

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Phelps S38301

f28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/17/12

[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. 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 fails 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Grayson County Sct.

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 personally appeared before Eli Bozorth a Justice of the peace in and for Grayson County State of Kentucky John Phelps aged eighty one years who being first sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the revolutionary war in the fall of the year 1776, that he enlisted under Captain James Franklin as an orderly Sergeant for the Term of three years – that he enlisted in Buckingham County in the State of Virginia in the regular service as an orderly Sergeant and rendezvoused at Amherst Court house in Virginia and marched from thence to Baltimore, and the smallpox being in the Army the whole Company which he was in was inoculated for the smallpox and before the whole of the men got well General Orders came on from General Washington for all the men that could be had; and all the men fit for service were set off, and being orderly Sergeant was left with the sick men with orders as soon as they were fit for service to bring them on to Philadelphia which ideas, at which place, I was ordered to draw Clothing and blankets for the soldiers from the Country Stores, and then I was ordered to march the men to Burlington and there I was met by Baggage Wagons to carry on the blankets and clothing which I had drawn for the soldiers and then we marched on to headquarters and joined the main Army at Bonbrook [Boundbrook], near the Big bridge, he thinks in the state of New York, and after he joined the main Army at Bonbrook he being orderly Sergeant he was ordered to go to an hospital about two miles from the main Army to draw Provisions and attend on the sick under the direction of the Doctors at which place he continued several months. The British being too strong for our Army General Washington retreated through the State of New Jersey into the State of Pennsylvania. That he marched to & fro through the northern states until the end of his services which was three years and that he served out the full term of three years in the Service, he was not in any battles, he was generally left with the sick as he was orderly Sergeant, he thinks the Regiment he was in was the 10 Virginia Regiment but as to this he is not certain it being so long ago he has forgotten, he being kept from the main body of the Army prevented him from getting acquainted with the Officers, and then he did get acquainted with he has forgotten their names, he recollects very well of seeing General Washington –

He has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services except the deposition of Nicholas Phelps hereto annexed and made part hereof – 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.

Interrogatories propounded by the Justice of the peace to the Applicant

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Cumberland County State of Virginia on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 1752

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

Answer. I have a register kept by my father and is now in my possession

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 in Buckingham County State of Virginia when called into service, and have lived in Virginia, Kentucky & Indiana since the revolutionary war and now live in Grayson County State of Kentucky.

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

Answer. I enlisted for three years and served out the full term of three years.

5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Answer. I recollect the names of Captain Franklin under whom I enlisted, General Washington the other officers' names I have forgotten, and the general circumstances of my service is the same as already stated –

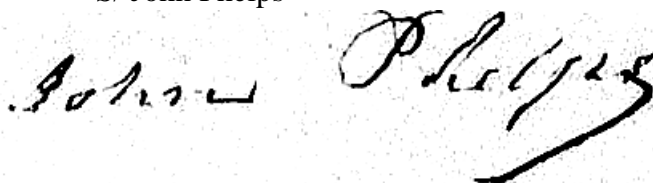
6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. At the end of my Term of Service of 3 years I received a discharge but do not now recollect by whom it was given, which I have lost.

7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Answer. Isaac Goff, Leroy Madison, Thomas Bratcher, Thomas Elder, Michael Rainer, George B Green, Thomas G Green, Welcome Ashley, James Smith, William Anderson, William Bratcher.  
Sworn and subscribed

S/ John Phelps

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Phelps". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Jacob Miller, a clergyman, and Isaac Goff gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 20: On November 8, 1833 in Grayson County Kentucky, Nicholas Phelps, 74, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with John Phelps both before and after the revolutionary war; that he, affiant, recollects that John Phelps enlisted in the service of the United States in Buckingham County Virginia in 1776 and he saw him start to the place of rendezvous and that he knows the veteran served out his full term of 3 years. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[f p. 14: On April 21, 1834 in Butler County Kentucky, Nancy Webb, 81, gave testimony that she was well acquainted with John Phelps being his sister; that she has been shown the application of her brother for a pension; that she knows perfectly well that John Phelps about the year 1776 in Buckingham County Virginia enlisted in the service of the United States in the revolutionary war as a Sergeant for term of 3 years and that he served said term; that she was living with their father at the time Phelps served and recalls her father receiving letters from him while in the

service; that her brother is one-year & 5 months older than she is. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a Sergeant for 2 years in the Virginia service.]