

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Reuben Walker S3447

fn42NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Burke County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions October court 1832

On the 24th day of October Personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of said Court now sitting Reuben Walker a resident Citizen of said County aged about 72 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 on the 7 June 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and Served as herein Stated. That in the year 1776 or thereabouts he served as a private Soldier under Captain John Hardon for the term of about three months in an expedition from the County to Cross Creek now called Fayetteville against the Scotch Tories that Colonel Bateman was their Commander that Colonel Bateman was their commander [sic] & belonged to the Militia of North Carolina, Rowan County. That the next service that he recollects was under the Command of Captain Thomas Lytle against the Indians on the upper waters of the Catawba for the term of three months at Cathey's fort as it was called. That after this in the year 1777 Captain Harden of the Militia marched out to Tuckaseegee with about 100 man he being one against the Cherokee Indians and burnt their towns Chauga and drove the Indians off after killing three & taking prisoners three. That afterwards he served another three months tour against the British allies the Tories in what is now the County of Rutherford N. C. that at that time he was serving as a regular minute man under Captain Joseph McDowell that afterwards when the British officer with the assistance of the Tories was over running this Country he was actively engaged in cutting the supplies of the enemy until he Fanning left the Country. That in the last expedition from this Country against the British he belonged to Captain McFarland's Company of Mounted Volunteers and served until the British were driven away from these United States this was shortly after Lord Cornwallis was captured at Little York in Virginia – this was a tour of three months and Colonel Charles McDowell had the Command of the troops which went from this part of the Country – that I have no documentary evidence of my Services that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his service except the affidavit hereunto annexed marked A., B., & C.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that my name is not on the pension list roll [sic] of the agency of any State.

Question by the court

1st: When and in what year were you born?

Answer: In Warren County (as it is now called) about the year 1760

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

Answer: No

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary

War and where do you now live?

Answer: I lived here on hunting [sic] Creek in 4 miles of the place have lived there ever since when I was not in the Service and now live at the same place

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

Answer: I was a volunteer when I went to Cross Creek a young man on my way to [illegible word] met with the Captain Harden he persuaded me along that when he Served after under Captain Thomas Lytle he also was a volunteer, as also in all the expeditions that he has above detailed – as well as I can recollect.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I first went under Captain John Harden & Col. Bateman on the tour made against the Scotch Tories at Cross Creek in the year that the Troubles commenced but I cannot say as to the date next I was under Captain Thomas Lytle against the Indians & Colonel Bateman was first our commander but they were so irregular & I ignorant that I cannot say who Lytle looked up to as his first officer for he was only against the Indians on the frontiers when stationed at the fort on the Head waters of the Catawba. I recollect the names of none of the officers of the Continental Line unless one Wade was at Wilmington with us when we took possession just before the close of the war was one or my memory has so far failed me that I can say no more than I stated in the first of this 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?

Answer: I never received but one discharge & that in writing & that was given me at Wilmington when we went there under Colonel Charles McDowell who signed it I cannot recollect with certainty but think it was given me by Colonel [illegible last named] for it was taken away shortly after by some Tories who arrested me on my way from Wilmington.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I cannot say much as to those who are now here in court for most of my neighbors are gone home but I have the affidavit of Samuel Alexander¹ marked (A) who served with me, Isaac Thompson² who also served with me marked (B) and John Duck [sic, John Duckworth]³ who also served with me marked (C) all appended to this declaration.

Sworn to in open Court 24th Oct. 1832

S/ Ruben Walker, X his mark

State of North Carolina Burke County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions October Court 1832

John Duckworth swears that the end or about the year 1777 Reuben Walker serve along with him against the Cherokees during the war of the revolution. That said Walker was well known to him & it appeared to be the general opinion that he Walker was in the service of the Country often but this deponent served but one with him he has no doubt but he did act as a Soldier of the revolution more than 6 months.

Sworn to 25th of October 1832

Test: S/ J. E. Wright, Clk

S/ John Duckworth

State of North Carolina Burke County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions October Court 1832

¹ [Samuel Alexander W1530](#)

² [Isaac Thompson S7724](#)

³ [John Duckworth S6805](#)

Samuel Alexander makes oath that he was in the expedition from this Country to the Town of Wilmington against the British in the year 1780 under General Charles McDowell who commanded against the British, that he then knew Reuben Walker now present & he makes application for a pension: that said Walker was a private under said McDowell in said expedition & served for the term of 3 months.

Sworn to in open Court this 23rd day of October 1832

Test: S/ J. E. Wright, Clk

S/ Samuel Alexander

State of North Carolina Burke County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions October Court 1832

Isaac Thompson being in Court & duly sworn according to law on his oath depose and saith, - that in the year 1776 in the expedition that went from this Country to Cross Creek against the Scotch Tories that he was along & that Reuben Walker was also along & in the mess with him; that said Reuben served till regularly discharged -- that in the Expedition to Wilmington against the British in the year 1781 said Walker also served as a private that we got there & took possession of the town just as the last of the British left there, that said Reuben Walker served under Captain McFarlin as well as he now recollects but that said Walker was along as a soldier he is certain -- that in the two expeditions said Walker served more than six months as he believes.

Test: S/ J. E. Wright, Clk

S/ Isaac Thompson

[Jeremiah Stacy, a clergyman, and Groves Bowman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Reuben Walker being duly sworn according to law do hereby declare depose and say that in consequence of & by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory that he cannot swear more positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served as a private soldier not less than the periods mentioned in this his declaration heretofore all or therein stated and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to in open Court 24th of August 1833

Reuben Walker, X his mark

S/ J. E. Wright, Clerk

[fn p. 6: Veteran applied on August 8, 1836 in Knox County Tennessee for the transfer of his pension benefit payments from North Carolina to Tennessee where he intends to remain in order to live with his children.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year's service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]