1779 - and remained in service as stated in the foregoing declaration until after the battle of Yorktown, and was at no time out of service except at short intervals to procure supplies of clothing. This deponent states that he was born in 1754 in Lincoln County North Carolina where he lived until 1785, when he removed with his family to Rutherford County, Tennessee where he lived 12 years. From thence he removed to Madison County, Illinois where he lived four years, and thence to Greene County where he now lives and where he has resided for the last fifteen years.

I have no record of my age here, but I believe there is one in my Father's family Bible in North Carolina, if it is not destroyed. I never received any written discharge, nor do I know of any person now living by whom I can prove my services in the Revolutionary War.

I entered the service of the Revolutionary War as a private and so continued through the

war on three month tours; and, when the time of service expired, I uniformly volunteered again, and so continued without returning home until the war closed.

This deponent hereby relinquishes ever claim whatsoever 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

John Painter, X his mark

[Charles Kitchens, a clergyman, and Jacob Fry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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On this 28th day of July A.D. 1840

Personally appeared in Open Court before the County Commissioners Court for the County of Williamson and State of Illinois John Painter aged 86 years on the 2nd day of February last past (1840) 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. To wit early in the year 1779 but cannot recollect the month but believes it was in March 1779 as a rifle volunteer under Captain John Robinson and Colonel McDowell and (Parvard Major [probably Hugh Brevard]) he thinks and continued in said service until about 3 weeks subsequent to the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. The first engagement with the British that he was in was at Camden under General Gates my Captain was killed in Gates defeat. I then went under Captain John Culberson the same Colonel & Major was yet alive and with us. My Captain joined General Francis Marion and continued with him until General Greene came on we marched through the lower part of North & South Carolina & a small portion of Virginia. The 2nd engagement I was in was with Greene at Guilford Court house in North Carolina then Greene marched from Guilford Court house to Ramseys Mills from thence to Camden again & gave battle to Lord Rawdon near about the same ground that Gates defeat was, from thence to Ninety Six in South Carolina the next Battle I was in was at the Eutaw Springs (a hard fought battle was too) from thence to North Carolina again and from there until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the troops were then discharged Captain John Culberson was my Captain up to the last date. I have no documentary evidence of these facts. I know of no person whose testimony I can procure to testify to said service. = he the said John Painter 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 only on that of the agency of the State of Illinois. Subscribed & sworn to the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Painter, X his mark

[John W. Calvert, a clergyman, and Byrd T. Ryburn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]