

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Neely S 7264

Transcribed by Will Graves

f17NC

rev'd 6/4/15

[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 Mississippi, Copiah County

On this fourth day of December A. D., 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of the County aforesaid, now sitting and legally Holden by the two associate justices of said court the office of Chief Justice being at this time vacant, Jacob Neely, a resident of said County aged about Seventy years as he verily believe but can not say with certainty how old he is having no record thereof, who being first duly sworn according to law upon his oath deposeth and says makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832: That he was born and raised in Caswell County in North Carolina until he entered the service of the United States as a substitute militia man for one Phillip Prior [Phillip Pryor?] some time in the Spring prior to the battle of Kings Mountain [Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780]¹ and the battle of the Cow Pens [Battle of the Cowpens, January 17, 1781] but the particular year and date he can not now recollect; that he at this time served as a substitute three months and was all the time at the County cite [sic, seat?] of the county of Caswell in the capacity of aid to his brother, Thomas Neely, who was acting as commissary at the place under Col. Moore [William Moore] who was then Col. of the County; and one Douglass [John Douglas] who was Capt. of the Company to which he belonged; that at the end of his three months service he received a written discharge from the said Col. Moore which he has long since lost or left with his brother in Georgia. That shortly after said discharge he enlisted again as a volunteer militia man under the same Capt Douglass and his said brother as Lieutenant and in a few days set off under the command of one Col. Williams [James Williams] for South Carolina and was in the battle of Kings Mountain in which the said Col. was killed and soon after said battle he returned home again in company with and in aid of some of his wounded fellow soldiers and soon after his arrival received a written discharge from the said Capt. Douglass who arrived at home soon after having served two months which discharge is also lost or left with his brother in Ga. and probably lost. Shortly after the battle of Guilford [Battle of Guilford, March 15, 1781] as well as he can recollect, he volunteered again under Capt. Harris and Col. Moore and marched to Hillsboro and thence towards Wilmington in pursuit of the enemy who had captured and carried off from Hillsborough the Governor [Thomas Burke, was taken by David Fanning and his Troop of Tories on September 12, 1781] of the State in order to effect his rescue and that they had a skirmish with the enemy near Wilmington at a place called the brick house [November 15, 1781], about twelve miles from the city and that Col. Mabin [sic,

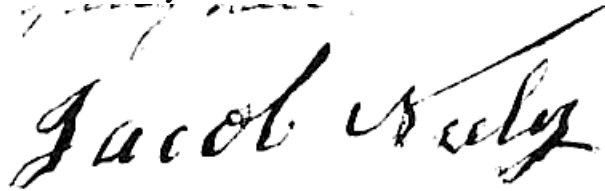
¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

Robert Mebane] of the Continental Army was also along with them as a volunteer and shortly after on his return to Virginia to join his own troops was killed by the Tory Hightower.² He further states that he received his discharge this time at Black river about ten or twelve miles from Wilmington and shortly after the news of Corn Wallase's [sic, Cornwallis] defeat [October 19, 1781] and that he served this time three months. He further states that during the whole war after the enemy began to show themselves in North Carolina he stood as a minute man and was very frequently out in pursuit of the enemy, (Tories and British) for weeks and sometimes even a month, of which he can give no particular account, but believes that in the whole he served a years and a half although he had discharges for only eight months as above stated; for all which services he has never rec'd any compensation whatever. He further states that about the close of the war he removed to the State of Georgia where he resided about fifteen years and then to the State of Alabama where he lived three or four years near Fort Stoddard and from thence to this State where he now lives about eight or nine years and is intimately acquainted with and known to a great many persons, among whom in his immediate neighborhood are John Willson, Esq., Sam'l Howze, Thos. Lawrence, Isaac Lyons, and John Sibley.

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

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jacob Neely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Neely". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Jacob Neely".

Wm Barnes, M. E.

[Hardy Mullins, a clergyman, Stephen Pace and Samuel Howze gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Mississippi Copiah County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid the within named Jacob Neely who being duly sworn according to law upon oath saith that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his Revolutionary services mentioned, nor does he know of any living witness who can testify to the same. And further that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his services but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and all the time in the rank of a common soldier. For three months as a substitute for Philip Prior; and fifteen months as a volunteer: and for which service I claim a pension.

² Henry Hightower was hanged for the murder of Col. Robert Mebane.

"In September of 1781 the notorious local Tory, David Fanning, led 1,100 men to attack Hillsboro, a center of discontent and also the capital of North Carolina. There they killed 15 Whigs and captured more than 200 others including the Governor and other prominent military and civilian officials.

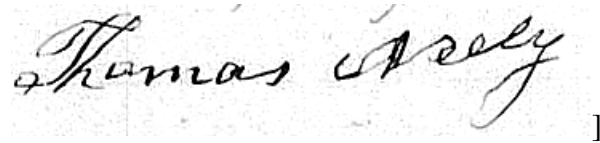
Whig militiamen tried to free the prisoners at Lindley's Mill on Cane Creek but ran out of ammunition and lost over one hundred men. There were two local Whigs of importance among the dead, Col. John Lutterhell [sic, John Luttrell] of Haw River and Major John Nall of Bear Creek. The Whig hero of the battle, Col. Robert Mebane was murdered some time later in what is now Williams Township, and his killer, a Tory named Henry Hightower was captured and hanged." <http://chathamhistory.org/archivewhigs.html>

S/ Jacob Neely

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of July 1833

S/ Wm Barnes, JP

[Note: On Dec. 3, 1870, declarant's son, Thomas Neely, a resident of Rankin Co., Mississippi, filed a claim stating that his father died on July 16, 1845, in his eighty seventh year and that his father did not receive the pension due him. Thomas stated that he was in his 84th year when he filed this claim.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Neely". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first name "Thomas" is written in a larger, more prominent hand than the last name "Neely". The signature is enclosed in a rectangular box with a small closing bracket on the right side.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 18 months in the North Carolina militia.]