

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Spencer Withers S6400

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia        }  
County of Fauquier } SS

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before thee Justices of the Court of the County and State aforesaid, Spencer Withers, lately a Resident of said County and now of Mason County in the above state, aged 66 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. — That he enlisted at Warrenton, Fauquier County, Virginia, in 1780 in the summer, under Cap. Francis Triplett and marched to Hillsborough N. Carolina; there entered Col. Howard's reg't, Morgans Brigade [see note below]; thence marched to Salisbury; thence to Providence South Carolina [sic: Providence NC now in Charlotte] against the Tories in South Carolina; Here (at Providence) Green succeeded Gates [Gen. Nathanael Greene succeeded Gen. Horatio Gates as commander of the Southern Army, 2 Dec 1780]; Thence Morgan's Brigade (in which the affiant still continued) marched off towards the mountains along Saluda and Pacolet Rivers; thence chased by Tarlton towards Gen. Green for about 40 miles; made a stand at the Cowpens [Battle of Cowpens SC, 17 Jan 1781]; that the affiant was not in the Battle because of sickness; after the battle of the Cowpens was detached under Lieutenant Deerin [probably John Deering] to Fauquier County his home - where he arrived in March 1781 - and was discharged. The affiant also states that he enlisted in the above service as the substitute of one Peter Crim.

In his second campaign he entered as a volunteer in June 1781 into Edmonds [Elias Edmonds's] Regiment, Gen. Stephen's [sic: Edward Stevens] Brigade, at Richmond. Marched to Ruffins ferry on Pamonkey [sic: on Pamunkey River near Sweet Hall] - was pursued by the Brittish to Hanover Ct. House Thence to Raccoon's ford [Raccoon Ford] on the Rapidan between Culpeper and Orange Counties; there met General Wayne [Anthony Wayne, 10 Jun]. After that junction pursued Cornwallis to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg]; then marched to a watering place called spring-field 2 miles from Williamsburgh. - Cornwallis moving on to Yorktown where he fortified himself. At W'msburgh, Washington united with Wayne and Lafayette [14 Sep]; that the affiant was under arms when Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct]. From York he marched with prisoners towards Winchester and was discharged at Ashby's Gap [on Blue Ridge at present US-50] about Christmass. The said affiant also declares that he cannot procure the original discharge.

Sworn to in open Court the date above

[signed] Spencer Withers

State of Virginia        } Sct.  
County of Fauquier } to wit: }

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of the County and State aforesaid, Spencer Withers, and being solemnly sworn deposeth and saith that he is the same Spencer Withers whose application for a pension was proved in this Court on the 30<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1832, and that he appears to amend certain errors which he is advised are contained in his declaration. 1. That the affiant was born in Fauquier County, Va in 1765 — that he has lived both in Mason County, Va. and in the State of Tennessee, but that for the last ten years he has lived in the Fauquier County, Virginia, and that he still lives here. That the statement in his Declaration of his now residing in Mason County was an error of the person who wrote down his Declaration. This Affiant further amends and declares that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot positively swear as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below — In the first campaign he served at least nine months as an orderly Sergeant; and in the second campaign, he served at least seven months as an orderly Sergeant.

This affiant further states that one record of his age was in the possession of the Rev'd. Mr. Craig, who baptized him. That this Clergyman died thirty years ago and he cannot tell what became of the record. That another record of his age is now in the Family Bible, in the possession of his elder brother James Withers of Culpeper County [possibly pension application W4399].

NOTES:

The only Col. Howard known to have been with Gen. Daniel Morgan was John Eager Howard of the Continental line of Maryland and Delaware. Triplett, and therefore presumably Withers, was in the Fauquier County Militia. Triplett appears to have been a Major commanding the Virginia Battalion of Militia at the Battle of Cowpens.

A letter in the file states that Withers died 24 Apr 1843.