

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Randal Shoemaker S42007

fn15NC

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. 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 North Carolina, Iredell County: Superior Court of Law October Term 1828

On this 31st day of October 1828 personally appeared in open Court, being a court of Record for the County of Iredell, Randal Shoemaker, Resident in said County: aged seventy one years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make this following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820; that he the said Randal Shoemaker enlisted for the term of twelve months on the ___ day of May in the year 1781 in the State of North Carolina in the Company commanded by Captain Alexander Brevard in the Regiment commanded by Colonels John Baptist Ash [sic, John Baptiste Ashe] and John Armstrong in the line of the State of North Carolina in the Continental Establishment, that he continued to serve in said service until month of May 1782 when he was discharged from service [in] Mecklenburg [County] in the State of North Carolina; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the Roll of any State, except North Carolina; and that the following is the reason for not making earlier application for a pension: That until the last twelve or eighteen months he was entirely ignorant that any provision had been made under which he was entitled to any compensation and that the discharge and certificate which he received from his Captain was lost or passed from his hands many years ago: these, he had considered, as the only admissible proof of his service, and without which he would never be allowed any compensation. That he had consequently ceased to expect any, that living in an obscure and retired part of the Country being himself ignorant and having very little intercourse with the world, he never heard anything to correct this erroneous impression, that other persons interested themselves in his behalf & informed him of his rights and how to obtain them—Since which time this application is the earliest he could possibly make.*

And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a Resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale, or in manner disposed of my property or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to being myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval

service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th of March 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property, or securities, contracts or debts, due me; except a claim upon Montgomery Black for about forty dollars, who has left this County, and is gone out of the reach of applicant & is insolvent; and one account on estate of Doc^r Nelson for eight dollars, which is desperate -

Schedule of property

1 Feather bed	worth about	\$11.00
1 Sow & seven pigs		7.00
1 broken skillet, 1 broken oven, & old pot without legs		2.00
4 old pewter plates		1.00

That his occupation is that of farming; but being afflicted with gravel is unable to do hard labor; that his family consists of a wife about 26 years old; and three children two daughters & one son; oldest daughter six or seven years old, youngest between one & two years old; son three or four years old, a cripple. That since the 18th of March 1818 no changes have been made in my property—all that I ever did possess having been sold previous to that time.

S/ Randal Shoemaker, X his mark

*[inserted on a separate page]

An additional reason is that he Randal Shoemaker was for many years in a Situation that he could by industry & economy procure a Subsistence during which time he never thought of living but by his own labour—that he was induced to become security for others' debts for the payment of which his scanty Estate was entirely swept away, but that he still could support himself, until the infirmities & diseases of old age have deprived him of strength to labour--& that he is in consequence reduced to the extremity of poverty.

This may Certify that Randel Shoemaker and his Brother John Shoemaker, were delivered to me at Frohock's House, near Salisbury, in May 1781 to serve in the Continental Army for Twelve months as part of the quota of men of that description that was to be furnished from Rowan County. Those Two brothers Happened to fall in my Company and John was with me in the Battle of Eutaw Springs and was wounded – of which wound he died in Camden. Randel was also in the Battle, was sent on, with his wounded brother to Camden to the Hospital, on my return from the Army with those Twelve months men whose times had expired I found Randel Shoemaker in Camden & he came on with the others & received his discharge. They were quite well Conducting young man & Randall was a Sergeant part of the time in the Company. Now I do not Conceive that if there is land coming to any of the Troops of this description that is of Twelve months men, that they, Randall & John Shoemaker are as much Entitled to it as any others can be especially John who lost his life in violent struggle.

Given under hand the 26th day of October 1827.

S/ Alex Brevard¹

1 The following was taken verbatim from the UNC-Chapel Hill website:

<http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/htm/00086.html>

“Alexander Brevard (1755-1829), fifth son of John and Jane McWhorter Brevard, was a native of Iredell County, N.C., but spent most of his adult life in Lincoln County. During the Revolutionary War,

Captain at that time in the
Continental Army, North Carolina line

Alex. Brevard
Captain at that time in the
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Any one who wishes to be particularly acquainted with the manner in which the Continental Troops of North Carolina were Arranged when the Shoemakers were in Service Know, that North Carolina had then six Regiments on the Establishment, that all the troops that they had then in the Establishment would not have amounted to one full Regiment, that they were called the first & second Battalions & were under Two Colonels (Viz.) John Baptiste Ashe, the first Battalion, John Armstrong the second Battalion & my company was in the Second. Brigadier Jethro Sumner had Command of the North Carolina Troops that was best known then by the North Carolina line all the Troops of Every State was then very Low & the Shattered Troops of those states that had Troops to the Southward toward the last of the war were called the Pennsylvania line, the Maryland line, the Virginia line & the North Carolina line & Lee's Legion & the Delaware Company. I think those were the Continental Troops that were in the Service when the war Ended & were all in the Service when the Shoemaker's put in their Service Except the Pennsylvanians which I think had not come on, any more wanted to make Shoemakers' Certificate Satisfactory, I will freely go as far as I know.
Wrote by request the 12th day of March 1828.

S/ Alex Brevard
Captain N. Carolina line of the
Continental Army at the End of the War

North Carolina, Lincoln County

Personally appeared before me Nath Edwards JP Alexander Brevard who being duly Sworn made oath that the above certificate and statement were in his own hand writing and that they were true to the best of his knowledge and belief.
S/ Nath Edwards, JP
S/ Alex Brevard

he and seven of his brothers served in the Continental army. After 1779, Alexander Brevard was a captain of the North Carolina militia. After the war, he married Rebecca Davidson (1762-1824), daughter of John Davidson (1735-1832). About 1792, Brevard and his father-in-law, along with Joseph Graham (1759-1836), another son-in-law of John Davidson, went into partnership with Peter Forney, a pioneer in the Lincoln County iron industry. Together they purchased a share in the "big ore bank," a few miles east of Lincolnton, and made plans to erect facilities to manufacture iron products. For his part in the enterprise, Brevard built Mount Tirza Forge on Leeper's Creek. In 1795, Forney sold his interest in the partnership and the others continued to operate under the name of Joseph Graham and Company. By 1804, when Davidson sold his interest to Brevard and Graham, the company assets included over five thousand acres; nine slaves; improvements, equipment, and stock conservatively valued at \$5,000; and cash and notes receivable in the amount of \$8,876. Brevard manufactured and sold iron until his death in 1829, and, despite declining profits, the business remained in the family until 1870."

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing October 31, 1828, full one-year service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]