

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Benjamin Marshall S5728

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia

Charlotte County

On this 3<sup>d</sup> day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Charlotte now sitting Benjamin Marshall, a resident of the County of Charlotte & State of Virginia, aged seventy three 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 of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he was born the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January 1759, in the County of Charlotte & State of Virginia, where he has ever since resided, & that the register of his birth is now in his own possession. That in the month of April 1780. he was drafted in the militia & set out from his residence in the County of Charlotte & acted as a corporal in a Company commanded by Capt. Thomas Williams of the said County, Lieutenant Baker, & Ensign Marshall, and marched to Hillsborough & joined the Brigade commanded by Gen'l. [Edward] Stevens & was placed in a Regiment commanded by Colos. [James] Lucas, & [Rawleigh] Downman, & Maj'r. [Nathaniel Garsden] Morris, from thence he went with the army to Camden, South Carolina, & united with Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates's army I was in the Battle called Gates's defeat [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780], after the battle he still remained in the remnant of militia & returned to Hillsborough (the greater part of the militia having runaway, his Capt. & subalterns became supernumerary & were discharged) he then volunteered under the command of Capt. Binns Jones, & marched up the Yadkin river & joined Gen'l. Sumpter, near the Shallow ford [see note below]. had a slight action with some Tories & British & after dispersing them marched back to Guilford Court house, & from thence to Hogans creek in [Rockingham County] N. Carolina near Dan river & dispersed some Tories, & returned to Guilford Court house, where he remained in the army till the month of December 1780. - Six months of the above time was served under the draft, & the balance of the time he served as a volunteer. He was discharged by Maj'r. Morris, which discharge he brought home, & has since lost. After returning home & remaining till some time in January 1781, he volunteered & acted as a sergeant in a company raised & commanded by Capt. Wm. Morton (afterwards Col. Wm. Morton, who died in Charlotte several years ago) - They set out from Charlotte in the month of January & joined Gen'l. Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army near Irvin's Ferry on Dan river, Halifax County, Virginia, where a Rifle Company was made up from parts of several Companies, & placed under the command of Capt. Morton, he was one of the members of the Company, a Serjeant, which Company was united with a Rifle Regiment commanded by Col. [William] Campbell, he marched in that Regiment & was in a Battle at Whiteley's Mill [sic: Wetzel's Mill, 6 March 1781] on Reedy fork of Haw River Guilford County, N. Carolina. he remained in the same Regiment till after the battle of Guilford, at Guilford Court House N. Carolina [15 March 1781] which battle he was in. from thence they pursued Cornwallis down deep river till he crossed, crossing at Ramsey's mill [Chatham County NC]. Gen'l. Green then discharged the Regiment to which he belonged & Col. Cock or Cox [Nathaniel Cocke] of Halifax County Va. who at that time Commanded the Regiment to which he had been transferred gave him a written discharge, which he has lost - he was discharged about the last of April, he recollects he got home to Charlotte May First which was the first Monday in the month, he was discharged about 160 miles from home.

In the same month, May, about the 10<sup>th</sup> 1781, he again volunteered under Capt. Andrew Wallace of Charlotte, whose Company was made up by draft in part, set out in the same month for the Morben Hills, below Richmond Va. [sic: Malvern Hill, Henrico County]. another Company Commanded by Capt. Fuqua marched from Charlotte at the same time - he was Serjeant in Wallaces Company. When in this march, in the County of Amelia, they were dispersed by Taltons Corps of Horse [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion], but collected again & joined the army at Morben Hills some time in June. Gen'l. Lafayette [sic: Lafayette] commanded, his head quarters in Richmond, where part of his army was. He the said Marshall continued in the Army till the

siege of York, was in a slight action at old James Town Va. above Williamsburg. After getting to York he remained till a short time before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. His term of service had long expired, he remained till from a severe spell of sickness he was no longer able to perform service, & was discharged out of the Hospital in October 1781.

That he served as a Corporal more than eight months, the first tour; and as Serjeant more than three months, the second tour; and as Serjeant more than four months the last tour, - in all, fifteen months, for which he claims a pension

The only persons now living that he knows of by whom he can prove anything of his service are Rich'd. Davenport, who is unable to attend Court, Maj'r. Robert Moore, Thomas North, & Alexander Hunter, whose affidavits he has procured. There is no clergyman residing in the neighbourhood where he lives except one who has lately come there.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

Benjamin Marshall

NOTE: There was a skirmish at Shallow Ford about 10 miles west of present Winston-Salem NC on 14 Oct 1780 when Tories were dispersed, but Gen. Thomas Sumter was probably not present.