

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Lancaster S7131

f22NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/5/09: rev'd 5/13/16

[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.]

[p 18]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term 1832

On the 27th day of August personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, Henry Lancaster, a resident of Edgecombe County North Carolina, aged 80 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.

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

That he was detailed or rather entered as a substitute in the military service of the United States in 1778 in the fall and served until the ensuing May in the capacity of first Sergeant. In the company to which he belonged Edward Clinch was Captain William Hall first Lieutenant, Jethro Denson Ensign. This company belonged to the Regiment of Colonel Thomas Eaton Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Clinch. He was ordered to Georgia and fought at Briar Creek [March 3, 1779]¹ under General Ashe [John Ashe]. This occurred he thinks in March 1779. Soon after he returned home.

The facts above stated he is unable to prove by any documentary evidence but appends the certificate of Lewis Todd² and Jacob Bradley³ who served in a company with the subscriber.

In the following June he was drafted and as first Sergeant went with the company to Hillsborough John Harris Captain -- Thomas Bradford Lieutenant. This company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Pink Eaton [Pinketham Eaton] from Hillsboro he went with the company to Eutaw and was in the battle at that place [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781].⁴ After the battle the company rallied at the Ironworks on Haw River.

This occupied he thinks a period of three months --

In October or November he volunteered and went under Captain Jolly Powell [Ptolemy Powell] and at Halifax he was transferred to Captain Bradford's [Richard Bradford's] Company and went with him to Guilford and was at the battle at the Court House [March 15, 1781].⁵ --

¹ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

² [Lewis Todd S7736](#)

³ [Jacob Braswell W3933](#)

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

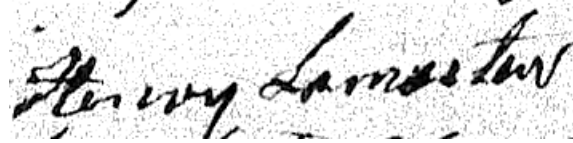
⁵ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

This occupied about 9 months.

In 1778 he again volunteered and went to Fayetteville and after getting some distance beyond it in consequence of the indisposition of his family he returned having hired a substitute.

In 1779 -- he Served as a member of a Cavalry company for 3 months in this State under Captain James Wilson -- Lieutenant Bythal Bell, Ensign William Fort. This company was employed in scouring the country in quest of Tories and outliers.

S/ Henry Lancaster



The facts set forth in the fore latter clauses of the declaration he is unable to substantiate by any documentary evidence nor does he know of any living witness by whom he can prove it. He has added the certificate of Lewis Todd who has long known him and for the rest relies upon the justice of his Country.

Sworn to & subscribed

S/ Henry Lancaster

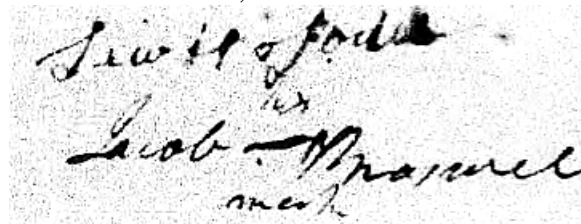
[p 20]

We Lewis Todd and Jacob ~~Bradley~~ Braswell do hereby certify that we know the facts set forth in the first clause of this declaration to be correct having been engaged in the same service. --

Sworn to and subscribed

S/ Lewis Todd

S/ Jacob Braswell, X his mark



[p 3]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: April 22nd, 1833

Personally appeared before me Charles G. Hunter a justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Henry Lancaster, who being duly sworn deposed and saith --

That he was born in the County of Edgecombe in the year 1752. He has a record of his age in the hand writing of his father. He has resided in the County of Edgecombe ever since with the exception of a few years, during which he lived in the County of Nash and the County of Washington -- the former long subsequent to the period of his service in the War of the Revolution -- the latter anterior to that time. He resided in the County of Edgecombe at the time he entered the Service under Captain Clinch [Edward Clinch] as first Sergeant. He served under Captain Clinch for nine months -- he distinctly recollects leaving home in September & returning in the following May: but by reason of the decay of his memory he cannot recollect the years with as much accuracy as he could wish. He went with Captain Harris [John Harris] in the term following to Hillsborough -- and remained three months -- He went as a volunteer under Captain Powell [Ptolemy Powell] and was in at Guilford; in October or November previous to the fight Captain Powell left Halifax -- the deponent in the meantime had been transferred to a company commanded by Captain Bradford [Richard Bradford] and was engaged in the service during this

tour for nine months.

He again served as a member of a Cavalry company for three months under Captain Wilson [James Wilson].

All three tours except the latter he was employed in other parts of the Country -- in it his duties were confined to Edgecombe. In all he served as first Sergeant, never having acted in any other capacity. His commissions for these several tours have been lost. He, not thinking them likely to be useful to him took no special care to preserve them and in the progress of time they have been lost.

The deponent repeats -- that by reason of old age and loss of memory he cannot specify with greater precision the particular years in which these services were performed. He served in Captain Clinch's Company nine months as first Sergeant -- in Harris's Company three months as first Sergeant -- in Captain Powell's & Captain Bradford's Companies nine months as first Sergeant -- and in Captain Ja^s Wilson's Company three months as first Sergeant of Cavalry -- and for such services he claims a pension. He refers to the certificate of Lewis Todd and Jacob Braswell for proof of his service and to that of Lewis Todd as to his character for veracity -- Sworn to & subscribed

S/ Henry Lancaster

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Lancaster". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

S/ Chas. G. Hunter, JP

[p 5: Taken from a better image posted on Ancestry.com]

State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: July 25, 1833

Personally appeared before me David Williams, a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Henry Lancaster who in addition to what has been stated above deposes --

That he entered for 9 months in the service he performed with Lewis Todd as stated in his declaration, his services were Honorable & faithfully & faithfully executed and any apparent inconsistency has only been produced by the decay of his memory -- and not by any disposition to obtain a pension for services he never performed.

S/ Henry Lancaster

[p 6: John W. Potts & Bird Lane gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Edgecombe County: September 12, 1833

Personally appeared before me Willis Wilkins one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid, Henry Lancaster, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith --

That from conversations held with Lewis Todd & Jacob Braswell he is led to believe that he was in error in supposing his services under Captain Clinch to have embraced a period of nine months. Five months, from their recollection, must have been the time of service under Captain Clinch. The other errors pointed out are those of time and these he is induced to believe the Department will not attribute to any corrupt intention, but to its proper cause, a decayed and defective memory as his character for probity has been sustained by responsible persons. He repeats the declaration that his services were all performed as stated; and his errors are to be

imputed to that decay of memory incident to his advanced age.

Sworn & subscribed

S/ Willis Wilkins, JP

S/ Henry Lancaster

Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Sergeant for 20 months in the North Carolina militia.]