

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Pilkenton S3701

f17NC

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. 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 North Carolina County of Johnston} Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term
1832

On this 29 day of August personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting Richard Pilkenton a resident of Johnston County aged about 70 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 7, 1832.

That he was drafted and entered the service of his country he believes in the autumn of the year 1778 or 1779 for a tour of five months and was placed under the command of Captain Matthew McCulloughs [Matthew McCullers] – Lieutenant Jno McCulloughs [John McCullers] and rendezvoused at Smithfield -- and marched to Kinston N. C. -- was quartered in Kinston there four weeks -- under command of Colonel Sheppard [John Sheppard] and Lieutenant Colonel Lowrie [John Lowry] -- He was thence marched to Wilmington N. C. -- General Clinton commanding -- Declarant was thence marched to South Carolina through Georgetown -- and to Charleston. Declarant was stationed about three months at Charleston -- and at Charleston received an honorable discharge signed he believes by Colonel Lowrie -- the Declarant was drafted according to his best recollection about twelve months after the expiration of his first Term of service for a tour of three months -- was placed under Captain Edmund Griffin -- Lieutenant John Griffin -- and rendezvoused at Smithfield and marched under the above named Captain and Lieutenant to Wilmington in said -- Colonel Needham Bryan was for a short time his Colonel in Wilmington -- The Declarant forgets who was his successor in office. He ended his tour in Wilmington and received his discharge which was signed by his Colonel -- whose name Declarant has forgotten -- His discharges are both lost -- that he avers sincerely and truly that he served in all the full time of eight months. Soon after his last discharge he remembers hearing of the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781] -- Declarant was not personally engaged in any battle -- He remembers that General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] commanded the Army at Charleston under whom both regulars and militia mustered --

He has no documentary evidence of his said service and knows of no one living whose testimony he can obtain to his actual services.

In answer to the Interrogatories¹ prescribed by the Department Declarant states that his

¹ The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

age is nearly 70 -- that he knows now of no record of his age unless it be in a family Bible once owned by his Brother -- That he was living in Johnston County at the time he was drafted where he has resided ever since --

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 any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Richard Pilkenton, R his mark

[Lemuel Pearce and James Peedin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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

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

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

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.

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

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.