

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Efland S6814

f21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/25/08 rev'd 12/17/14

[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.]

[p 3]

North Carolina, Orange County

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 Personally appeared before me Michael Holt an acting Justice of the peace for said County John Efland aged seventy years the 16<sup>th</sup> of last February who being 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.

That he commenced the service of the United States in the Militia of North Carolina about the year 1779 under Captain O'Neal [Peter O'Neal] who commanded as Captain when we were marched to South Carolina but was promoted and I was commanded by Captain James Trousdale and was a part of General Lillington's [John Alexander Lillington's] Brigade and served three months and received my discharge but have lost that paper. I served under Captain Gwinn [William Gwinn] from August 1782 April 1781 after the Guilford Battle [March 15, 1781] and General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Army part of the time and commanded by General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] when separated from General Greene. I was under Lieutenant Clendining [John Clendenin] at the time Hillsboro was taken [September 12, 1781] but made my escape and was not taken, prisoner, I afterwards served under Colonel O'Neal [William O'Neal] in the latter part of the summer and fall of 1781. I think my services under O'Neal was about three months.

I was born in Orange County State aforesaid in the neighborhood where I now live within three miles and I have lived in the same neighborhood all my life only while I was in service of my Country.

Sworn & subscribed the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832.

S/ Michael Holt, JP

S/ John Efland



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North Carolina, Orange County

I George Nease<sup>1</sup> do certify on oath that I was a Mess Mate in the Army in South Carolina with John Efland and also under Colonel O'Neal.

Sworn to and subscribed the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832.

S/ Michael Holt, JP

S/ George Nease, X his mark

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1 [George Nease \(Neese\) R7570](#)

[Alexander Albright, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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I Martin Nease<sup>2</sup> do certify upon oath that John Efland on was a soldier in the Army or Militia of North Carolina and I served and saw him in South Carolina and in the Town of Charlestown in said State and I knew him in service several times.

Sworn and subscribed the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832.

S/ Mich'l Holt, JP

S/ Martin Nease, X his mark

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State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this first day of September 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions in the County and State aforesaid, now sitting, John Efland, of the said County & State, aged 70 years on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February last, 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 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated. That he volunteered in the Militia, in the County of orange & State aforesaid in the year 1779, for the term of three months; he was attached to the company commanded by Captain O'Neal & Lieutenant James Trousdale Colonel Little [Archibald Lytle] was a field officer. The company formed a part of General Lillington's Brigade. From Orange, he was marched to Charleston in South Carolina, at which place Captain O'Neal was promoted, & Lieutenant James Trousdale was appointed Captain of declarant's Company. At Charleston, the declarant served the term for which he volunteered – and was discharged. From Charleston, he returned home, and in August of the same year that he arrived at home, viz., 1780, he volunteered in Orange, without limit of time, under Captain Gwin, and served until April 1781 when he was discharged at Ramsey's Mill on Deep River. In the fore part of this term of service, he was in pursuit of the Tories, in Orange County. Pickens was General of the Militia. At the time Colonel Lea [sic, Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] attacked & slaughtered the Tories under the command of Piles [Dr. John Pyle, Battle of Haw River or Pyle's Defeat, February 25, 1781] in the Western part of Orange County; the declarant was marching under Captain Gwin & General Pickens to his aid – but was not nearer perhaps 2 miles when the battle ensued. At the time of the Battle of Guilford, the declarant was guarding the prisoners made by Col. Lee in the battle just before had with the Tories under Pyle – and was about eight or 10 miles distant from the field of battle. From Guilford, declarant went home to Ramsey's Mill in pursuit of Lord Cornwallis – and at Ramsey's Mill he was discharged as aforesaid. After his return from Ramsay's Mill, he was taken with the smallpox – and did not enter the service again until the Fall of 1781. In the Fall of 1781, he took the place, as a substitute, of John Sharpe for the term of three months – the said John Sharpe having been drafted for that time. During this term of service, he was attached to the command of Captain Gwin – but part of the time he was with Lieutenant Clendenin, of the Light Horse. He was with Lieutenant Clendenin at Hillsboro when the Tories took the Town, & a number of prisoners, among whom was his said Lieutenant – but the declarant made his escape having lost his horse and rallied under Captain Gwin & Colonel O'Neal West of Hillsborough, & served the term for which he was a substitute. The declarant was out on several other occasions, a few days at a time, to aid in baffling the Tories – but at this distant day, his recollection is too imperfect for him to undertake to give an accurate account of his service. He was born the 16<sup>th</sup> of February 1762, he has a record of his age at home. He was born & hath always resided in Orange County in North Carolina. He has lost his discharges. He hath no documentary evidence of his service. He hath obtained the testimony of Martin Nease & George Nease, of the County & State aforesaid who were

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2 [Martin Nease S1776](#)

soldiers in the War of the revolution – which is hereunto affixed, as proof in part of the service of the declarant. He is known to Alexander Albright, a clergyman in his neighborhood; to Priestly H. Mangum, Doct. James S. Smith & Major John Taylor<sup>3</sup> of this County. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present; & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State, as far as he has no knowledge.

Sworn to in open Court

S/ J. Taylor, Clerk

S/ John Efland

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State of North Carolina, Orange County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions May Term 1833

On this the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid it being a Court of record & now sitting, John Efland, of the County and State aforesaid aged 71 years on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February last, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, by way of amendment & addition to a declaration made by him before the Court aforesaid at its August Sessions A.D. 1832 which is above and accompanies this – in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

The declarant states that the tour of three months and the Militia of North Carolina, for which he volunteered, in the year 1779, in the service of the United States, in the war, under the command of Captain O'Neal, Lieutenant Trousdale; and Colonel Lytle, Field Officer, as set forth in his said former declaration: -- he served as a private; & that he volunteered as a private. For the other particulars of that service, declarant begs leave to refer to his said former declaration. In addition however to what is therein stated of the said Tour of service, the declarant here states that the three months were served out by him in Charleston S. C. and that he was under arms in going to & coming from Charleston, one month – so that he was in service on that occasion & detached from his civil pursuits, four months, although the term for which he volunteered was only three months.

Declarant here states that about the time he volunteered in August 1780, without limit of time, under Captain Gwinn – as stated in his said former declaration; he here states by way of explanation that the terms of service for which our Militia were drafted were three months tours – and that the calls for militia in his section of the Country were so frequent, & the state of the Country & tide of affairs about that time in N. C. so gloomy & alarming to every friend of liberty in N. C. -- that he volunteered on that occasion without limit of time with the purpose of continuing in the service so long as the then emergencies of the service might require; that although such was his determination, his term of service on that occasion, was viewed by his commanding Officers with reference to the three months drafts, which were then being made on the Militia of the Country – so that at on that occasion he served as is stated in his said former declaration, from August 1780 until April 1781, a period of exactly 6 months – or in other words, two tours of three months each. He volunteered as a private & served as a private, in the Militia of N. C. For the particulars of this service for & during the said term of six months service; declarant asks a reference to his said former declaration.

In the Fall of 1781, when declarant was substituted for John Sharpe, for a tour of three months – as is set forth in his said former declaration; he now declares that the said John Sharpe had been drafted as a private in the Militia of N. C. for three months -- & that declarant served out that term as a private. For the particulars of that service, declarant asks leave to refer to his lead former declaration. By way of addition, he will state, that after the expiration of said term of service, he was discharged, but did not receive a written discharge. He received a written discharge from the first tour of duty, set forth in his declaration – which he hath not seen since the British & Tories plundered the House of his Brother-in-law, which was declarant's home, in Orange County, a short time before the Battle of Guilford in 1781.

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3 [John Taylor W18114](#)

Declarant has a distinct recollection of the terms of his service, set forth herein before & in his said former declaration; -- and it is only as to other service rendered by him, for short periods & on a sudden emergencies, for which he makes no account; that his memory would not serve him to give a detailed history.

The declarant states that he was born in Orange County N. C. and hath always resided there. The period of his birth is stated in his former declaration. The declarant further states, that on every occasion he performed service as aforesaid for which he now claims a pension; he served with an embodied corps called into service by competent authority as he understood & believed, and as he now believes.

Sworn to & subscribed.

S/ J. Taylor, Clerk

S/ John Efland

[Alexander Albright, a clergyman, Samuel L. Holland & John Taylor gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 12 months in the North Carolina militia.]