

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Spradling (Spradlin) S3963

fn14NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/5/11

[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 Warren County

On this 28th day of February 1833 personally appeared before us Kinchin Mathews and Elisha Reynolds to acting justices of the peace for said County John Spradlin a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged about eighty-five years who being 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 7th of June 1832: Says that he entered the service of the United States and served as herein after stated, to wit that on the \_\_ day of \_\_ he entered the Service of the United States in Captain Charles Forester Company deponent says that he entered himself as a minute man for twelve months the principal object of these minute men as affiant understood was to defend the country from the ravages of the Tories who at that time seemed likely they would overrun the country. Captain Forester Company organized in Wilkes County North Carolina and marched against a large body of Tories who had collected at or near Ramsour's Mills<sup>1</sup> before our company arrived there Colonel Robert Holmes took the command of our company and others and let us to the battle and we obtained a complete victory over them on the same day the battle was fought this applicant went in pursuit of Ransour [Ramsour] who owned the place where the battle was fought and who was a Tory in principle and feeling; and took him prisoner and carried him and delivered him to Colonel Holmes who released him as he was not found in arms. After the defeat of the Tories applicant returned home again but only remained a few [days, weeks, months??] when he again entered the service commanded by Captain Forester and continued almost constantly in the Service until the battle of Guilford generally against the Tories with whom I will company had several skirmishes. On one occasion Captain Forester and a small company of men amongst whom was applicant stopped at Mr. Bradburn's in Wilkes County to take some refreshment when a company of Whigs under Charles Kavanaugh who took our company to be Tories and our company took them to be Tories a battle ensued in which old man Bradburn was killed and several of the other side wounded. He again entered the service in Captain Forester company Charles McDowell Colonel and Joseph McDowell Major commanded by General Rutherford. Captain Forester company organized in Wilkes County and marched to Salem and then to Fayetteville and from thence returned home this tour was three months.

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<sup>1</sup> June 20, 1780 [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_ramseurs\\_mill.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ramseurs_mill.html) and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ramsours.htm>

Applicant again entered the service in a short time in Captain Forester company marched from Wilkes County and marched over into South Carolina in quest of the enemy on Pedee River no battle was fought this tour which continued 3 months as he believes. Applicant then returned home and never entered the service anymore. He received several written discharges but they are all lost or destroyed. He does not recollect positively who gave them but thinks one was signed by Captain Forester he therefore has no documentary evidence of his services nor does he know of any person by whom he can prove the same except John B Forester who informs applicant that he has frequently heard his father Captain Charles Forester speak of the Services of declarant in defense of his country. He thinks he served in all upwards of 12 months in defense of his country but many of the particulars of his services have escaped his recollection as he is very old and frail and his memory so much shattered. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Answers to the interrogatories directed by the war Department to be put by the court says he was born in Amelia County Virginia on the first day of January 1748, has no record of his age, he lived in Amelia 417 or 18 years then Halifax County Virginia where he lived 8 or 10 years then he moved to Wilkes County North Carolina where until about 1813 when he moved to Warren County Tennessee where he has resided ever since. He always volunteered never served with any regulars, he is unable to get to the court to file his declaration, he has stated the places he marched to as well as he recollects them in the body of his declaration, he thinks he received several written discharges but they are lost or mislaid, he is acquainted in his present neighborhood with Jesse R. Edmonds, Jesse Coffee, Langston Cunningham, Benjamin Wooten and William Stroud & David Goulston.

Sworn to and subscribed in the presence of

S/ John Spradling, X his mark

S/ Kinchen Mathews

S/ Elisha Reynolds

[George Stubblefield, a clergyman, and William McGehee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[John B Forester gave a supporting affidavit as to his father, Captain Charles Forester telling him of the services of the applicant in the revolution. From the handwriting and signature, I believe the application was drawn by John B Forester

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John B Forester". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent "J" at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail on the "s".

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