

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Shadrach Merritt S7226

f10NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/29/09: rev'd 4/7/17

[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.]

State of North Carolina Halifax County} SS

On this 20th day of August A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas & quarter Sessions for the County of Halifax, now sitting, Shadrach Merritt a resident of Halifax County & State of North Carolina, aged 76 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, viz.: he volunteered under Col. Nicholas Long in Halifax County marched to Moore's Creek but the enemy was come up with, they (the enemy) were conquered [Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776], & returned to Halifax & was discharged in February 1776, after more than one month's service -- he was again drafted as a militia man in the year '78 under Capt. Scurlock [Thomas Scurlock] & Col. Tom Eaton [Thomas Eaton] (in Halifax County) marched to Georgia under General Ashe [John Ashe], was at the battle of Briar Creek [Briar Creek, March 3, 1779] & was discharged somewhere in South Carolina after a service of five months; he had written discharges but they are lost -- he was born in Halifax County State of North Carolina & has always resided here, has no record of his age.

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.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ M. H. Pettway, Clk

S/ Shadrach Merritt, X his mark

[Henry Bradford, a clergyman, and John Crowell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Halifax County

Shadrach Merritt, a man of credibility personally appeared before me \_\_\_ as Justice of the Peace for the County of Halifax State aforesaid & being duly sworn deposes & says: that in the first tour of service as mentioned in his declaration hereto annexed he marched as he thinks intending to go to the place called Moore's Creek; the troops were under the command of Col. Nicholas Long but whether there were more than one company or who the other officers were, he cannot now recollect by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory -- he has forgotten all the circumstances attending this tour but feels confident he served more than one month. In the second tour mentioned in his said declaration, he was drafted in the year 1778, in the company commanded by Scurlock & in Col. Tom Eaton's Regiment marched to a little town in

South Carolina [sic, North Carolina] called Elizabeth [Town] & joined three other regiments -- Col. Perkins [Adam Perkins] from the Edenton District commanded one Regiment -- Col. Caswell [William Caswell] & Col. Alston [Philip Alston] were also in command over the other regiments -- the troops were all of the North Carolina Militia -- from Elizabeth marched towards Charleston to a place called the ten mile house & then turned up to Augusta & then into Georgia & fought the battle of Brier Creek. General Ashe commanded -- at this battle he believes there were some troops from Georgia which he thinks were called "Georgia Regulars." The troops retreated, swam Brier Creek & came to Purrysburg on the Savannah River & stayed there until discharged, this battle was fought 3rd day of March & he was discharged 10th day of April following having served five months. He knows of no person living who was with him in either tour by whom he can prove his service.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 4th May 1833

S/ Shadrach Merritt, X his mark

S/ R. J. Hawkins, JP

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