

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of Sterling Rose S4132

fn16NC

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. 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.]

State of North Carolina, County of Wilkes

On this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Court of Wilkes, now sitting, Sterling Rose, a resident of North Carolina in the County of Wilkes, aged Seventy five years next November 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated – That he entered the Military service of the United States under the command of Captain Jesse Walton in Surry County North Carolina in the year 1777 as a volunteer in the Infantry, the field officers were Colonel Martin Armstrong and Lieutenant Colonel Robert Lenear [sic, Robert Lenoir?], that he was marched to Salisbury North Carolina, remained there twenty days, from thence he was marched back to Surry County. In the fall of 1778 he entered the service again under Captain John Cleveland and was marched to Little River after the Scotch Tories who were under the command of McCloud [McLeod?] near Fayetteville in said war, from there he was marched back to Surry County was taken sick on his return and remained at home a few days under the Doctor, until his term of service expired which was a three months tour and was discharged by Captain Jesse Walton in Surry County. He entered the service again in the latter part of the Summer or first of the Spring of 1779, under the command of Captain Jarvis and Lieutenant William Gray, field officers were Colonel Charles Gordon and Major Jesse Walton who had been raised from a Captain to that appointment, he was marched to the head of the Yadkin River after the Indians, he served about two months that term, returned home and was dismissed, during said term that they built Fort Isaacs. In August 1779 he entered service again as a volunteer under Lieutenant William Gray and commanded by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland and General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and was marched against the Cherokee Indians, and acted as orderly Sergeant and was at the destroying of the middle Towns on the Tennessee River and Valley Towns on Hiwassee River and in the battle at said Towns he then returned home in Surry County and was discharged by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland having served two months. He entered the Service again as a volunteer in December 1779 under Captain Benjamin Herndon and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, and was marched to Haw River, Guilford County he then returned home having served about one month at that term. He entered the service again as a volunteer in the Spring of 1780 under the command of

Captain John Cleveland, and Major Hargrove and was marched to the head of Drowning Creek below Deep River N.C. against Fanning [David Fanning] the commander of the Tories, some fighting took place between the scouting parties, from there he returned home to Wilkes County North Carolina Surry County having been divided and the part he lived in called Wilkes, and was dismissed for that term having served one month and a half as orderly Sergeant in the Cavalry. He entered the service again as a volunteer under the command of Captain Benjamin Herndon and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland in Wilkes County in September or October 1780 and was marched to King's Mountain he arrived there the day after the battle and was one of the guard that guarded the prisoners back to Wilkes County and acted as orderly Sergeant and was dismissed having served two months at that term. He also served a tour to the forks of the Yadkin under the command of Captain Benjamin Herndon as a volunteer Horseman after Colonel Samuel Bryant commander of the Tories. Colonel Benjamin Cleveland met them at the forks of the Yadkin on his return from the battle at Ramsour's Mills, he was there dismissed having served about two weeks – that the whole of his services was in the militia, and has lost his discharges, and has no Documentary evidence to prove his services, but expects he can prove them by John Rose<sup>1</sup> and James Gray<sup>2</sup> in whole or in part, they having served with him several of the tours, 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 and that the whole of his Services amount to 12 months and 20 days.

Interrogatories by the Court

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

Answer: In 1757, and King and Queen County, State of Virginia

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

Answer: I have none, but he had one which is lost, but recollect the date.

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: In Surry County North Carolina when called into service and in Wilkes since the Revolutionary war and in Wilkes now.

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

Answer: I was called into service by order of Colonel Martin Armstrong and was a volunteer in Captain Jesse Walton's Company of Infantry of N. C. in the United States service

5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Answer: The field officers were Col. Martin Armstrong, Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, Colonel Isaacs, Colonel Gordon and Major Hargroves. I do not know whether they were regular officers or not, there was no Continental militia units with us, the general circumstances of my service is already detailed in my declaration.

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?

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1 [John Rose W18824](#)

2 [James Gray S6928](#)

Answer: I received a discharge for my three months tour signed by Captain Jesse Walton, and one for the tour against the Cherokee Indians signed by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, and have lost them both, the other tours I was dismissed without a Discharge. 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: Daniel McDaniel, Captain Benjamin Parks and Col. James Martin.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Sterling Rose

North Carolina Wilkes County: This day personally appeared before me James Martin a Justice of the peace John Rose of Surry County aged about eighty-two [?] years who being first duly sworn according to law doth state on his oath that he knows that the above affiant Sterling Rose did enter the service of the United States as stated in his declaration in the year 1777, he the said John Rose having served with the said applicant in all the tours except the following, the one to Salisbury and the one to Little River after the Scotch Tories, and to the forks of the Yadkin after Colonel Bryant who commanded the Tories, the balance of the tours he served with the applicant Sterling Rose and knows he rendered the service as stated in his declaration, he also knows that said applicant was marched with the militia in the other tours, that is to say, to Salisbury, Little River and the forks of the Yadkin and that he met him returning from Little River when taken sick and assisted him home, he further states that he is so infirm that he does not believe he is able to attend Court without suffering fresh [?] bodily pain.

Sworn to and subscribed before me July the 24th 1832

S/ James Martin, JP

S/ John Rose, X his mark

North Carolina Wilkes County: The affidavit of James Gray (aged about sixty-eight) taken before me James Martin a Justice of the peace for said County taken at his own house, who states upon his oath as follows, that he was well acquainted with Sterling Rose the above applicant, in the time of the Revolutionary war and that he served in the tour to Little River against the Scotch Tories who was commanded by McCloud, with the aforesaid Sterling Rose in the United States Militia service of North Carolina -- he further states that he met the above Sterling Rose on his return from the tour to the Cherokee Indian nation with horses to assist him and others, and believes he served the whole tour - - and also that he and said Rose served the tour to King's Mountain together in the company commanded by Captain Benjamin Herndon in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland as stated by said applicant, he further states that he was in the tour to the forks of the Yadkin and believes that the aforesaid applicant served in said tour -- he further states that he is much afflicted with the colic and a pain in his back which renders him incapable of riding much, and does not believe he could attend Court without suffering great pain.

Sworn to and subscribed before me July 27th 1832.

S/ James Martin, JP

S/ Jas Gray

[Benjamin Parks and James Martin gave these standards supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Wilkes County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace; on the first day of April 1833, Sterling Rose who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades; The tour to Salisbury in Captain Jesse Watson's Company of infantry he served as Corporal which was not less than twenty days: -- The tour under Captain John Cleveland to little River he was a Corporal and was not less than three months. The tour under Captain Jarvis in 1779, to the head of the Yadkin he served as a Corporal and was not less than two months. -- The tour under Lieutenant William Gray in August 1779 against the Cherokee Indians he served as orderly Sergeant and was not less than two months. -- The tour under Captain Benjamin Herndon in December 1779 to Haw River he served as orderly Sergeant and was not less than one month. -- the Tour in the Spring of 1780, under Captain John Cleveland to the head of Drowning Creek after the Tories he served as orderly Sergeant and was not less than one month and fifteen days in the Cavalry, -- The tour under Captain Benjamin Herndon in October 1780 to King's Mountain he served as orderly Sergeant and was not less than two months. -- The tour under Captain Benjamin Herndon to the forks of the Yadkin he was a volunteer horseman and served as orderly Sergeant, and not less than two weeks. -- making in all not less than 12 months and 20 days: -- and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year above written

S/ James Martin, JP

S/ Sterling Rose

[Jesse Adams, a clergyman, and William Shepherd gave the standard supporting affidavit.]