

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Ferrell S6836

f14NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 12/20/08 & 2/4/15

[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.]

[NOTE: HeritageQuest.com's image of this application is much more legible than Fold3.com's version.]

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

On the 5th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before James Martin Judge of the Superior Court of law now sitting, John Ferrell, a resident of the County of Caswell & State of North Carolina aged Sixty five years, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 who being first duly sworn according the law doth on this oath make the following declaration in error 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 & served as herein stated: to wit. The [sic, That] some time in the spring of the year 1781, he substituted himself in the place of one Robin White, a Blacksmith, the said Robin White had been drafted in a Company commanded by Captain Shaderick Hargis [Shadrach Hargis] in the County of Caswell & State of North Carolina & the Company was raised for the purpose of guarding the Town of Hillsborough; White being unwilling to go, hired the Declarant to go in his place. This Declarant being at that time a little over the age of fourteen years; the Company commanded by the said Hargis, in which this Declarant was a soldier was marched to Hillsborough & there stationed for the purpose of guarding the town as aforesaid, Hillsboro being at that time much threatened with an attack by the Tories who were numerous in the Country & neighborhood. They remained in Hillsborough for the space of the three months when their Term of service expiring, this Declarant was discharged. While this Declarant was stationed in Hillsboro there were no other troops there but Capt. Hargis' Company. The Lieutenant of the Company was named \_\_\_ Van Hook - at the time of the substitution of this Declarant he was a resident of the said County of Caswell & State of North Carolina. After the discharge of this Declarant he returned home. Shortly after his return home Gen'l Sumpter or Sumner [Jethro Sumner] issued his proclamation requiring all Delinquents to come in & offering that if they would come in & serve three months that they should be discharged from a service of twelve months, (which by the regulations of the law in that day they as Delinquents were bound to service) accordingly one Edward Grimes a Delinquent came to this Declarant & hired him (this Declarant) to take his place. This Declarant & the said Grimes went to old Col. Henry Dixon a Continental officer & the Colonel received this Declarant in the place of the said Grimes & took him for three months, this Declarant in Company with five others, who came into measures under the proclamation of Gen'l Sumpter [sic, Sumner] were marched under a Sergeant Ferrel through the State of North Carolina & into the State of South Carolina to General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] army which lay at that time near Jacksonsborough on Pon Pon River [South Edisto River] at a place called the Piney Camps there they joined the Gen'l army under General Greene.

They remained there some time & while the army yet remained at Piney Camps, this Declarant in Company with others were called out as a guard to guard the Governor who lived in Jacksonsboro &

there continued some time guarding the town & the house of the Governor from the attack of the Tories & English who were then in Charlestown. While this Declarant was guarding the Governor in Jacksonsborough Gen'l Greene marched with his troops to a place called Bacon's Bridge and there halted. This Declarant being relieved followed on with the rest of the guard & joined Gen'l Greene at Bacon's Bridge. He remained there some time & was one of the guard who was sent with the baggage waggons for the military stores in Halifax in North Carolina, he marched with the waggons as far as to Salisbury North Carolina & there his Term of service expiring he was again discharged after serving another term of three months, his discharges he has lost long since not expecting ever to have a use for them. This Declarant would State that in the two tours, as before stated he served in the whole something over six months - That the Company officers under whom this Declarant was in the last tour were Captain Tilman Dixon [Tilghman Dixon] & Lieutenant William Sanders [William Saunders], the field officers were Col. Henry Dixon & he thinks Maj. Thos. Donoho [Thomas Donoho]. This Declarant thinks he entered the militia service very early in the spring perhaps sometime in the first of March 1781. Served three months, he entered again some time in the summer of the same year in the Continental army perhaps in the month June or July & served three months he very well recollects that he was in Gen'l Greene's army when Lord Cornwallis was captured at Yorktown, & fired three rounds for joy when hearing the news - He resided in the County of Caswell & State of North Carolina at the time he entered the service - & that both tours he was a Substitute. The [sic, That] he has no documentary evidence that he can prove his service by & that he knows no man now living who was with him but old Arthur Toney<sup>1</sup> a Coloured man & whose evidence (being a Colored man) would not be good Testimony.

I (the Declarant) hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.  
Interrogatories propounded by the Court & answers

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

Answer: I was born in Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia in the year 1767 on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September -- & that my parents both died when I was an infant of Tender years.

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

Answer: I have no record of my age, having heard the time of my birth from my parents and retained in my mind ever since only by Memory.

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?

Answer: I was living in Caswell County and State of North Carolina when I was called into Service. I lived they are now; I have lived since the war of the revolution the principal part of my time in said County; though for nine years of my life I lived in the Western Country a part of the time in Tennessee & a part of the time in Kentucky.

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

Answer: I Served my Country two terms of duty of three months each; in both of which I was a Substitute. I being too young to be forced into the Army – I Substituted myself the first tour in the place of Robin White who was drafted & I Substituted myself in place of Edward Grimes the second Tour, who was a Delinquent.

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.

Answer: I knew in the Army General Greene, Col. Henry Dixon, Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle], Major Donoho [Thomas Donoho]; Captain Tilman Dixon [Tilghman Dixon] & others I belonged to the

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1 [Arthur Toney \(Tyre\) W4835](#)

first Regiment of the North Carolina Continental troops; I knew some of the Militia Regiments but the number I cannot now recollect and as to the General Circumstances of my Service I refer to what has been a said before in this my declaration.

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?

Answer: I received two discharges, one for each tour but they are both now lost or destroyed; not thinking that I should ever have a use for them.

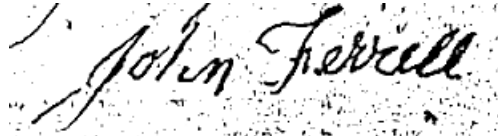
7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I am generally known in my neighborhood. I am known to Captain Joseph Brackin, John Cobb and John Ware, and a great many others all of whom will prove my character for veracity & Behavior; and honesty, I am at a loss to say who will testify as to my Services as a soldier except by my own oath, old Arthur Toney, my Brother Harry & for what the old men generally know, from report and hearsay.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jeremiah Graves, CSC

S/ John Ferrell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Ferrell". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured paper.

[Nicholas Willis, a clergyman, and Paul A. Haralson, gave the standard certificate of reputation for veracity, age and the belief in the neighborhood of revolutionary soldier services.]

I, Harry Ferrell do hereby Certify that, I well recollect John Ferrell in the Revolutionary War, that I was with him when we guarded the Town of Hillsborough in North Carolina has spoken of in his Declaration and I know the facts as he has there stated them to be true. Sworn to and subscribed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1832.

S/ Jeremiah Graves, CSC

S/ Harry Ferrell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry Ferrell". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured paper.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$6 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]