

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Bullard S6770

Transcribed by Will Graves

f23NC

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[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.]

State of North Carolina, Bladen County

On 7<sup>th</sup> May 1833 personally appeared in open Court before William H. Beatty, Robert Lyon and James McDuffie, the worshipful Justices now holding the Court aforesaid Thomas Bullard a resident of Bladen County in the State of North Carolina ages seventy three years the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 1832, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated:

1. In a Company of Duplin Militia under the command of Capt. Hardy Holmes, John Holmes, Lieutenant, Joseph Carty Sergeant in a regiment commanded by Col Alston [probably Willis Alston] and Abraham Moulton [sic, Abraham Moulton], his other officers he forgets except one named Sanderlin who was a sergeant also in his company, he thinks in the year 1778 and in the latter part of the fall or first part of winter of that year and served six weeks as a private; that he resided in Duplin [County], now Sampson County, N. C., when he entered this service; that he was a substitute for one Jeremiah Simmons; that he was in no battle; that he joined his company at Elizabeth Town, Bladen County but was enrolled at Duplin Old Court House and obtained leave from his captain to meet his company at Elizabeth Town; that from thence he marched into South Carolina along the road leading to Purrysburg [sic, Purrysburg]; at that place where he joined Gen. Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] Army; that a day or two before he arrived at Purrysburg he exchanged places with a private named Joshua Tatom [sic, probably Joshua Tatum], who was in the service in a company of nine months' men; that the company to which he first belonged was five months' men; that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove these first six weeks [of] service.

2ndly: He exchanged places as aforesaid with Joshua Tatom and served seven months and a half in a company of nine months' men under Captain Daniel Williams when he first entered this service, that Captain Williams was promoted to the grade of Major and a Capt. Sharpe [Anthony Sharpe] took the place of Capt. Williams; Lieutenant Pearl, in a regiment commanded by Col. Thackston [James Thackston], Major Armstrong, Thomas Gregory and Stephen Bowen were sergeants in his company he forgets the other officers; that he was a private soldier; that he thinks this company was State troops; that he marched from Purrysburg S. C. up Savannah River to a place called Black Swamp where he encamped awhile, thence up Savannah River till they crossed over at Augusta; thence down the Savannah River to a place called White's Ferry on Savannah River; thence across Savannah at White's Ferry towards Stono Ferry in pursuit of the British to within three or four miles of Stono Ferry where he encamped awhile; thence to near Beaufort and encamped and remained awhile till the nine months for which the company was engaged expired; thence on for Cross Creek, now Fayetteville, and on his march

for Cross Creek he was discharged over Big Pee Dee River opposite Long Bluff Ferry by Colonel Thackston on the 15th day of August he thinks in the year 1779; that he was in no battle himself but the company and regiment to which he belonged fought at the battle of Stono Ferry; that at that time he was sent in a detachment of about three hundred men to capture some British on board a boat up Stono River; that the detachment fired upon the boat & killed some of the men on board & took the rest prisoners; that he served with the continental regiments or troops under Generals Lincoln and Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] from the time he joined them at Purysburg till the nine months were out at near Beaufort; the regular officers he knew were Generals Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and Sumter, Curtis Ivey, Adjutant Parker, Major Dougharty, Captain Lewis, Col. Dickson [probably Henry Dixon] and others whose names he can't now call to mind; that he has no documentary evidence and thinks he can prove this tour of service by Thomas Gregory of Sampson County & this service was in the year 1779.

3. In a company of Duplin Militia under the command of Captain Nathan Hall, Henry Davis, Sergeant; he forgets his other company officers, in a segment commanded by Col. James Kenan and John Treadwell Major, he thinks in January 1781, and served two months and a half; that he was a volunteer; that just before he entered this service he had removed from Duplin to Bladen County; that during this service the skirmish at the Big Bridge in New Hanover County about ten miles above Wilmington occurred, between the Americans commanded by Col. Brown whose arm was broke in the engagement and the enemy; that his company embodied in Duplin County and marched to the Big Bridge in New Hanover County where he joined a regiment under Col. James Kenan; that he remained there on the west side of the North East River at the Big Bridge till he was ordered to be discharged by Col. Brown and received a discharge in writing; by whom it was signed he can't recollect; that he has no documentary evidence or discharge now [it] having been lost or destroyed by fire as his house was once burned, and that he knows of no person by whom he can prove his service in this tour.

4. That he served in several short expeditions against the Tories amounting to one month under Capt. Ellis of Bladen County; that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove this tour of service.

Answers of Thomas Bullard the aforesaid applicant to the questions<sup>1</sup> prescribed by the War Department propounded by the Court aforesaid:

To the 1<sup>st</sup> : I was born in the state of Virginia on 13 December 1759.

To the 2<sup>nd</sup> : I have a record of my age at home on a slip of paper set down by memory, having lost the Bible in which it was recorded when my house was burned.

To the 3<sup>rd</sup> : When first called into service I was living in Duplin, now Sampson County, N. C.. When I entered my last tour of service I resided in Bladen County, N. C. Since the Revolutionary War, I have lived in Bladen, Sampson & Cumberland Counties, and I now live in

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<sup>1</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

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

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

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?

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

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?

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.

Bladen County, N. C..

To the 4<sup>th</sup> : In my first tour of service I was a substitute for Jeremiah Simmons. In my next I exchanged places voluntarily with Joshua Tatom by consent of our officers and in my other services I was a volunteer.

To the 5<sup>th</sup> : I beg leave to refer to my declaration for an answer to this interrogatory.

To the 6<sup>th</sup> : I received two discharges in writing, one given me & signed by Col. Thackston and the other granted me by Col. Brown. As his arm was broke, I don't know who signed it [both discharges] are lost or destroyed.

To the 7<sup>th</sup> : George Thagot, William Smith, Robert Melvin (Esquire), Major John T. Gilmore, Amos Jessup (Esquire), Isaac Jessup & others I could name.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll or the agency of any other State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Thos Bullard



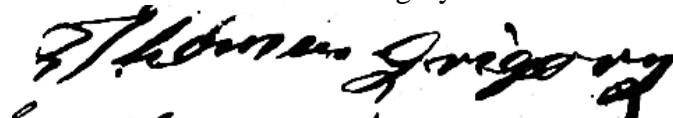
[Robert Melvin and William Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina, Sampson County:

On this the 20th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open court before the justices now holding the Court of Pleas and Quarter Session for Sampson County viz: William McKay, Jesse Oates and Whitney Royal, there appeared Thomas Gregory a resident of Sampson County, age 83 years on 29 January 1833, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath depose and say that he knew Thomas Bullard the applicant, now a resident of Bladen County, N.C., age about 73 years in the time of the War of the Revolution, that this deponent served with the said applicant in the 4th Regiment of N.C. State troops or Continentals. This deponent is not certain which, in a 9 month tour of duty, in a company commanded by Capt. Theophilus Williams at first, then Daniel Williams awhile and lastly by Capt. Anthony Sharpe, Lt. James Pearl, that Col. James Armstrong commanded the Regiment and Gen. Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] was supreme in command; that this service commenced in Dec 1778 and ended in Aug 1779, that the battle of Stono Ferry occurred during this tour sometime in June, that the company rendezvoused near Duplin old Court House and marched in the first place to Elizabeth Town, Bladen County, thence to the Ten mile House this side of Charleston, thence to Purysburg, thence up Savannah River to a place called Black Swamp, thence on further up & across at Augusta, thence down the Savannah to White's Ferry, thence across Savannah to Stono old field, where the army made Head Quarters, thence after the battle at Stono Ferry on towards Cross Creek, now Fayetteville; that he is not certain where said applicant joined the company but that he'd served the most of this tour of 9 months. Sworn to and subscribed.

S/ Thomas Gregory<sup>2</sup>



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$41.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year and 12 days service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line and militia.]

<sup>2</sup> [Thomas Gregory S41589](#)