

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Shaw S3885

fn27NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/8/11

[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 and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Wayne County: September Session of the County Court of said County for the year 1832.

On this 25th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the justices of said County Court, now sitting, Benjamin Shaw a resident of said County & State aged 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement, or 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 and served as herein stated that is to say, He was drafted & entered the Army as a militia man in Caswell County North Carolina under the immediate command of Captain Moore in the Regiment of Colonel Sanders & General Rutherford's Brigade. – He marched out of North Carolina to Purrysburg in South Carolina – where the troops & applicant lay for some time from thence he marched to the two sisters [Two Sisters Ferry] as it was called on Savannah River, & frequently backwards & forwards from thence to & from the black swamp from thence he marched near to Augusta in the State of Georgia, & directly back to the two sisters. They had no battles on this expedition, which was to have been a five months tour but they were not dismissed by the commanding officers until the end of six months without receiving any regular discharges – He was next drafted in the same County in North Carolina – & went into service as a militia man under the Command of Captain Robert Parks and Colonel William Moore's Regiment – General Pickens was not much with them but he was under his [indecipherable word or words] command. He was occasionally marched to his quarters where they received general orders. – In this tour he was marched to the Catawba River at Baties [sic, Beatties] Ford & was driven from that place by the British. The Americans & British had a skirmish at said ford in which applicant was not engaged. He was thence marched back home the British being then in his immediate neighborhood. So soon as the British left his neighborhood he was discharged. This was a three months tour. This was the last service which applicant was engaged in, except several scouting parties in which he was actively employed making in all perhaps not more than six or eight weeks in this scouts –

In the above mentioned six months tour he was in the Battalion of Major Scurlock. He also states that General Davidson was killed at Beatties Ford [sic, Cowans Ford] in the skirmish

above referred to at that place. The applicant was not in said skirmish but that he was some miles above on the same River guarding the Island Ford to prevent the British from crossing at that point. He was in full hearing of their guns & cannon in their engagement, being not more than 6 miles distant from that place. In the last 3 months tour above mentioned, he was in a skirmish in the widow Torrences lain [sic, Tarrant's Lane]<sup>1</sup> with Cornwallis light horse & light infantry.

He has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service, except Zachariah Goforth,<sup>2</sup> who is a citizen of said County of Wayne & State of Tennessee.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Benjamin Shaw, X his mark

test: S/ William Barnett, Clerk

Questions put by the war Department

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

A. I was born in Caswell County in North Carolina

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

A. I have none.

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?

A. When called into service & serving the whole war I lived in Caswell County North Carolina, after the war I moved into Virginia, where I lived 2 years & thence back into North Carolina, from thence into Robertson County State of Tennessee in which State I have lived ever since, with the exception of 7 years which I resided in the State of Kentucky – & for the last 6 or 7 years I have resided in Wayne County Tennessee where I now live.

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?

Ans. I was drafted in all above service except in the scouting expeditions

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.

I have stated in the declaration the names of all the officers under whom I served to the best of my recollection as well as the general circumstances of my service

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?

Ans. I never received a discharge.

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.

Ans. I am known to James Davis, Alexander Steel, Merydy Davis, John Gray, Thomas Davis, Holloway Prater, Esq., & others who can testify as to my character &c.

S/ Benjamin Shaw, X his mark

State of Tennessee Wayne County: September Sessions of the County Court of said County 4

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<sup>1</sup> February 1, 1781 [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_tarrants\\_tavern.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_tarrants_tavern.html)

<sup>2</sup> [Zachariah Goforth S3405](#)

1832

On this 26th day of September 1832 appeared in open Court personally before the justices of said court now sitting Zachariah Goforth a resident of said County & State & after being duly sworn according to law made the following statement on oath. That he knew Benjamin Shaw now a resident of the said County of Wayne in the Revolutionary Army & that the said Shaw was then a soldier in the service of the United States – in the capacity of a militia man and he thinks in general Rutherford's Brigade, affiant states that he way he became acquainted with said Shaw in the revolutionary Army is as follows, the said Shaw was a five months militia men, & affiant was a nine months regular soldier, & posted at Purrysburg in the State of South Carolina. The five months men lay about half a mile distant from said Purrysburg & were backwards & forwards for a great part of the winter season between the two [indecipherable word] of the American troops by which means affiant became well acquainted with said sharp. The said five months men to which the said Shaw was attached were posted on the left wing of the troops in which affiant belonged at the battle of Stono – affiant well remembers to have seen the said Shaw and the said service. Affiant lived during the war of the revolution in the County of Caswell North Carolina not more than six miles from where the said Shaw lived & understands & believes that the said Shaw was at the present term of this court and filed his papers in the said court to be adjudicated upon for the purpose of sending on to the war Department by which he expects to establish his claim to a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

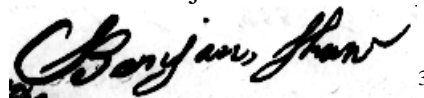
Affiant is about 72 years of age & has been living in said County of Wayne for 7 years last past & he believes that the said Shaw has always sustained a good character for veracity – both in North Carolina & in Tennessee. He never knew the said Shaw personally although from what he afterwards [indecipherable word], they lived but six miles distant in Caswell County North Carolina until after their acquaintance at Purrysburg.

S/ Zachariah Goforth, X his mark

State of Tennessee Wayne County Court June Term 1833

On this 4th day of June 1833 Benjamin Shaw personally appeared in open Court & being first duly sworn made the following supplemental declaration in order to obtain the provision of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832, that owing & by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the period or periods of the war in which he served but to the best of his recollection he first entered the service of the United States in the fall, in September 18 months before Charleston in South Carolina was taken that the reason he has not obtained the evidence of a clergyman is because there is no preacher living in his neighborhood & he is not acquainted with but one clergyman in the County who live 16 miles from him & he never saw him but a few times & the said clergyman knows nothing about his reputation as a soldier of the revolution that clergymen are scarce & generally [one or more indecipherable words] & that he has only lived between four & five years in the County, that he knows that he has served his country as stated in his original application & for 9 months of said service he claims a pension. Sworn to & subscribed the 4th day of June 1833.

S/ Benjamin Shaw

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin Shaw". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. To the right of the signature is a small number "3".

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<sup>3</sup> Why would he have signed his original declaration with a mark but signed his supplemental declaration?

[James Davis & Holloway Prater gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]