

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Zachariah Hester S7002

f20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/15/09 rev'd 12/22/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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 County of Granville: Sct.

On this the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid, now sitting, Zachariah Hester a resident of said County aged Seventy-one 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. -- he was born in Louisa County Virginia & moved to this County at six years of age where he has resided ever since and at the time he entered the service he was a resident of the County & State above stated, that he volunteered his services under the immediate command of Capt. Cuthbert Hudson & Lieut. Joseph Taylor both of this County, and as well as he recollects it was in the second or third year of the revolutionary war. The particular day he is not able from the lapse of time to call to memory, but is confident it was immediately after the landing of the British at Wilmington in this State, which was the immediate cause of his volunteering and that he continued in this service about six weeks. We were marched to a place called Cross Creek at which place we received information that the Tories under the command of General McCloud [sic, Brig. Gen. Donald MacDonald commanded the Tories at Moore's Creek, but Lt. Col. Donald McLeod was also present and in command of the Anson County NC Loyalist Militia] against whom we were directing our movements had been met by General Caswell [Richard Caswell] and a place called the Black Swamps routed, beaten & their commander killed, whereupon we were discharged.<sup>1</sup>

He furthermore states that nearly two years after that period he was drafted as a Militia man in this State and was under the command of Capt. William Gill, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. William Royster, 2nd Lieut. William Knight -- Major O'Neil [probably William O'Neal of the Orange County North Carolina militia regiment] & Col. Paisley [John Paisley] of Orange County and marched to Purrysburg in South Carolina, remaining in said service six months. We were marched through Hillsboro, Salisbury in this State -- Camden in South Carolina, thence on to Purrysburg. He furthermore states that he was acquainted with Col. Archibald Lytle, Major Tilman Dixon [sic, Tilghman Dixon] & General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] regular officers the latter of whom was commander in chief of that division of the Army. We were marched from Purrysburg to a place called "The Two Sisters" [ferry], where we remained until we were discharged. The particular date of this is not recollected having lost the written discharge with which he was furnished. During this period above referred to, there was a skirmish between a part of the militia to which

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant is describing the engagement known as the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge which occurred on February 27, 1776. [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_moores\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html)

he belonged and the British at Briar Creek, that he was not himself engaged in it.<sup>2</sup>

About six or seven months thereafter, he was again drafted under Capt. Barnett Pulliam of this (Granville) County marched to Charleston by way of Hillsborough, Salisbury, Charlotte, Camden &c and placed under the command of Col. Lytle [Archibald Lytle] & Major Dixon [Henry "Hal" Dixon] -- General Lincoln commander in chief. We remained at Charleston for the space of three months the period for which we were drafted, and were then discharged, nothing memorable occurred in during that term, though a few days after our discharge, Charleston was besieged & taken by the enemy.<sup>3</sup>

Sometime after this (the particular period not recollected) he was again drafted for three months under Capt. William Hicks. We were stationed about a week at Harrisburg, thence marched a few miles near Col. Eaton's, thence on to the High Rock Ford -- thence on to Guilford old Court House -- Major Richard Harrington & Col. Joseph Taylor our Superior officers, and the day after our arrival there came on the celebrated battle [Battle of Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781] at that place, in which this applicant was engaged. The particulars of which are so much a matter of history it is useless to be recounted here -- suffice it to say that he escaped [one or 2 indecipherable words]<sup>4</sup> and after General Green [Nathanael Greene] our Commander in Chief ordered a retreat we marched on and halted at a place called the Iron Works upon Troublesome [Creek], where we continued about three days thence we were marched on to Ramsay's [sic, Ramsey's] Mills on Deep River, where we (the Militia) were left under the command of General Butler [John Butler], General Greene in the meantime taking command of the regular troops and moving on to South Carolina. We remained at Ramsey's Mills about a fortnight and then General Butler marched us up to Wake [County] and at a place now [called] Raleigh we were discharged.

Some short time thereafter, this affiant was again drafted for a tour of three months under Capt. Birdsong [Batt Birdsong], but in a few days after, was ordered to take charge of a wagon for the purpose of carrying ammunition on to head quarters at Camden, but being so much annoyed by the Tories he was ordered to deposit the stores at Frohock's Mills in Rowan [County], thence he returned in company with one Robert Christie, the wagon master, one Thomas Parham-- Archie Golden, and Barnett Thompson to Halifax where he was placed under the command of Col. Nicholas Long [Deputy Quarter Master General], where we remained without any thing memorable occurring until the expiration of the three months and was discharged.

This Affiant 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.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court  
S/ James Wyche, Chairman Justice

S/ Zachariah Hester, X his mark

S/ Rich'd Sneed  
S/ Thos. Turner

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<sup>2</sup> The engagement at Brier Creek occurred on March 3, 1779.

<sup>3</sup> Charleston fell on May 12, 1780.

<sup>4</sup> 

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State of North Carolina Granville County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions first Tuesday in August A.D. 1832

Personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas aforesaid of said County, Benjamin Hester<sup>5</sup> of the County and first having been duly sworn deposes and saith that he has been well acquainted with Zachariah Hester the applicant for a pension from his boyhood up to the present time -- that he saw him at different times in the service as many as three tours -- first in the Army in South Carolina near Purrysburg -- again we marched together from this County to Charleston where we remained in company for about three months -- and again we were together at the battle of Guilford Court house -- he in the infantry and myself in the Cavalry. This affiant though states that he himself was not immediately engaged in the battle, but has every reason to believe this applicant was.

S/ Benjamin Hester, X his mark

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Personally appeared in open Court Shadrach Owen<sup>6</sup> of the County & State aforesaid, & having been duly sworn, maketh oath that he has been well acquainted with Zachariah Hester this applicant for upwards of fifty years, and that he served with him in the Militia during the revolutionary war a five month's tour in & about Purrysburg in South Carolina.

S/ Shadrach Owen

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Shadrach Owen", written in dark ink on a light background.

[John Mallory, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$53.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>5</sup> [Benjamin Hester S6998](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Shadrach Owen \(Owens\) W5459](#)