

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ezekiel Folkner (Fortner) S3374

f18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/1/09 rev'd 2/25/15

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

State of Tennessee Hardin County

On this 17th day of May 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Circuit Court of Hardin County now sitting Ezekiel Forkner [sic] a resident of Indian Creek in Hardin County & State of Tennessee aged 74 years on the 10th of October next 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 & served as herein stated

This declarant states that he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in Anson County State of North Carolina under Captain Patrick Bogan [Patrick Boggan] as a volunteer his Lieutenant's name was John Jarman, __ Fields was his Ensign William Vandover was his Orderly Sergeant his Ensign's given name he does not recollect that his name was Fields as above -- his Colonel's name was Thomas Wade he does not recollect at this time his Major's name he entered the service as near as he can recollect in September 1781 it was anyhow not long after Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] and marched from Anson County to Baird's Ford on Little River in Richmond County North Carolina where the Tories came on us in the night but we repulsed them & in the morning we found one man dead on the ground found one horse & a bag of clothing -- from thence marched to Drowning Creek by way of Mountain Creek through a settlement called McCloud's settlement a Tory neighborhood from there we marched to the Gum Swamp in the edge of Richmond County or Robertson [County] he does not know which but it was near the line that divided those two Counties from thence to the head of Rock Fish Creek we here in our march done nothing but took some prisoners that were Tories who were skulking about and lying out from thence to Cole's Mill where we lay some two or three weeks From thence we marched home declarant served on this Tour three months Declarant stayed at home but four or five days He turned out under Captain James Fair [James Farr] same Lieutenant & Ensign as before on his last tour he declarant & the company to which he belonged was marched from Anson County under Colonel Wade to the Potato bed ferry on Little Pedee in South Carolina -- after some Tories that had collected just below there & met with General Francis Marion but a few days after he had defeated them From thence we marched to what was called the Raft Swamp and General Marion marched on to the southward we lay there a few days and heard of some Tories on Rock fish Creek & marched there in pursuit of them but never got them into an engagement they frequently would be in ambuscade & fire on us from the swamps, we marched on by the way of the head of Little River back homeward where we arrived at head quarters were at the place where we were in the habit of rendezvousing at the house of

Captain John Dejarnet [sic, John DeJarnette] he entered the service this tour about the 24th or 25th of December 1781 as near as he can recollect and returned home after a tour of two months which would be about the 24th or 25th of February he declarant was seldom at home never stayed all night at home while he was in the neighborhood it being dangerous for him to do so on account of the Tories and laid here at Dejarnet's some 8 or 10 days when news came to the Camp that the Tories had taken Colonel Crafford [Thomas Crawford] & killed Captain John McGuire we then immediately took up the line of march (declarant still under the same officers) after them which was about the first week in March he thinks but cannot be positive and pursued on after them towards Cape Fear [River] on the head waters of Drowning Creek about 50 miles from home where they attacked us on a branch of Drowning Creek the way this attack was made the Tories were lying in a swamp in ambuscade & attacked us when we were on a march and defeated us killing a few of our man and wounding some others we then marched back to Anson County there gathered up some more men & marched on to attack them at Beatti's Bridge¹ where they had assembled & was joined by a company of British dragoons we marched on to shoe heel—where declarant was kicked by a horse & he had to go back & ly [sic, lay] out about home till he got well from the time this declarant started out the third Tour (then he held himself ready at all times to fight for his Country or to go out when called for -- he does not wish to count in this declaration any time but that spent in the actual service of the United States) he served in actual service three months till he was kicked & was only prevented going on with the rest by that accident -- After declarant got well which was about three weeks he joined Captain Thomas Wade's Company but was under no field officer he was marched by his Captain ranging & reconnoitering the frontiers nothing happening of importance but that we took some Tories prisoner and whipped some to make them tell where the rest was but never found them in a body he served in this engagement the term of three months his declarant's Brother, William Forkner - - was his Lieutenant his brother is long since dead When we returned home peace was made & declarant never was out more upon all the above Tours this declarant was a mounted gunman he recollects General Francis Marion, Colonel Ramsey the Regiments that he served with were volunteer mounted gunmen he has no documentary evidence as he never received a discharge from the service but was dismissed verbally -- nor does he know of any 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 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.

S/ Ezekiel Folkner



Questions by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in Cumberland County North Carolina on the 10th day of October 1760 according to the best information I have which was from my Mother

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

Ans: the record of my age is lost

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the

¹ This may be a reference to the engagement on August 4, 1781 between forces commanded by Col. Thomas Wade and Colonels McNeil and Duncan Ray. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/beattisbr.htm>

Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: I was called into service in Anson County North Carolina from Anson I moved to Rutherford County North Carolina I have lived [in] of Burke and Lincoln [Counties] in the same State I have lived in Cocke, Jefferson, Blount, Knox, Overton, Marion, and Wayne & now in Hardin County, Tennessee

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

Ans: I was a volunteer in every Tour

5th 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.

Ans: I did not serve with the regular troops the only officers I recollect of seeing when in service was General Marion & Colonel Ramsey the Regiments that I recollect as Colonel Williams & Colonel Childs they were along with the troops when I was kicked with the horse as to the general circumstances of my service see my declaration

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

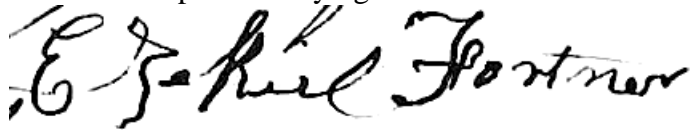
Ans: I never received a discharge but was merely dismissed by word of mouth

7th 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.

Ans: I refer to William G. Huddleston, Elisha Blackshear, Lewis Sawyers and I could if necessary refer to many others but they are being no clergyman in my Neighborhood at this time I cannot procure his Certificate

[Lewis Sawyers and F. W. Carothers gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13, On April 3, 1847, Ezekiel Fortner of Perry County, Tennessee, applied for a new Certificate of pension saying his old one is worn out.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ezekiel Fortner". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.67 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the North Carolina militia.]