

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Best S6614

fn91NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/27/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia County of Screven

On this 6th day of April 1835, personally appeared John Best, a resident of the County aforesaid, aged about seventy-four years, in open Court, before the Inferior Court of the County of Screven – now in session, 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 was born in the County of Dobbs and State of North Carolina in the year 1761.

That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1781 as a volunteer in the command [of] Captain Joseph Rhodes, __ Blount Major, and __Armstrong Colonel.

That he served under the said officers for the full term of one year – and during said year was in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs – was mostly in the State of South Carolina – under the command of General Greene.

That during the said service this applicant was with David Quinn and Thomas Canaday residents of Duplin County North Carolina – who served in Company with this applicant, and he annexes to this declaration their depositions, to prove the same.

That he was discharged at Long Bay in the year 1782 the discharge was signed by Colonel Coleman and has long since been lost.

When called into service he resided in Duplin County North Carolina. That soon after the Revolutionary War he moved to Screven County Georgia and has resided in said County ever since.

That he has no record of his age.

He cannot recollect the names of any officers other than those mentioned.

He never received any commission, but served during and for the whole year as a private Soldier.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any the Agency of any State.

Sworn to in open court the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Best

S/ Sol. Bryan, JIC

S/ Alexander Kemp, JIC

S/ Cullen Williamson, JIC

[Moses N. McCall, a clergyman, and William Williams Senior gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 84]

State of North Carolina Duplin County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions May Term 1832

Before us the undersigned the Acting Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions in Duplin County, now sitting, this 27th day of May 1834, personally appeared David Quinn¹ [and] Thomas Canaday both residents of this County (both of whom have already obtain Pensions from the Government) & being duly sworn depose & say "that we know John Best, now a resident of Skirven [sic] County, Georgia, & formerly a resident of this County & born here, That we knew him many years before his removal to the South, & that during the Revolutionary War the said John Best served with us both, having turned out at the same time, returned the same time; the deponent Quinn, having served three months before, his company [?], the said John Best & Thomas Canaday, turned out with him. We then served one whole year in the Continental service under General Greene, and we day to refer to our declarations, on file in the War Department, for the particulars of that service.["]

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Test S/ John Taylor

S/ Thomas Canaday,² X his mark

S/ David Quinn, D his mark

[fn p. 6: on November 14, 1845, in Screven County Jacob B. Best, a son of John Best, filed a petition seeking to be paid the pension due his father who he says never drew his pension; he states that his father died November 11, 1836 in the 84th year of his age in Screven County Georgia.]

[fn p. 16: Screven County, Ga., 1846 term –finding by the court that John best emigrated from North Carolina to Screven County Georgia where he died November 11, 1836, and that there are now living the following children of John Best, Jacob B Best, George W Best, Absalom Best and William Best.]

[facts in the file: veteran married after the revolution a Mrs. Williams, who at the time of their marriage had a very young son named William; veteran and his wife had a son named Enoree who died about 1843.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 12 months service in the North Carolina line. Pension terminated November 11, 1836, the date of his death.]

¹ [David Quinn W4771](#)

² FPA W3561