

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Griffin S6923

f22NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/2/08 rev'd 11/6/15

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, County of Nash

Court of Pleas and quarter sessions May Term. On this the 14th day of May in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court now sitting Thomas Griffin a resident of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, aged sixty-nine years two months and 13 days, 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 made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832 --

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

In the year 1782 some time in the Fall of said year he was drafted and entered the service of the United States under Captain Hawel F. Ellen [Howell Ellen] and Lieutenant Carter. From Nash County he was marched to Averysborough on the Cape Fear River, when Captain Ellen was taken sick we then were commanded by Lieutenant Carter. He was then marched South with the view of joining General Gates [Horatio Gates] but before we reached him he was defeated at the battle of Camden [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780].¹ We were then marched back and at Salisbury were discharged, having served our tour of duty, received a discharge but do not recollect who signed the discharge, but well recollects that Colonel Seawell [Benjamin Seawell] commanded the Regiment to which he belonged. His discharge he believed to be of no value so it has long since been lost or mislaid. He believes a discharge was handed to him by Lieutenant Carter. In support of this part of his declaration he offers the deposition of Jesse Webb² of the County of Franklin, who appears to be a very honorable man and credible person, which is hereunto attached.

In the first part of the year 1783 he was again drafted for three months N. C. militia Nash County, he entered the Service under Captain William Avent, Brittain Drake Lieutenant; Jo. Clinch [Joseph Clinch, possibly James Clinch] Colonel Hardy Griffin Major. The Regiment to which he belonged marched in small Scouting parties in various directions shooting, catching and hanging of Tories. He first marched to Halifax NC then to Tarbro [sic, Tarborough], then to Hillsborough thence South in various directions, then turning north we were discharged at a place called Crabb Tree [sic, Crabtree] in the County of Wake N. C. He received a discharge for his service in this tour but like the other it is lost not believing it ever would be of any value to him or any other person. In both terms he served as a private in the service of the United States and during that time he was not engaged in any Civil pursuit, and served for the space of six months. After leaving the Army in the revolution he returned to Nash County and lived there until the present day.

He further states that he has no other documentary evidence except what accompanies this declaration in support of the same. Nor does he know of any person now living that can testify to the facts set forth herein except Jesse Webb whose deposition is hereto annexed and the certificate of

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

² [Jesse Webb W18333](#)

William Baker given below.

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

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid.

Attest: S/ B. H. Blount, CCC

S/ Thomas Griffin, X [his mark]

I William Baker³ of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina do hereby [testify] that I served a Tour of three months in the service of the United States in the Army of the revolution with Thomas Griffin the above applicant in the year 1783, and served under the same officers as mentioned in his declaration. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid.

Attest: S/ Benj. H. Blount, CCC

S/ William Baker, B [his mark]

[Jordan Sherrod and Henry Blount gave these standards supporting affidavit.]

The following questions were propounded by the Court and the following answers [were given]

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – Agreeably to the record of my age I was born in the County of Edgecombe (in that part, which now forms the County of Nash) in the year 1764 on the ninth day of March

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

Answer: My age was written in a Bible, which ultimately became the property of Colonel Archibald Griffin who some years past removed to the State of Georgia and carried to the same with him, but agreeably to my own recollection of the book and what my parents told me I was born as above stated.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: When I entered the service I lived in the County of Nash, when I left the service [indecipherable word] to the County of Nash where I have lived until the present day

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

Answer – I was drafted both times --

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

Answer: In the first Tour I recollect Major Brickell and Major Pugh * who was killed near Salisbury NC or died very suddenly, at any rate he was found dead and we could not detail how he came by his death

* the later of whom

6th 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 a discharge both times but they have been lost or mislaid as stated before

7th 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.

Answered John H. Drake Senior and John Arrington Senior

[p 18]

State of North Carolina, Franklin County

The deposition of Jesse Webb of the County of Franklin taken at the instance of Thomas Griffin

³ [William Baker R405](#)

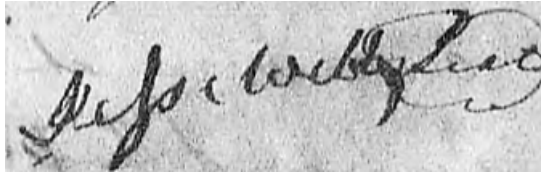
of the County of Nash both of North Carolina by us Wilson D. Webb and Guilford Lewis justices of the peace for the County of Franklin and State aforesaid at the House of Guilford Lewis on the 3rd day of September A.D. 1832, in behalf of the said Thomas Griffin as a Soldier of the revolutionary War as being entitled as a pensioner under an act of Congress being by us carefully examined and Sworn to testify the whole truth in behalf of the said Thomas Griffin.

I Jesse Webb, Deposeth and Saith

That Thomas Griffin of the County of Nash and myself Served a Tour of three months in the revolutionary war under the command of Benjamin Seawell and William Brickell Colonels of the Army at that time and that I know him as a private or Soldier in the said Army under the above named commanding Colonels Seawell and Brickell further this deponent Saith not.

Sworn to and Subscribed 3 September A.D. 1832.

S/ Jesse Webb {Seal}

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jesse Webb", enclosed within a circular seal impression. The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured paper.

S/ W. D. Webb, JP

S/ G. Lewis, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]