

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Womble: S42083

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

John Womble, an inhabitant of the County of Edgcombe State of North Carolina, maketh oath, that on or about the first of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seventy nine, at the town of Halifax in the County of Halifax, State aforesaid, he enlisted as a private soldier under Major [Thomas] Hogg of the 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the North Carolina Line [sic: see endnote], belonging & being attached to the Southern Department of the Continental army of the United States of America. From Halifax he marched with Major Hogg's recruits to Kinston (N.C.); at which place he was put under the command of Capt Quinn of the s'd 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment commanded by the field officers Col. Robt. Mebane & Major Hogg - From Kinston he marched to Cross Creek (now Fayetteville N.C.) as a place of Rendezvous, thence he marched in the summer of the said year to Charleston S.C. where soon after his arrival he was transferred to the company under the command of Capt Campbell of the said 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment commanded by the aforesaid Field officers - He remained in Charleston under the same officers till some time in August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seventy nine when the American Forces under the command of Gen'l. [Benjamin] Lincoln were called to make an attack on Savannah [Siege of Savannah, 24 Sep - 19 Oct 1779]; he then left Charleston & marched to assist in the said attack; but Gen'l. Lincoln being unsuccessful in his attempt on Savannah, the army returned to Charleston - soon after his return to Charleston he was placed under the command of Capt. Maun of the said 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment commanded by the aforesaid Field officers Col. Robert Mebane & Major Hogg -

He further maketh oath that sometime in May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty, he assisted in the defence of Charleston, when attacked by the British Forces under Sir Henry Clinton; & in the unfortunate capture of that City [12 May 1780] he was taken prisoner & sent to Haddrell's Point. He further maketh oath that he well recollects that Capt Singles[?], then acting Brigade Major & Doctor Lumus [sic: Jonathan Lumos] Surgeon were among the captured & paroled officers. The battle, he remembers from circumstances that will never be effaced from his memory- according to the articles of capitulation, the officers & their servants were to be paroled & their persons & property held sacred; he embraced the opportunity as to avoid going on board the Prison Ships, immediately became Doctor Lumus servant & was with the Doctor dismissed on parole. He attended the Doctor to Washington (N.C.) & there remained some time, the residue of the time till the end of the War, he passed on the Banks of the Tar River on his Parole having never been exchanged & therefore not regularly discharged - He has never claimed any pension & if by any previous statute he is entitled to any, he hereby relinquishes all title to the same, provided he obtains the pension granted by a late act of Congress to indigent soldiers of the Revolution -

He further maketh oath that he has heretofore by his manual labour at the trade of a Carpenter supported his family, consisting of a wife & eleven children among which there is but one (his eldest child, a son of the age of eighteen) that is not dependent on his daily Labour & fatherly protection for their constant sustenance He feels great delicacy & reluctance in thus presenting himself to the notice of his Country, but, when he reflects upon his reduced circumstances & that his [illegible word] years together with its train of consequent afflictions, is now making its inroads upon exhausted nature, imperious necessity, affection for his wife & a parental regard for his children compel him to throw himself upon the generosity of a Country, the Idol of his youth & the pride of his old age, for assistance. [signed] John Womble

I Nathan Mathursan do certify & make oath that I have often heard Genl. Thos. Blount & \*Col. [John] Ingles (Revolutionary officers since dead) speak (in company & seperately) in the highest terms of approbation of the Revolutionary services of John Womble; I do further certify that I believe the said John Womble from his indigent circumstances, needs assistance from his Country for support. N. M. Mathursan

\*The same spoken of in the affidavit as Captain & acting Brigade Majors.

I Benja'n. M Jackson do certify & make oath that in conversation with the Late Col. John Ingles (a revolutionary officer) I have herd him speak in the highest terms of approbation of the Revolutionary Services of John Womble. I do further Certify that I believe the said Womble from his Indigent Circumstances needs the assistance of his Country. Ben'n M Jackson

State of North Carolina} Superior Court of Law and Equity  
Edgecomb County} September Term 1820

On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 1820 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record for the County of Edgecomb (a court of Record 1<sup>st</sup> Because it is expressly made a Court of Record by an act of the General assembly of the state of North Carolina passed in the year 1777 Chapter 2<sup>nd</sup> amended by an act passed in the year 1806 Chapter 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>ndly</sup> Because it has been solemnly adjudged to be a Court of Record by the Tribunals of the several states of the United States - 3<sup>rd</sup> It is a Court of Record Because it proceeds according to the course of the Common Law, with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount, keeping a Record of its proceedings - 4<sup>thly</sup> It is a Court of Record, Because it has the power of fine and imprisonment) John Womble an inhabitant of Edgecomb County State of North Carolina aged about sixty four or five years who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820 that he the said John Womble enlisted for the term of the war on or about the spring of 1778 or 79 as (the Certificate of his enlistment which he forwarded to the War office with his former Declaration will more fully shew) in the State of North Carolina in the Company commanded by Captain Quinn (but enlisted by Major Hogg) in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Lamb in the Line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps until the latter part of the year in which he enlisted when he was placed under the command of Captain Campbell of the Regiment commanded by Col. Robert Mebane (but Hogg was his Major all the time) and was afterwards placed in the company commanded by Captain Maune of the same Regiment where he continued until he was taken prisoner at Charleston S. Ca. after which he attended Doctor Lumus Surgeon of the Regiment as a servant and never afterwards returned to the army and consequently was never regularly discharged -

That he was in the Battles of Savannah and Charleston when they were severally attacked by the enemy. that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except that of Benjamin M Jackson and Nathan Mathuwsons Esquires which is hereunto annexed

And in pursuance of the act of the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts, due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed - Sworn to and declared on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 1820 [signed] John Womble

Schedule of property belonging to the Deponent

- 75 acres of piney woods land partly paid for
- one cow, 1 calf, 1 yearling - 1 Tray, set of knives and forks
- 1 mare, sow and pigs and 14 shoats
- 1 Saw - 2 Pots and a Dutch oven, 2 sitting chairs

The Deponent maketh oath that he is a house carpenter but his age and afflictions prevent him working much at his trade; that he has a wife and eleven children, the two oldest of his children the only ones capable of rendering him any service have left him and that he has nine with him no one of which is capable of supporting him or herself

- Names and ages of his family residing with him are his wife Catharine Womble aged. 42 years
- Nathaniel Green Womble of a sickly & delicate constitution aged. .... 18
- Finneyty Womble aged. .... 14
- Cealy Pollard Womble..... 12

Jacob & Ajax Womble twins. .... 10  
 Benjamin Womble. .... 8: 6 mos  
 Enos Womble. .... 7 -  
 John Washington Womble. .... 5 - 6 mos  
 Catharine Womble. .... 2 - 6 mos  
 That his circumstances (although he has some little property) is such that he needs assistance  
 from his country without which his family must suffer [signed] John Womble

NOTES:

The officers named by Womble were actually in the 3<sup>rd</sup> NC Reg.

In the 1820 federal census for Edgecombe County NC John Womble's household are listed as "free colored persons."

In Carroll County TN on 29 Oct 1853 Benjamin F. Womble, 41, applied for a pension stating that his father, John Womble, died in Oct 1819 (sic), and that his widow then moved to Fayette County TN and died on 2 Feb 1843, leaving the following heirs: Nathaniel G., Jacob Y., Benjamin F., Enos G., John W., and Catharine Womble. He stated that his parents married in Edgecombe County NC in 1798.