

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Narramore S4598

f39SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/13/08: rev'd 10/26/16

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County: County Court February Term 1833: SS

On this eleventh day of February in the year 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful justices of the County court of Bledsoe County, now sitting, John Narramore, a resident of the County of Bledsoe aforesaid and State of Tennessee, aged Seventy one years, 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 named officers and served as herein stated. In what is now Kershaw district in the State of South Carolina in January 1779 he was drafted and entered the service in the militia in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Joseph Karshaw [sic, Joseph Kershaw] and in the company of his Regiment commanded by Captain John Marshall and Lieutenant Abraham Myers. He was marched under Kershaw to Plurysburg [sic, Purrysburg] on the East side of Savannah River about 30 miles above Savannah, where he found General Lincoln stationed. After remaining there with General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] about a month or perhaps a little over Colonel Kershaw was ordered to march about the forks of Broad River and Saluda [River] to suppress the Tories who were represented to be rising there. Colonel Kershaw marched there & declarant with him but had little to do, as the Tories were principally dispersed. From there he was marched through the country to Friday's ferry on the Congaree River about two miles from the place where Columbia now stands, where he was discharged at the end of a tour of two months. He then returned home. In the foregoing tour declarant was a Corporal in Captain John Marshall's company & acted throughout the tour in that capacity. For this term of service declarant received what was called an "Indent" for his services, which was the evidence of his claim on the government for his pay. Upon which his pay was received from the war department by a Mr. Hunt to whom he sold his Indent, from which circumstance he supposes his name must be on the rolls in the War office.

In the summer of 1779 he again, as a substitute for his father, Edward Narramore, who was drafted, entered the service in what is now Kershaw district in the company commanded by Captain John Fagin in the same Regiment which was commanded by General Cruth [?]<sup>1</sup> who was muster master general or adjutant general. He was marched to Orangeburg where he was stationed until his term of service expired, which was for one month at the end of which he was discharged having served his tour as a private soldier. For the above mentioned two tours

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<sup>1</sup> *Cruth*

declarant received written discharges which he took home with him to his father's house which was shortly afterwards plundered by a company of Tories under Captain William Kimbrel who burnt or destroyed all the papers about the house & the discharges among the rest. -- About the 20th of May 1780 and a few days after the British took Charleston, declarant entered the service again under Colonel (formerly Captain) John Marshall who commanded in Colonel Kershaw's place, he having died previous to that time. He with 31 others, Colonel Marshall at the head retreated through North Carolina and into the edge of Virginia and reached there about the time General Gates [Horatio Gates] was marching to the South -- upon hearing of Gates' march, Colonel Marshall changed his course & marched back to South Carolina to join Gates, but did not do so having reached within 12 miles of him at the time of his defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. Colonel Marshall was then with & under the command of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] having in his return from Virginia joined him in the edge of North Carolina. Immediately after Gates defeat General Sumter, and declarant with him marched up the Catawba River to Featherstone's Ford where he was defeated [Battle of Fishing Creek, August 18, 1780] by the British light horse under Colonel Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton]. Sumter's forces were there dispersed. Sumter with some of his men of whom declarant was one fell back to about Salisbury in North Carolina where a little force was rallied & employed in guarding what then appeared to be the frontiers & preventing the depredations of the Tories as well as they could until General Greene [Nathanael Greene] came on from the North. When Greene came on Sumter joined him, declarant being with him. Previous to Sumter's Junction with Greene he had 2 battles with the British and Tories one at Rocky Mount [July 30, 1780] on the Catawba River near the Mountain Island, and the other at the Hanging Rock Creek [August 6, 1780] on the main Salisbury road about 22 miles above Camden both of which battles declarant was in, -- In the battle at the Hanging rock Sumter took about 30 prisoners and had them with him when he joined General Greene. Colonel Marshall's Regiment, of which declarant was one, and Colonel William Washington's light horse were ordered to reconnoiter down towards Camden -- they proceeded down to Rugeley's Fort 12 miles above Camden, and took the Fort with about 300 prisoners without firing a gun, making use of a pine log to represent a Cannon to alarm the Tories in the Fort [Rugeley's Mill, December 4, 1780]. This force, declarant with it, took the prisoners taken at the Fort up into the Waxhaw settlements and delivered them to General Greene. In a few days thereafter the British evacuated Camden & Colonel Marshall was ordered down there to destroy the British works General Greene in the meantime having crossed to the West side of the Wateree River proceeded on towards Eutaw Springs. Declarant omitted to state that General Greene marched down and had a battle with the British at Hobkirk's hill [April 25, 1781] in sight of Camden from which Greene fell back on the Salisbury road to Sanders Creek where he lay a day or 2 in which time the British evacuated Camden & then it was that Marshall was sent to destroy their works, & Greene crossed the River & pursued the British -- Marshall executed his orders, crossed the Santee River at Nelson's ferry, pursued on after the British, fell in with Greene and met the British about 2 miles from their Fort at the Eutaw Springs, where the battle commenced [September 8, 1781]. The British were driven into their Fort & Greene fell back & camped about 3 miles from it. The British evacuated the Fort & retreated to Charleston, Greene pursuing them. After the battle at Eutaw Springs Colonel Marshall went home & declarant was, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Bratton [William Bratton] & the company commanded by Captain Benjamin Hale [Benjamin Haile], stationed at the "four holes bridge" 30 miles above Charleston where he lay until the British evacuated Charleston. He was there discharged. Declarant states that at the time Sumter began to gather recruits before he joined General Greene

companies were formed and in Colonel Marshall's Regiment he fell into the company commanded by Captain Benjamin Hale and in that company acted as Lieutenant by the appointment of Colonel Marshall until he was finally discharged at the four hole Bridge. He received no commission in fact the public authorities of the State were so subverted that he believes there was no commissioning power -- Governor Rutledge [John Rutledge] being a prisoner in Charleston -- declarant served as a Lieutenant in Captain Benjamin Hale's company at least 18 months, he cannot state the precise time but is satisfied he cannot be sure of that period -- nor can he by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, state precisely the length of his entire service but from the best of his recollection he served not less than two years in the capacities before stated -- to wit two months a Corporal -- eighteen months a Lieutenant and the balance of his service a private soldier. He received a written discharge from Captain Benjamin Hale at the "Four hole Bridge" at the conclusion of the war but is unable to state what has become of it. He has no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to it.

He was born in the State of South Carolina in what is now Kershaw district on the 22nd day of January 1762 according to the record by his parents. He now has the record of his age in a Church Bible in his possession. He resided in said district when he entered the service & continued to reside there until the first day of December 1795 and on the 19th day of the same month came to Jefferson County State of Tennessee & lived there until November 1796, from there he moved to Union County Tennessee where he resided until February 1807 & from there this (Bledsoe) County where he has lived ever since & where he still resides.

He was first drafted, next a substitute for his father, Edward Narramore & lastly in without any regular call. He has stated the names of his officers and the General circumstances of his service. He received discharges & has accounted for them, he received no commission but they appointment of his Colonel.

He is known in his present neighborhood to William Nail a clergyman and Eli Thurman & Scott Terry who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Narramore

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Narramore". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John Narramore".

[William Nail a clergyman, Eli Thurman and Scott Terry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County

On this 17th day of August 1833 personally appeared before me Elisha Kirklín a justice of the peace, and a justice of the County Court, in and for the County aforesaid, John Narramore and made oath that he is the identical John Narramore who made the accompanying declaration on the 11th of February 1833, in order to obtain the pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

He states that for the time to wit, at least 18 months which he was under Colonel Marshall and Colonel Bratton his successor in the command of the Regiment, applicant was a Lieutenant in Captain Hale's company and acted in that capacity as stated in his original

declaration; that he entered the service as a volunteer in the militia, and as a volunteer remained in it during the whole tour as stated. He states that after Gates defeat the forces under Colonel Marshall dispersed for a day or 2 to meet again at a place designated by Marshall in the edge of North Carolina; during this dispersion Jonathan Welch who was Lieutenant was shot at his father's stable by a Tory named Isaac Smart -- Welch was badly wounded, and was taken by affiant, Abram Myers two men of the name of Robinson & others into the edge of North Carolina where he died: and it was to fill his place that affiant was appointed Lieutenant. By applicant's answer in his original declaration, to the 4th interrogatory "that he was in without any regular call" he meant nothing but that he was a volunteer, nor did it occur to his mind at the time that anything more specific was required -- he perhaps was induced to use this language above from the circumstance of the troops having to convene and organized in the hasty and irregular manner in which they did. Applicant sees from the instructions returned with his declaration that a rule is made to apply to his case, which is above applicable to the Continental troops, and now states that he never did belong to the regular Army. Applicant in his 2nd tour and which he served under Captain Fagin was stationed at Orangeburg, Captain Fagin was a militia Captain -- there were 2 regiments at that place guarding the Tory prisoners. Applicant recollects the Tories were put into houses made of pine logs and covered with the same, and which were then in camp called "Bull pens" -- there were 2 companies of regulars there who had charge of the cannon, and General Cruth[?] (he was so called; perhaps he was only adjutant or muster master general) who applicant gives as the commander at this place in his original declaration, was a regular officer, sent there to train the militia, which he did severely applicant recollects that there was much complaint of his severity, and that a certain William Stroud struck him with a large bone and came well neigh knocking him off his horse. This same William Stroud was afterwards taken by the British, and on the road leading from Salisbury to Augusta on the South East side of the Catawba River was hung by the neck to the limb of a tree over the road at least 20 feet from the ground. Applicant was then under General Sumter marching across the country and was present when Stroud was taken down & buried. Sumter was pursuing the British who were retreating. Applicant service as a Lieutenant was performed as a volunteer in the militia of South Carolina. He was well and intimately acquainted with General Sumter and knows he could if Sumter were living to prove by him much of his service.

S/ John Narramore

Subscribed and sworn to before me the date above

S/ Elisha Kirklin, JP

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County

On this 23rd day of May 1834 personally appeared before me Andrew Lowe -- a justice of the peace, in a justice of the County Court, in and for the County aforesaid, John Narramore and made oath that he is the identical John Narramore who made the accompanying declaration in order to obtain a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7 1832.

Applicant sees from instructions from the United States pension office that a pension will not be allowed him as a Lieutenant unless he were regularly commissioned. He can state no more on that subject than he has. From the time the British took Charleston until they left it, which was a little more than 2 years, there was no regular order in the administration of the affairs of South Carolina. They had the Governor of the State a prisoner.<sup>2</sup> Applicant then

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<sup>2</sup> Actually, John Rutledge made his escape from Charleston just prior to its fall to the British in May 1780. Rutledge had been given virtual dictatorial powers by the General Assembly of SC before the fall of Charleston. Rutledge set

understood, and still understands that the British had control of almost everything, and that nearly the whole country was considered as having fallen under their dominion & that of the Tories -- still General Marion, General Sumter and Colonel Marshall with their followers, (and no other leading officer in the recollection of applicant) determined to resist to the last and endeavor to rescue the South if possible. These officers with their respective forces, sometimes larger & and others smaller, and simply volunteers, perhaps entirely, were increasingly employed in service from the time the British took Charleston until they were evacuated it. It was in the service with these officers as stated in the declaration that applicant served 18 months at one time, he believes it was longer, but is certain it was not less. He acted in the service as a Lieutenant, but without commission from the state authorities. He was a volunteer, and he did not nor was it the custom of those who served with him to enter the service for any stated term or period; the determination to rescue the South from the British & Tories if possible was formed by the officers above mentioned and many other citizens of South Carolina, of whom applicant was one. He, for himself, can state, that with such determination he volunteered & entered the service, not for a stated or definite term, but until the country should be rescued or the Whigs overthrown entirely. He did remain in actual service for at least the time he has stated, to wit 18 months, during the time the British had possession of Charleston, and until they left it. He is fully aware of the difference in being in service and being in readiness to act when called on. His claim is for service actually performed.

Applicant served with General Sumter, Colonel Marshall, Colonel Bratton, Captain Hale, Captain Fagin, Colonel Kershaw, Captain Gray, Lieutenant Welch, Lieutenant Abram Myers, uncle of applicant, John Deeson, Benjamin Deeson, Zachariah Deeson, two men of the name of Cook -- Josiah Clark, Benjamin Kimball and John Love and many others he could name but supposes it would answer no good purpose. Affiant now remembers that he at one time served under Major James Canty, he had forgotten him before; he also served with Zachariah Canty then a private, & who after the war got to be a General. All these persons are dead within applicant's own knowledge, or information not to be disputed, applicant can tell when they died, about the time and the circumstances of their deaths generally, but supposes the detail would be uninteresting and unprofitable. He knows of no person living who can prove his service. He now states what, he thought it was not material to mention that in the battle of Eutaw Springs he was slightly wounded in the leg of which he soon recovered after having the shot cut out.

Applicant supposes it necessary, and with reluctance, relinquishes his claim for services as a Lieutenant, and consents that for the same time a pension as a private may be allowed him, if his case entitles him to any.

Applicant again states that his entire service during the war was not less than 2 years he thinks it was much more -- 2 months as a Corporal 4 months as a private & 18 months as a Lieutenant though without commission.

S/ John Narramore

Subscribed & sworn to before me the date above

S/ Andrew Lowe, JP

[John Narramore gave affidavits in 1839 and 1840 in support of the claim filed by Polly Priestly, widow of Charles Priestly,<sup>3</sup> in which Narramore set forth his family records regarding the births

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up a government in exile in NC during the time from Charleston's fall until he could resume residence in SC shortly before the British totally evacuated SC in December 1782.

<sup>3</sup> [Charles Priestly W981](#)

of himself, his wives and their children as follows:

John Narramore, Senior, was born in 1762

Mary Narramore, Senior, his wife, was born May 14, 1761.

Nancy Narramore, Senior, his wife, was born August 18, 1775.

“These are the sons and daughters of John & Mary & Nancy Narramore, his Wives:

Sarah Narramore, born August 22, 1781

Frederick Narramore, born February 23, 1784

John Narramore, Junior, born July 20, 1787

Martha Narramore born October 4, 1789

Mary Narramore born June 2, 1792

Nancy Narramore born January 31, 1796

FAMILY RECORD.	
BIRTHS.	BIRTHS.
John Narramore Senior was Born in the year of our Lord ----- 1762	Mary Narramore Senior his wife Was Born in the year of our Lord May the 14 1761 -----
1762 1764 0 2 44	Nancy Narramore Senior his wife was Born in the year of our Lord August the 18 1775
These are the sons & daughters of John & Mary & Nancy Narramore his Wives -----	
Sarah Narramore was Born in the year of our Lord August the 22 1781	Martha Narramore was Born in the year of our Lord October the 4 ----- 1789
Frederick Narramore was Born in the year of our Lord February the 23 ----- 1784	Mary Narramore was Born in the year of our Lord June the 2 ----- 1792
John Narramore Junior was Born in the year of our Lord July the 20 ----- 1787	Nancy Narramore was Born In the year of our Lord January the 31 ----- 1796

Marriages

John Narramore Senr was Married to his wife Mrey [sic] July the 25 Day in the year of our Lord 1780

Frederick Narramore married November 28, 1805, Gene Duford [last name unclear]

Mary Narramore married February 6, 1812, Jesse Seff [record very faint]

John Narramore, Junior married May 28, 1812, Isabel

Calvin W. Narramore married April 2, 1826, Nancy

John Narramore Senr was married to his wife Nancy in the yeare of our Lord October the 16 Day 1803

Calvin W. Narramore started to Mesua the 15 day of January 1830]

Lucia K. Narramore married May 1, 1831, George P. Smith

Sopha Mosley Narramore married October 11, 1831, Tollaver Revice

MARRIAGES.	MARRIAGES.
<p>John Narramore Senr Married to his wife Nancy July the 25 Day in the yeare of our Lord - 1780</p>	<p>John Narramore Senr Married to his wife Nancy in the yeare of our Lord October the 16 Day 1803</p>
<p>Calvin W. Narramore started to Mesua the 15 day of January 1830</p>	<p>Calvin W. Narramore started to Mesua the 15 day of January 1830</p>
<p>Lucia K. Narramore was married to her Husband George P Smith May the 1 day 1831</p>	<p>Lucia K. Narramore was married to her Husband George P Smith May the 1 day 1831</p>
<p>Sopha Mosley Narramore was married to her Husband Tollaver Revice the 11 day October 1831</p>	<p>Sopha Mosley Narramore was married to her Husband Tollaver Revice the 11 day October 1831</p>
<p>Calvin W. Narramore was married to his wife Nancy April the 2 day in the yeare of our Lord 1826</p>	

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for one year and 6 months in the South Carolina militia.]