

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Mizell, Sr S7227

Transcribed by Will Graves

f34NC

rev'd 10/21/16

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

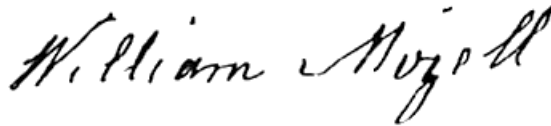
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William Mizell Senior of the County of Martin & State of North Carolina being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth & saith as follows:

I was born in the County of Martin according to the record of my parents on the 6th of January 1757. I was living in said County during the Revolutionary War and have resided in the same nearly ever since. I performed service in the Revolutionary War in two tours as first sergeant of a company amounting in the whole to eight months & twenty-five days. – I was a drafted militia man for the first tour of five months – I was placed under the command of Captain John Higgins Jones Colonel Thomas Eaton: the whole command of the Army was under General Ashe. – We were marched through South Carolina into Georgia to Briery Creek where a battle was fought with the English – The battle was short we being compelled to retreat – I recollect that Colonel Philip Alston & our Lieutenant James Jones brother of our captain were made prisoners – After the battle we were marched to Black Swamp Camp. Our term of service of five months expired at this place but the officers compelled us to remain twenty-five days longer at the expiration of which time we were discharged – I know of no person but Joseph Pippen¹ of Edgecombe by whom I can prove this service but he resides so far from me that I cannot procure his testimony nor did I know that he was alive until a few days past. – I was drafted for the second term of service for three months – I was placed under the command of Captain Benjamin Hardison, Colonel Whitmell Hill, Lieutenant Colonel McKensie – I was marched under their command to Guilford Court House at which place the battle with the British took place – The whole army at that place was under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. – We had not been long in camp before the battle took place in which we were compelled to retreat & formed at the Iron works according to orders. – We were marched in the rear of the Army from this place to Deep River at Ramsay's Mills – I remained at this place until I was discharged. – part of the Army was marched to Camden – I know of no person's testimony who I can procure at present but the affidavit of Thomas Price hereunto annexed by which I can substantiate my service in this tour – In both campaigns I received regular discharges but I have lost them. My papers having been destroyed while I was about at sea. – I have never received any pension from the Government – I refer to the annexed affidavit for evidence of my character for Veracity

¹ [Joseph Pippen W5546](#)

Sworn to & Subscribed in open court at this Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions held for this County of Martin at the Court House in Williamston this 9th of October 1832
S/ Lawrence Cherry, JP S/ William Mizell



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State of North Carolina Martin County: A

Personally appeared in open court Thomas [text obscured by seal] who being sworn depose that he served [text obscured by seal] months in one tour in the Revolutionary War [text obscured by seal] present at the battle of Guilford Court House [text obscured by seal] that he distinctly recollects that William Mizell Sr served that tour & that he was orderly sergeant of his Company – The circumstances attending that tour detailed in his affidavit he believes are true.

Sworn to & subscribed and open court at the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for Martin County on 9th day of October 1832
S/ Lawrence Cherry, JP S/ [illegible] Price



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State of North Carolina, Martin County

On this 31st day of August 1833 personally appeared before Philip D. Seymour a Justice of the Peace in and for said County William Mizell a resident of said County and State aged seventy six 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 provision made by this act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

1st That he entered the service of the United States not long before the battle of Briar Creek was fought. He was drafted from Martin's Regiment and placed under the command of Capt. John Higgins Jones, Col. Thomas Eaton, when he joined the main army the whole was commanded by Genl. Ashe [John Ashe]. He was marched through South Carolina into Georgia to Briar Creek where the battle was fought with the English [March 3, 1779].² The battle was short the Americans being compelled to retreat. He recollects that Col. Philip Alston & his Lieutenant James Jones brother of the Captain were taken prisoners. After the battle the Army was marched to Black Swamp Camp. Having been drafted for five months only his term of service expired at this place but the officers compelled him with others to remain twenty five days longer at the expiration of which time we were discharged. I know of no person now living by whom I can prove my actual service in the above tour. I was orderly sergeant in this tour.

2nd He was drafted for the second term of service for three months. He was placed under the command of Capt. Benjamin Hardison, Col. Whitmill Hill [Whitmell Hill], Lieut. Col. McKensie [Kenneth McKenzie]. He was appointed first sergeant and marched under their command to Guilford Court House where a battle with the English took place [March 15, 1781].³

² <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

³ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

The whole army at that place was under the command of Genl Greene [Nathanael Greene]. He had not been in camp but a short time before the battle took place in which we retreated and formed at the Iron works [Troublesome Iron works] according to orders. The army was marched from this place in rear of the enemy to Deep River at Ramsey's Mills. He remained at this place until his term of service expired and he was discharged. He knows of no person's testimony by which he can substantiate his service in this tour that he can procure but Thomas Price⁴ whose affidavit is herewith submitted marked A. He states that he received regular discharge at this expiration of each term but he cannot find them having been lost or destroyed while he was absent at war. He resided in Martin County when called into service and has resided in said County ever since with the exception of what time he was absent at war. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not in the pension roll of any agency in any state. He refers to the affidavit of Joseph Biggs, Senr., a clergyman upward of sixty years of age marked B and the affidavit of Joseph Robertson, Saml. S.S. Shepherd and Joel Smithwick⁵ marked C herewith submitted for traditionary evidence of my service.

Sworn to & subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

William Mizell Senr., (Seal)



S/ Phil. D Seymour JP

Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department:

Answer to 1st Int: I was born in the County of Martin according to the record of my parents on 6th January 1757.

Answer to 2nd Int: I have it at home in a common prayer book. I took it from my father's record which record was purchased by Davis Robeson at my father's sale, who married my sister and who carried it to Tennessee, the time I do not recollect.

Answer to 3rd Int: I was living in Martin County when called into service and have lived in said County ever since with the except of some time absent at war.

Answer to 4th Int: I was drafted.

Answer to 5th Int: I recollect Genl Ashe, Genl Greene, Col Eaton, Col Hill, Col McKensie, Col Alston. I recollect we were with Continental Regiments but I cannot describe them. I refer to my declaration for the general circumstances.

Answer to 6th Int: I received regular discharges at the expiration of each term from the officers in command and I have lost them or they were destroyed while I was gone to war.

Answer to 7th Int: I could name many but I think it's sufficient to name Joseph Biggs, Sr., a clergyman and Joseph Robertson & Joel Smithwick Justice of the Peace of Martin County and Saml S.S. Shepherd Sheriff of said County whose affidavits marked B & C are herewith submitted.

S/ Phil. D. Seymour, J. P.

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4 [Thomas Price S7339](#)

5 Sic, [John Smithwick S7554](#)

Amended declaration of William Mizell Senior in conformity with the regulations of the War Department and in explanation of the objections forwarded, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the County of Martin William Mizell Senior who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that he cannot recollect with certainty the period of the war when the first tour of service was performed except it was about the time when the battle of Briery Creek was fought. – The second was about the time of the battle of Guilford as detailed in Declarations – He did not procure the certificate of a clergyman not knowing it was necessary thinking the certificate of citizens was sufficient. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the president and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state

Sworn to & subscribed before me this Sixteen day of March 1833

S/ Jos. R. Ballard, JP

S/ William Mizell

[Joseph Biggs Senior, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$44.16 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a sergeant for 8 months in 25 days in the North Carolina militia.]