

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Fears S6835

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

North Carolina }

Stokes County }

On this 12th day of Sept 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Session of the County of Stokes in the State of North Carolina Thomas Fears a resident of Stokes County & State of North Carolina aged above sixty eight 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 provision of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. that he enlisted in or about the month of December 1779. he enlisted in the Virginia line of State troops for two years under Lieutenant Clement Reed [Clem Read] Captain Armong [probably Martin Armand Vogluson] belonging to Major John Nelsons corps of dragoons [Virginia State Cavalry] That this enlistment took place in the Court of Prince Edward State of Virginia where he was born and then lived. Deponent is unable to say whether the troop to which he belonged was transfered and received into the Continental establishment. That shortly after his enlistment he was marched to Williamsburg in said State of Virginia where his company joined the other two companies commanded by Captain Edmund Reed [sic: Edmund Read] & Fear [sic: Charles Fierer] forming the aforesaid Corps & troop of the said Major Nelson, that before he left Williamsburg Armstrong took command of the troop or company before commanded by the said Fear, that after remaining encamped for about two months at Williamsburg he marched for the South & on the way rendevoused for about a month at little york from whence the troops to which he was attached continued their southern tour to Hillsborough in N. Carolina where they joined the army under the Command of Genl De Kalb. In this expedition the dragoons or horse to which he belonged were attached to the Command of Genl [Charles] Porterfield of the State of Virginia. At Hillsboro deponent was detached as one of the life guard of the said Genl De Kalb that shortly after leaving Hillsboro & marching South Genl Gates joined the army and took the command. about this time as he understood it became desirable to effect an exchange of prisoners with the enemy & deponent was despatched in company with Robert Layton & a Captain (whose name he does not recollect) bearing a flag, with letters or despachs to Lord Cornwallis of the British Army then stationed at Camden that on this service he rade the hooper[?] belonging to Benjamin Clemments [sic: Benjamin Clements, pension application W1230] of Edmund Reeds Company upon rejoining the army he marched with it to the South & was in the battle near Camden [SC] when Genl Gates was defeated [16 Aug 1780] and after retreating about fifteen miles he was taken prisoner by a party the british & tories that after a detention of about six days he effected his escape & rejoined the army at Hillsborough under Genl. Gates where he obtained a furlow for about six weeks when he rejoined his company under the said Captain Armong in the Town of Petersburg State of Virginia that after marching in various directions in order to check the enemy in that part of the State of Virginia the troops to which he was attached had an engagement with the enemy while landing at James Town [probably Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 July 1781] from thence the enemy was followed to York Town where the seige soon after commenced [28 Sep] here he remained until the surrender of the british forces under Cornwallis [19 Oct] That during nearly the whole of the seige deponent acted by orders of one of the life guard of the Marquis Lafayette. Upon the surrender he marched in charge of the prisoners to the Court of Hanover in the State of Virginia where he received a written discharge by Capt Edmund Reed the oldest or first Captain of Major Nelsons Troops. This discharge was by him deposited with the Auditor of Virginia for the purpose of obtaining a certificate for his pay its date he does not now recollect but thinks it was about the first of November 1781. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

[signed] Thomas Fears