

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Bigham S6638

fn19NC

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.]

South Carolina York District

On this 16th day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open court before the Honorable W D Martin Judge of the court of common pleas now sitting for this district Joseph Bigham a resident of this district aged seventy-two 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That during the whole time of the revolutionary contest he was a citizen of Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina living in Steele Creek Settlement about nine miles southwest of Charlotte that agreeable to the arrangements then existing in that section of country he volunteered and was enrolled in a Corps then known and called minute men who were subject to be called out on any emergency, but primarily intended to keep the Tories in order in the neighboring counties. That in the month of \_\_\_ 1780 he was called upon to join a party under General Rutherford that were destined against the Tories then in embodied near Ramsours Mills in the County of Lincoln, that he was to the best of his recollection under Captain William Alexander, that they joined General Rutherford a day or two before the battle was fought, but from some cause that he cannot account for the detachment did not arrive at the field of battle until the battle was over, and the Tories had crossed the Creek. To the best of his recollection was out in this expedition 20 or 30 days.

He was again called upon shortly before the British came to Charlotte the particular date he cannot recollect, and volunteered for a three months tour the rendezvous at Cambell's [sic, Campbell's?] some six or seven miles East of Charlotte under Colonel Robert Irwin, the Company officers that he served under in this tour he cannot at this time particularly recollects. They were under the command of General Davidson as their superior officer, and were mostly employed in cover the retreat of the Army, in harassing the foraging parties of the enemy who had now advanced to Charlotte from the nature of the service rendered on this tour, on scouting parties, and in small detachments, and under different officers, and over the country from the Catawba River, to the East of the Yadkin River, he cannot at this time recollect the particular officers he served under. He again volunteered and served a three months tour under Captain Robert McKnight either in the latter part of 1780 or the beginning of '81. General Davidson was

their superior officer. Joined the American Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] while encamped on Six Mile Creek in Mecklenburg County. Generals Smallwood, Butler and Morgan were with the American Army at the time they joined the Army.

Again in the year 1781 in the month of \_\_\_ volunteered and served a four months tour, (to the best of his recollection) James Osburn [sic, James Osborne?] was his Captain and Thomas Downes Lieutenant, under the command of General Rutherford. Thereto of service was in the Wilmington campaign. There were other services rendered as a minute man in a considerable amount but cannot at this late period distinctly recollect them so as to detail them. He further states that he never had any regular discharges or service. That James Knox, Samuel Knox, Allen Heron, and others of Mecklenburg were then his neighbors and one or more of them were with him and all of the above mentioned services that these different services would amt. in all to one year. That he was born in the Kingdom of Ireland in the year 1760, Emigrated with his father to America in the year 1766, arrived in same year in Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina Steele Creek settlement where he continued to reside until the year 1807, then removed to the Western part of York District South Carolina where he now resides. And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state whatever. He also states that he knows no clergyman present who is acquainted with him.

S/ Joseph Bigham

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court

S/ A. McWhorter, CCCPS

[William Jamieson & John Blair gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 14]

State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County

Personally appeared before Alexander Greer one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County James Knox and Samuel Knox & Alen Heron residence of said County, who having been sworn in due form of law do hereby certify that they are well acquainted with Joseph Bigham who subscribes and swears to the annexed declaration that they lived for many years his neighbor while he resided in this County, and that they believe him to be about seventy-two years of age, that he is reputed and believed in this neighborhood to have been a soldier of the revolution, that they concur and said opinion, having served with him in camp in the greater part if not all of the services by him stated in his declaration (said declaration having been read to us), and we further certify that he has always been considered a man of sound moral character.

S/ James Knox<sup>1</sup>

S/ Samuel Knox<sup>2</sup>

S/ Alen Heron<sup>3</sup>

S/ Alex. Greer, JP

[fn p. 8: on January 24, 1838, the veteran applied to have his pension payments transferred to the North Carolina agency as he had recently moved to Mecklenburg County North Carolina in order to live with one of his sons.]

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<sup>1</sup> [James Knox S7126](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Samuel Knox W8008](#)

<sup>3</sup> Sic, [Allan Herron S7001](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35.55 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months and 20 days service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]