

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Peter Banks S6557

f85<sup>1</sup>NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/11/08 rev'd 8/13/14

[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.]

North Carolina, Craven County: SS

On this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October appeared in open Court before the Honorable the Superior Court of Wall for the County of Craven now sitting Peter Banks a resident of Craven County, and State of North Carolina age Seventy-eight years and five months 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 – viz: That he was drafted when he was about one and twenty in Craven County out of Captain James Perkins' Company by William Blanks Captain, the year in which Charleston was taken by the British, but at what precise time, he does not recollect but he believes that it was the latter part of 1779 or early in 1780. That upon being drafted as aforesaid, he was directed to rendezvous at Kinston in Lenoir County North Carolina, to which place he repaired, and thence, under the command of General Caswell and Col. Richard Caswell, and Captain William Blanks, he marched to South Carolina; this affiant further states that he was ordered on to Charleston in South Carolina, together with the first Regiment to which he belonged and was present at Charleston when it was taken by the British,<sup>2</sup> and constituted [?]<sup>3</sup> his efforts to defend the place against the enemy.

And after the Surrender of Charleston his Regiment retired into North Carolina, and marched to Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) where he was discharged, but this affiant, not deeming his discharge of any value has neglected to preserve it, and it is now lost. This affiant cannot recollect the precise day, month and year, when he was discharged, but he well recollects, that it was five months after his enlistment as aforesaid. This affiant further states, that about two years after his discharge as aforesaid, he was again drafted in the County of Craven, and marched from the town of Newbern [New Bern] under Captain Jesse Bryan, to High Rock Ford on the Haw River in North Carolina, that General Greene [Nathanael Greene], there joined them, and he marched under him to Camden<sup>4</sup> in South Carolina. A few days after their arrival, they found the British drawn up, in battle array, in a bottom, General Greene marched his troops, upon the brow of a hill, the battle then began and became general, the Americans fought to a very great disadvantage and toward the close of the evening, General Greene, finding all hopes of success, vain, ordered the militia to take care of themselves – We immediately retreated, and this affiant, in company with Captain Granger, Lieutenant Granger, William

1 This file erroneously includes the filings made by Charity Lyons Banks for the services of her husband, Samuel Banks W17234, a private in the New York service. This application begins on page 23 of the file as posted on Fold3.com.

2 The British occupied Charleston on May 12, 1780.

3 *Contutula*

4 Applicant appears to be describing the Battle of Hobkirk Hill [Hobkirk's Hill] which occurred on April 25, 1781 near Camden SC. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/hobkirk.htm>

Clayton, & Captain Wyndham, made the best of their way for North Carolina. This declarant continued his march home until he reached New Bern which was some time in the summer of the year in which General Greene was defeated; the scattered forces were gathered together under Lieutenant Williamson, and under his command they went to hunt for Tories in Dover Swamp and upon the head of Trent River; they found an encampment of Tories in Dover Swamp, with a deep well in the midst of the encampment, and took one Tory, who was brought to New Bern, condemned & shot. Upon the march of this declarant's Regiment to Camden, Captain Jesse Bryan was sent to Ramsey's Mill, from Haw River and after the defeat of General Greene, Captain Bryan returned to New Bern, where this declarant found him, upon his return from the Tory hunt. This declarant was discharged in New Bern by Captain Jesse Bryan, but at what day, month and year, this declarant does not know, as he has lost his discharge not deeming it of any service or value to him. Major Brickell was commissary to the first Regiment under General Caswell. About six months after the discharge of this affiant, by Captain Bryan, he was again called into service to guard the jail in New Bern, in which were consigned many Tories and British prisoners – upon this duty this declarant served three months, under Captain Council Bryan, who was also at that time High Sheriff of the County of Craven. 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/ Peter Banks, X his mark

S/ Edw. Stanly [Clerk]

Interrogatory 1<sup>st</sup> When and in what year were you born?

Answer: In Craven County North Carolina on Goose Creek, the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 1754

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

Yes in a Bible, which is in the possession of some of the family

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom ?

Answer – In Craven County North Carolina on Goose Creek, and I was drafted out of Captain James Perkins' Company

4<sup>th</sup> 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 your service.

Answer – General Greene, General Caswell, Captain Blanks, Captain Jesse Bryan, Ensign Robert Simpson, Major Brickell, Colonel Nixon-- I served two tours of duty in the Army, and each time we went to South Carolina, I was present at the surrender of Charleston, and at Camden when General Greene was defeated, and guarded the jail in New Bern for three months; I was attached to the first Regiment under Caswell & I think in the third Regiment under Captain Bryan, & from under him I was taken by General Greene.

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

Answer – Yes I have received discharges it was first by Captain William Blanks, and second by Captain Jesse Bryan, but I have lost them, not deeming them to be any value to me, I did not preserve them.

7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Ans.--Peter Vendrick, Benjamin Brinson, Joseph Simpkins, William B. Perkins, and John Brinson.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Peter Banks, X his mark

S/ Edw. Stanly

[John Brinson, Peter Vendrick and William Spight gave the standard supporting affidavit.]  
[William B. Masters, a clergyman, gave a separate standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Craven County: Superior Court of Law Spring Term A.D. 1833

Personally appeared in open court before the Honorable John R. Donnell, one of the Judges of the Superior Court of Law & Equity for the State of North Carolina, Peter Banks of Craven County North Carolina, who being duly sworn deposed & saith, that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of Service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned in his annexed declaration & in the following grades; He swears most positively that he well recollects that he served five months in his first South Carolina tour, under General Caswell as a soldier, and he is confident in the belief that he served in all ten months. He is so very old and infirm that he does not recollect the year in which Charleston was taken or the battle of Camden was fought only from information, but this affiant most positively swears, that he was present & assisting as a soldier when Charleston was taken, & engaged in the battle of Camden, served on Trent & to guard the jail in New Bern as stated in his annexed declaration; This affiant is an illiterate man and cannot produce any proof of his actual service save the accompanying depositions of Benjamin Brinson and Peter Vendrick,<sup>5</sup> who are the only survivors of those who were then of the service or enlistment of this affiant for any time during the Revolutionary War, as all save them, are dead and gone.

Sworn to & subscribed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833.

S/ Peter Banks, X his mark

S/ Edw. Stanly

State of North Carolina, Craven County

Personally appeared before me William B. Perkins one of the Justices of the peace in & for said County April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1833 Mr. Benjamin Brinson who being first Sworn on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God – Deposed & Saith that Peter Banks Served in the Revolutionary war was drafted out of Captain James Perkins' Company of Beard's Creek in said County & was enrolled in Captain Jesse Bryan's Company and was marched from Beard's Creek to New Bern & was there put under Colonel Nixon & was marched from thence to South Buffalo on the head of Haw River & was there put under General Greene in his Regiment – and that said Banks was drafted for three months.

Sworn to & signed before me the Day & Date Above Mentioned

Test: S/ Wm B. Perkins, JP

S/ Benj. Brinson

State of North Carolina, Craven County

Personally appeared before me Lucas Benners one of the Justices of the Peace of said County Peter Vendrick who being first duly sworn, deposed & saith, that Peter Banks served in the Revolutionary War – was drafted in March 1780, out of Captain James Perkins' Company, on Beard's Creek, that said Banks marched to serve three months over the line into South Carolina under General William Caswell – Col. Richard Caswell, and Captain William Blanks, Served in the first Regiment-- after which served three months as Guard at the New Bern Jail.

Witnessed the said Lucas Benners, , one of the Justices aforesaid this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 1833.

S/ L. Benners, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 10 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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5 [Peter Vendrick S7791](#)

[p 22 begins the bounty land application applicable to the service of Samuel Banks Warrant Numbers 10948 and 11705, Private, Maryland—issued May 4, 1797 to James DeBaufre or DeBaufree, assignee.]