

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Nash S4597 ¹

Transcribed by Will Graves

f37NC

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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. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Dyer County: May Term 1833 of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity

On this day the 7th of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court William Nash, aged seventy years, and a resident of said County & State, who after having been duly sworn according to Law, makes the following declaration in order to obtain the pension under the act of Congress of June the 7th 1832.

That in the latter end of March or first April in the year 1780, in the County of Guilford State of North Carolina, he entered the service as a substitute for one Nathaniel Simpson who had been drafted for a term of three months in the militia, which rendezvoused at Guilford courthouse in the company commanded by William Bethel, & Lieutenant Richard Varnun [?] or Vanier & Robert Nelson Ensign from which place they went on through Salisbury N. C. on their way to Charleston S. C., to which place they were destined and on through Camden South Carolina, from thence they were marched on to Moncks Corner within about 32 miles of Charleston, which was then besieged by the British under Clinton, at Moncks Corner they found three troop of American light horse commanded as he thinks by Colonel Washington [William Washington], whether he was present he can't recollect, as he was not among the troop, further states that the company to which he belonged arrived there on one day and the next morning about day break they were attacked by a troop of light horse under Colonel Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton],² and the Americans after a skirmish were forced to retreat before their superior force, they were pursued for some distance by Tarleton, and at Nelson's ferry³ on Santee River, they were embodied with a number of other companies which were marching to the same point and a Brigade under Brigadier General William Caswell as the third Regiment, Colonel Tinnen [Hugh Tinnen] he thinks had the command of the Regiment and a Lieutenant Colonel McDonald. After joining Caswell we marched down Santee about 70 miles to a ferry either Dupre or Leneud's⁴ on the said River, which he does not now recollect, they were 10 miles apart and Colonel Beaufort's [sic, Abraham Buford's] Virginia Regiment was stationed at the upper one & they at the lower one. They lay for several weeks, when they were again marched up the same road up the River seven miles above Nelson's ferry to a place called Wright's Bluff⁵ & Scotch Lake [sic, Scott's Lake]⁶, from there they marched on to Campden [sic, Camden] where his Regiment parted with Buford, who took what was called the Rocky River Road and his Regiment was marched on to

¹ See N. A. Acc. No. 874 No. 050122 Not Half Pay William Nash

² Veteran appears to be describing the engagement at Lenud's Ferry, May 6, 1780.

http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lenuds_ferry.html

³ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/nelson.htm>

⁴ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/leneuds.htm>

⁵ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/watson.htm>

⁶ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/watson.htm>

Fayetteville, North Carolina then called Cross Creek, part of the brigade among which was the company to which he belonged were detached up the country towards Salisbury under Colonel McDonald and near Guilford County his company was disbanded some few days before their time was out & he received no discharge.

He further states that in a few days after he returned home he was drafted for a Tour of three months and in two weeks afterwards the company to which he was attached rendezvoused at Guilford Court house North Carolina under the command of Asa Beshears [Asa Brashears] Captain James Delay Lieutenant from Guilford Court house we marched down to the Widow Magus old place in Randolph County, North Carolina where we lay about 10 days we then marched back to Guilford Court house to Salisbury from Salisbury we marched about 15 miles down the Yadkin River where we joined the troops commanded by General Griffith Rutherford where we were formed into Battalion of light infantry under the command of Major John Armstrong who was a Continental officer from thence we marched down to the mouth of Rocky River from thence we crossed the Yadkin River to the North side again and then marched down to the Cheraw Hills South Carolina from thence to Rugeley's Mill, between the Cheraw Hills and Rugeley's Mill we were joined by the troops under the command of Major General Gates [Horatio Gates] and the troops commanded by Major General Richard Caswell from Rugeley's Mill we marched on towards Camden where the two armies met about 6 miles from Camden where the Battle took place [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]⁷ which is generally known by the name of Gates defeat, at this place the British were commanded by Lord Cornwallis [sic, Cornwallis] which Battle took place sometime in the month of August in the year 1780 this deponent was not in the Battle but was lying sick about 4 miles from the Battle ground Colonel Porterfield [Charles Porterfield] a Virginia regular officer who commanded about 80 men had joined the light infantry before the Battle took place this deponent was not in active service any more during that campaign but was afterwards taken home sick and never received a discharge.

He further states that he served the said two tours one as a substitute making in all six months, that he knows of no living witness by whom he can prove his services nor has he any documentary evidence to establish the same & we further states that he is not on the pension roll of any State and that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present.

Questions by the court

When and in what year were you born?

Answer, I was born in Botetourt County Virginia on the 5th day of February 1763 as I have been told.

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

Answer, I have none.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer, in Guilford County N. Carolina in the spring 1781 he moved to Montgomery County Virginia, four years after he moved to Kentucky, Lincoln County, where he staid but a short time & came to Nashville, Tennessee in October 1785 in the neighborhood of which he lived until 1803, he then moved to Stony River, now Rutherford County, where he lived near 18 years, then moved to Dyer County Tennessee in the year 1821 where he now lives

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

[Answer] This interrogatory is answered in his declaration above.

5th 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

⁷ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

your service.

[Answer] This interrogatory is answered in his declaration above.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

[Answer] This interrogatory is also answered in his declaration above.

7th 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.

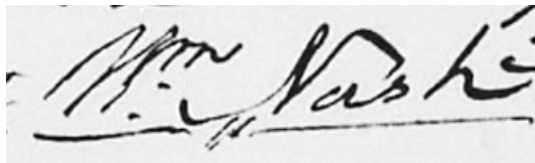
Answer, I am acquainted with H. Clark the Sheriff of the County, John P. Byrn Esq., Colonel Joseph Clay & William Espey

And he further states that there is no minister of the gospel in his neighborhood, as he lives in a new part of the Country whom he can call on to testify for him.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court.

S/ M. Mitchell, Clk

S/ Wm Nash

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Nash", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Henderson Clark, John P. Byrn & Joseph Clay gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Dyer County

I Mark Mitchell Clerk of the Circuit Court of Dyer County do hereby certify that William Nash in the year of our Lord 1833 proved up his claim as pensioner as a revolutionary soldier which was granted by the department and owing to the claim being issued in the name of William Noah said claim was not paid by the pension agent of West Tennessee. Given under my hand at office in Dyersburg this 18th of November 1837

S/ M. Mitchell, Clerk of
Dyer County Circuit Court

[Veteran died September 1, 1834.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]