

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Patten S3632

f36NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/11/09 & 10/23/17

[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.]

[p 6]

State of Tennessee, Morgan County }

On this 15th day of October 1832, personally appeared before the worshipful Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarters sessions for said County now sitting it being a court of record, Joseph Patten a resident citizen of the County of Morgan aforesaid in the State of Tennessee aged 70 years agreeable to his record as taken from his father's record and after being sworn according to Law make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the aforesaid act of Congress passed 7 June in the year of our Lord 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War in the State of North Carolina, Rowan County under Captain William Bell, Col. Frank Locke [sic, Francis Locke] and Major White [James White] his first name not recollected, he is not certain of the dates not recollected but it was in the summer season of the year and believed to be in the year 1779 and marched from said County and crossed the Catawba River at Shearl's Ford [sic, Sherrills Ford]. He went a horseback and all the men that went with him we went on to Ramsowers Mill [sic, Ramsour's Mill]¹ and fought the Tories at said mill and conquered and drove them away and wounded and killed many, and then we returned home having been in service about ten days and in three or four days thereafter was called again to fight the Tories and he marched off under Captain William Bell and aforesaid Col. Locke and Col Davidson [William Lee Davidson] was along that was afterwards General and we marched to Coalston Creek [sic, Colson's Mill]² and there had a Battle with the Tories and conquered them Easy and then returned home having been absent some short time this was another light horse trip and after staying at home about two weeks was drafted to serve three months against the British and Tories. The British then lay in Camden. He marched off under Captain William Heart [William Hart] and Col. Davie [William Richardson Davie], his first name not remembered and marched on toward Camden and stationed some time at Wahaw Creek [sic, Waxhaw Creek?] and while at that place Two hundred of us and he was of the number left the main force and fought the Tories at a place on the Catawba river and defeated them,³ and he together with the balance of said soldiers returned to their former station at Waxhaw Creek and rejoined our former troops and then there came word that the British was

¹ June 20, 1780. <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800620.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ramseurs_mill.html

² July 21, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/colson.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_colsons_mill.html

³ September 21, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wahabs_plantation.html

coming on toward Charlotte in Mecklenburg County and we then marched back toward that place and there remained until Tarleton and his forces came to that place we gave him a fire⁴ we that were of the horse and retreated the British remained in Charlotte some time and we stationed at Rocky river about 24 miles off we were engaged for some time in watching round where the enemy was stationed and in keeping them from plundering and at one time we took about forty of the British that were out foraging with their wagons and teams. He was in a skirmish at Col. Polk's Mill⁵ the British were guarding said mill we thought it was the Tories until we fired a few times on them they wounded 7 [could be 17] of our horses and killed one man of ours named Hugh Gray, we took one of their guards and retreated and then returned to head quarters at Rocky river and went on to Sallis Bury [sic, Salisbury] and was there verbally discharged for a three months tour and returned home and in about two or three weeks afterward was called in great haste to go against the British at the time they crossed at Shearl's ford [sic, Sherrills Ford] and he was on the same day that the British crossed said river in a skirmish with them at that place but we had to retreat and went home being in some few days and in sometime there after he substituted in the place of a certain Daniel Baxter who had been drafted to serve three months tour he marched off under his former Col. Locke and Capt. Huggins [James Huggins] and marched on after the British and crossed the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin and marched night and day for some distance and marched near Hillsborough and joined General Greens [sic, Nathanael Greene's] army and then marched to fight the British at the revolution battle ground near Haw river and the British retreated and was finally marched by General Greene across Haw river at the Reedy fork and was there publicly and verbally discharged and Col. Locke and his men returned home having served out our times and in about six or eight weeks after he returned home he himself was again drafted and states that his uncle Robert Patten his father's brother was employed in carrying on work for the Benefit of the army in fixing cannons, cartridges and in shoeing horses for the Light horse and in doing so it was necessary to have a good strong hand to help him and by the arrangement of White this applicant was put to assisting his uncle in Black Smithing [blacksmithing] for the use of the army this was to stand as his tour for which he was drafted he accordingly served out a three months servitude engaged at the most hard labor and after said three months tour was expired he was requested by order of Col. White to continue in service with an understanding that it should stand as so much time in the way of service in the army and served on till his uncle's time was out making at least four months after my first three months for which I had served at said work was expired for while in service he never was promised to be paid nor never received any pay for only the rations that was then allowed him by said officer by whom he was employed and applicant states the he must have been in the United States Service during said War about fourteen months in the aggregate the applicant has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no person by whom he can prove his services he states that he was born in the State of Pennsylvania he does not know the County can just bearyly recollect being moved to North Carolina Rowan County was raised in said County near Catries [sic, Cathey's?] meeting house and there continued to live until about two years after the revolutionary war and moved to the State of Kentucky Madison County, staid there some few years and moved to Montgomery County said state staid there 17 years moved to Cumberland County said state staid there 16 years moved to Overton County, Tennessee lived there 8 or nine years moved to Morgan Tennessee has lived ever since.

⁴ "Battle of Charlotte" September 26, 1780. <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800926.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_charlotte.html

⁵ October 9, 1780. http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_polks_mill.html

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension role of this agency of any state.

S/ Joseph Patten

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Patten". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a long horizontal stroke at the end that tapers into a small flourish.

Sworn to in open court

Attest

S/ John Brown, D.C.

[Maj. Shedrach Stephens and Col. Samuel Scott gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 15]

State of Tennessee Morgan County: On this the 15th day of July 1833 personally appeared before the Worshipful Justices of the court of pleas and quarter sessions for the County of Morgan State of Tennessee it being a court of record now sitting Joseph Patten, and after being duly sworn according to law on his oath deposes and makes this amendment to his original Declaration, and states, that owing to old age and loss of memory and being no scholar so as to take notice of dates that he was unable to state precisely what year he first entered the service of the United States that he did not know at the time of making his original Declaration that it was material in particular to state the date and merely to give it as an opinion in what year he thought it was and since on more deliberation he is clearly of opinion that he entered the service the first time spoken of his original Declaration that was in the year 1780 and he thinks about the first of June in said year he entered said Service in Rowan County North Carolina under Captain William Bell and Frank Locke and Major White his first name not recollected and marched as stated in his original Declaration on horseback and fought the Tories at Ramsour's Mill having been in service some few days he thinks about 10 days and he then returned home and recruited about 3 or 4 days, and marched off again under said Captain William Bell and Colonel Locke and Colonel Davidson his first name not remembered, and marched to Colson's Creek and there fought the Tories at which time said Colonel Davison was slightly wounded and again returned home having been out at this trip about 8 or 10 days, and after staying at home some short time and he thinks about 2 weeks, he was drafted to serve a 3 months Tour against the British and Tories and marched under Captain William Heart and Colonel Davie his first name not remembered, this Tour included most of the fall season of the year and he thinks he entered the service this time near about the last of August, and marched as stated in his original Declaration towards Camden and stationed some time at Waxhaw Creek and was detached from the main force and fought the Tories at a place on the Catawba River under my said Captain Hart and Colonel Davie, and returned back to the main force and went home toward Charlotte in Mecklenburg County and we was driven away from there by the British under Tarleton we fired on them and retreated and we went on and stationed at Rocky River and was engaged some time in watching in keeping the enemy from plundering and we took about forty of the British

prisoners during said tour he was in a skirmish at Colonel Polk's mill as stated in his original Declaration and returned to Rocky River and finally went to Salisbury and was there verbally discharged by my said Captain for a 3 months tour as a private light horse soldier we were called dragoons, the time of quitting the service this last mentioned tour he thinks was some time in November and still in the year 1780 and in a short time thereafter he was again called in great haste against the British and marched off under Captain William Bell and my aforesaid Colonel Locke as a private foot soldier was out some few days was in a skirmish at the cross roads of Catawba at the widow Torrence's Tavern,⁶ retreated and went back home perhaps was out about 10 days this time and 2 or 3 days thereafter he substituted in the place of Daniel Baxter who had been drafted to serve a 3 months tour as a private foot soldier and marched off under Captain Higgins and my aforesaid Colonel Locke and marched him after the British and crossed the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin [River] and marched near Hillsborough and joined General Greene's Army and marched to the revolutionary Battle ground and was there publicly and verbally discharged, he cannot state precisely what time he was discharged but he thinks it was very early in the spring of 1781, he then returned home, he states that owing to old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot state precisely the whole of the previous services of mounted to but according to the best of his recollection they amounted did not less than seven months.

He states that some 6 or 8 weeks thereafter he was drafted to serve a 3 months tour under said Captain Bell and White his first name not remembered, and by the order of Major White he was put to work for the use of the Army at blacksmithing served out said time and was continued at said labor in toto 7 months, with an understanding that the said latter 4 months of said Labor should save them from so much service in the Army, this applicant from old age and the great length of time and being no scholar [cannot] state precisely the periods of his service nor precisely the intervening time between them, but well recollects his tours in succession one after another and to have performed the whole of his services beginning in one year and ending in the ensuing year and believes that it was all done [in] the year[s] 1780 and 1781, he knows his services ended in the same year of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York, and he relies on calculating men of learning for the dates he being wholly illiterate, he hereby respectfully submits to the war department of war to fairly adjust this his claim and grant him a pension proportioned to what amount of time the department of War sees he is entitled to, he not being a Judge of true meaning of the act of Congress in every particular and whatever amount of time they think him entitled to be granted him a pension proportional, and let the time for which he may not be entitled be considered as relinquished (if any) that his claim be it settled at 7 or 10 or 14 months be not further delayed, as he is vastly old and infirm and in great need of some help he positively states that there is no clergyman any place within his vicinity, nor was there any at the time of arranging his original Declaration there being but one or 2 anywhere within his said County at a very remote distance from applicant he has no doubt he can prove his character for veracity and as a soldier of the revolution by Colonel Eldridge Myatt of his present neighborhood and by his neighbors generally and by David S. Lavender Esquire said County and by Elijah Lavender the clerk of the County court of his said County and in fact by all his intimate acquaintance generally.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid
S/ Thomas S. Lea, Deputy Clerk

S/ Joseph Patton

⁶ February 1, 1781. <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/1781s.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_tarrants_tavern.html

[p 32: veteran applied on March 20, 1846 for a new certificate stating that his old one was worn out. At this time he was living in Fentress County Tennessee.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.38 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 for service as a private for 3 months and 20 days in the cavalry and for 6 months and 11 days in the infantry, all in the North Carolina militia.]