

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathan Blackburn S6654

fn34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/31/10

[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.]

[fn p. 7]

State of Georgia County of Wilkes

On this 7th day of July in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared in open court, to wit, the Inferior Court in & for said County sitting for Ordinary purposes now in session Nathan Blackburn a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged fifteen years when the Scotch Tories (as they were called) were defeated at the widow Moore's Creek¹ in North Carolina between Cross Creek and Wilmington, by General Caswell – this being the only date from which his age can be calculated and he is unable to say when this engagement happened being an illiterate and apprentice boy he has no record of his age. He thinks that he is between 70 and 73 years old.

And the said Blackburn appearing in person as aforesaid and being sworn saith that he is a resident of said State and County and on his oath makes the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the Army of the United States, as a volunteer, some short time after the engagement above mentioned (say a month) with Captain James Love under the command of General Caswell, the younger – being the son as applicant recollects of the General Caswell who fought at the widow Moore's Creek as above stated in the First Regiment of the North Carolina line (as he thinks) under the following named officers. First under said Captain Love & General Caswell as a volunteer under whom he thinks he served for six months: that while under Captain Love's command, during this term of service, he was at Gates defeat² – he continued in service until discharged at Hillsboro in North Carolina: that at the time of entering the service under this engagement he resided in the County of Duplin North Carolina. That he joined the Army this time somewhere in North Carolina in the neighborhood of Cross Creek but having run away from home and being young and illiterate he knew, & cannot recollect, but little of the geography of the country. He recollects marching towards South Carolina when he was at Gates defeat as above after that defeat he, in the confusion that ensued, fell in, and marched with one General Smallwood to Headquarters at Hillsboro NC and after remaining there for some time he was

¹ The battle of Moore's Creek Bridge was called on February 27, 1776. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/moorescreek.htm>. This would place the veteran's birth year as 1760 or 1761, depending upon when in the year his birth actually occurred.

² The Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780. <http://battleofcamden.org/index.htm>

Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the 7th day of July 1834

Attest: S/ John H. Dyson, Clk CO

S/ Nath Blackburn, X his mark

[fn p. 4: Joseph A Carter, a clergyman, and Richard Booker gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 11: on November 19, 1855 in Lincoln County Georgia, John Blackburn filed an affidavit stating that he is the only living child of Nathan Blackburn, late of Wilkes County deceased, who applied for a pension in 1832 and died in 1847 in the month of December; that he is the only child or heir of his father, his father having died with no widow or other child; he seeks the pension due his father.]

[fn p. 12: John and William Jones testified that the veteran died on December 2, 1847 in Wilkes County and that they were present at his funeral the next day.]

[Veteran was found to be entitled to a pension at the rate of \$22.77 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and ending December 2, 1847 for 6 months & 25 days service as a private. The pension was paid in 1855 to his only surviving son, John Blackburn. I did not find in explanation as to why the pension was not paid to the veteran during his lifetime, but perhaps that explanation is in the file somewhere.]