

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Neal S5810

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/7/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia County of Pittsylvania: Sc.

On this 22nd day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before James Sayers David H Clark William L Pannill and Coleman D Bennett the Court of Pittsylvania County now sitting John Neal a resident of said County and State aforesaid 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7 1832 – That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Soldier in a company of Militia commanded by Captain John Donalson Jr. [John Donelson, Jr.] and marched from the County of Pittsylvania on the 7th day of April 1778, that he went through the County of Franklin direct to Colonel Preston's in the County of Montgomery and remained near his house a few days and marched from there to Ho fields [Hatfield's] Fort on Stony Creek near New River in the said County of Montgomery and was stationed in the said Fort under the command of the officers that marched with him (no other troops being there) until about the 12th of August 1778 when his tour of service expired and he was discharged by Captain John Donalson the whole of the time of service rendered in this tour is four months and eight days, his discharge is lost or mislaid and cannot be found but the service rendered is proved by Abraham Chaney and John Farthing who were soldiers with him at the same time and stationed at the same place. –

In the month of February 1781 he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer soldier and marched in a Company of Militia commanded by Captain Isaac Clement from the said County of Pittsylvania to Hayas [?] Ferry on Dan River in the County of Halifax and was stationed at that place a few days and was then transferred to a Company commanded by Captain James Brewer and marched from there in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Perkins into the State of North Carolina and they were regularly marching in different directions sometimes in pursuit of the British and sometimes retreating from them until they met with Lord Cornwallis in the County of Guilford North Carolina where a severe Battle was fought [March 15, 1781]. The Americans being defeated by the British at this place retreated, had rendezvoused again at Troublesome Iron Works near Haw River where the said Neal was attached to a Company commanded by Captain William Dix and marched with him under the command of Brigadier General Greene in pursuit of Lord Cornwallis to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River in the state of North Carolina and was discharged by Captain William Dix on the 30th day of March 1781 and that identical discharge is now exhibited to the Court. The whole of the time of service rendered on this tour is at least 7 weeks.

About the first of August 1781 the said Neale again entered this service of the United States being drafted as a soldier and marched in a company of Militia commanded by Captain William Dix, Lieutenant David Hunt and Ensign Clement McDaniel from the said County of

Pittsylvania through the Counties of Charlotte, Lunenburg and Nottoway and through the Town of Petersburg to James Town and was stationed at that place about one week and marched from there to Little York and was attached to Colonel Merryweather's [Meriwether's] Regiment in the brigade commanded by General Stephens [Edward Stevens] and remained there engaged in throwing up entrenchments &c until Lord Cornwallis surrendered himself and his Army to General George Washington on the 19th day of October 1781. He was then detailed as a guard to go under the command of Captain Charles Williams & Lieutenant David Hunt with the prisoners taken at that place to Noland's Ferry on the Potomac River near Leesburg in Virginia where he was discharged by Captain Charles Williams on the 7th day of November 1781. The whole time of service rendered on this tour is at least three months. The identical discharge given to me by Captain Williams at that time is now exhibited to the Court. He resided in the County of Pittsylvania when he entered the service of the United States and still lives in the same County. 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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Neal, X his mark

Pittsylvania County State of Virginia to wit

The affidavit of Abraham Chaney¹ of lawful age taken before me Mahely Turner a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid this 31st day of July 1832 this affiant saith that he and John Neal marched from the aforesaid County on the 7th day of April 1778 under the command of Captain John Donaldson to the waters of New River at Hatfield's Fort against the Cherokee Indians and they served a three months tour and that the said Neal was honorably discharged, he this affiant being with him said Neal during the 3 months and further this affiant saith not.

S/ Abraham Chany, X his mark

I John Farthing of the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia do hereby certify and solemnly swear that in the year 1778 I was a soldier and was stationed at Hatfield's Fort near new River in a company commanded by Captain John Donalson and that John Neal of Pittsylvania County was stationed with me as a soldier in the same Company in the said Fort and marched with me from the said Pittsylvania County and that the said John Neal was honorably discharged by Captain Donalson about the 12th of August 1778. Given under my hand this 22nd of August 1832.

S/ John Farthing

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$29.12 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months and 22 days in the Virginia militia.]

[Note: The discharges mentioned by the veteran in his application are not included among the documents in this file.]

¹ [Abraham Chaney W25412](#)