

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Neese [Nease] S7268

f20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 2/15/17

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

State of North Carolina, Guilford County: November Term 1832

On this 9th day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in Open court before the Justices of our County Court the same being a court of record George Neese aged 86 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 served under the following named officers and as he herein states (viz.) that in or about the year 1776, he volunteered in Guilford County, N. Carolina, in a company commanded by Lieutenant Clapp,¹ Captain Whitesell [Henry Whitesell], Col James Martin and Genl. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], and was marched to the western part of the state and encamped near a branch making into the Catawba River called and marched thence to what was called headquarters about 12 miles on this side of the Blue Ridge. That he was marched thence over the ridge, crossed French Broad River, Pigeon River, to the Watauga towns after the Cherokee Indians who had been for some time, making depredations on the whites. That after destroying these Indian towns and many others farther west called Over Hill or Valley Indians, that he was marched back to a place called Hickory Ridge, then the Western Territory, now Tennessee, that he was marched thence home, separating from Genl. Rutherford at a ford on the Catawba.² That he left home in the spring and returned in the fall of the year, after being out on service for 4 or 5 months. That after his return, he was engaged with his Whig friends against the Tories in the manner stated this day in open court by Wm [William] Albright,³ with whom he served. That from 1776 to 1781 he was out at least half of his time on short expeditions up and down the country, and deems it unnecessary to attempt giving any other history of his little tours than that given by said Albright, as he recollects but few more things than he states, as we have made our statements before the same attorney, before going into court. That he performed his last mentioned services under Capt. Whitesell, Capt. Forbis [Arthur Forbis], Col Paisley [John Paisley]. That he was born in Burke County, Pennsylvania, 1st November, 1744, which is written in an old Bible in his own house, and moved in 1769 to N. Carolina, Guilford County, where he has resided ever since, that he never received a written discharge and has no documentary evidence of his services – that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court.

S/ Geo. Neese, 0 his mark

¹ Both [Adam Clapp S30937](#) and [Leodwick Clapp S8211](#) served as Lieutenant's under Captain Henry Whitesell in 1776.

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

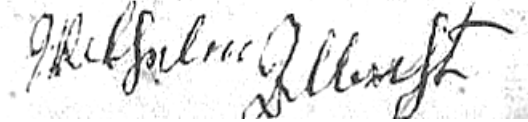
³ [William Albright S6492](#)

S/ A. E. Hanner, CCC

I William Albright hereby certify that I have for upwards of fifty years been acquainted with George Neese who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration and know from my own personal knowledge that what he states is true.

Subscribed & sworn to in open Court.

S/ William Albright



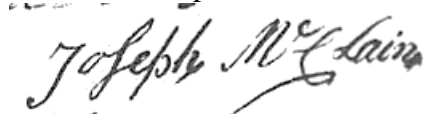
S/ A. E. Hanner, CCC

We Joseph McLean [sic, Joseph McLain]⁴ & Matthias Swing⁵ hereby certify that we have known George Neese who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration – that the declaration has been read in our hearing and the one made by Captain William Albright and know that what they have stated is substantially true.

Subscribed & Sworn to in open court

S/ Joseph McLain

S/ Mathias Swing, X his mark



[William Adams and Benjamin Ross gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[William Paisley, a clergyman, gave a separate standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Guilford County

Be it known that on this 23rd day of January A.D. 1833, personally appeared before me Marshall McLean an acting Justice in and for the County of Guilford George Neese who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath make the following affidavit by way of amendment to his the preceding declaration the propriety of which has been suggested by his representative in Congress the Honorable Augustus H Shepherd – That he would have been more particular at first, but that he and his old friend and brother in arms Captain William Albright made their statement before the same attorney and as it was the same in truth, having done service much together – that he still requests that reference would be made to said Albright's declaration and amendment which he this day makes before Justice McLean that he performed his Cherokee expedition before Albright moved from Pennsylvania into the bounds of his acquaintance and took part with him in the One [?] great and glorious Struggle – that the greater portion of his Services was performed in the manner described by said Albright, a few days at one time, a few weeks at another, and sometimes something like a month in a tour that there were many Tories living below him and very few Whigs between his section of the State and the town of Wilmington – that he lived as it were between the Whigs and the Tories and were compelled either to submit to the insults and ravages of those infamous, cowardly, and reckless Tories, join their party, or take up his arms and fight like a man in defense of himself, his friends, and the freedom of his Country – That there was one Colonel Fanning a Tory who used every effort and stratagem to humble and in fact to impoverish and orderly ruin and destroy the Whigs

⁴ [Joseph McLain \(McLane\) S8805](#)

⁵ [Mathias Swing S7669](#)

– that said Fanning [indecipherable word]⁶ as a place of safety among the Raft Swamps and would often venture up among the high Hills of Randolph County, called the Caraway Mountains and send his men often into the immediate neighborhood – that there was also one Colonel Brian [Samuel Bryan] who lived up on the Yadkin River who was likewise influential among the Tories and for a while was a source of uneasiness to the Whigs that in order to operate with affect and success on these Tories there were formed to Companies in Guilford called Minute men, the one under the command of Captain Forbis and Lieu. Wiley – the other under Captain Whitesell and Lieutenant Clapp – that these Companies stood always ready to march at a moments' warning when there was invasion from a distance or insurrection among Tories of the immediate neighborhood that he might be said with some degree of truth to have been a soldier of the Revolution from its commencement to its termination that nearly as much time was spent in service as he was permitted to be at home and that he was absolutely compelled as well as the Whigs generally to go armed at home and even when at church – that he is a German talks English badly that from this together with his age and failed memory he labours under difficulties in making out his declaration – that he is confined generally and in fact always at home – that there lives no minister of the Gospel near him who knows anything about him – that there is one Reverend Mr. Crawford who lives, as he is told, in three or four miles of him – that he has not been long in the country & consequently can know but little about him. That as to the time he served he thinks from the best of his recollection and manner of service he must have served and all not less than two years.

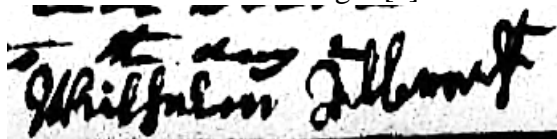
Subscribed and Sworn to the day and year aforesaid

S/ George Neese, X his mark

I William Albright hereby certify I did service with George Neese mentioned above in the minute company commanded by Captain Whitesell and leaving out his Cherokee expedition, if called on to give a history of his services would have to repeat nearly what he has said in his own declaration.

Subscribed and Sworn to the day and year aforesaid

S/ Whilfalm Albright [?]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Whilfalm Albright". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background and is positioned below the printed name "S/ Whilfalm Albright [?]".

State of North Carolina Guilford County

Be it known that on this 23rd day of January A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me Robert Mayben an acting Justices in and for the County of Guilford Mathias Swing who being first sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following affidavit (to wit) that he has been informed the preceding declaration has been forwarded to the Honorable Augustus H Shepherd his representative in Congress to be by him forwarded to the War Department – that it was returned by him suggesting certain amendments one of which is that those who have made certificates should explain more fully how they acquired their knowledge of the applicant's services – that he (Swing) & Neese served with each other often from the Commencement of the revolutionary War to the end of it – that his first service with him was on a tour after the Indians about the commencement of the war – that he was out often very often down the country towards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Whilfalm Albright". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background and is positioned below a horizontal line.

Fayetteville – then Cross Creek down among the High Hills of Randolph County called the Caraway Mountains – that the greater portion of said Neese’s services was performed against the Tories – that these tours were so frequent and made in such a way that it would have been to him difficult, even at the close of the war to have stated with accuracy and certainty the particular periods, month, or year when he performed them – that he could not say that said Neese was always with him when he was called out himself to do service – that he distinctly recollects the happening of certain little events, which convince him that Neese was with him – that once when he was on a tour after the Tories his company heard of a wedding where it was expected many of the Tories would be collected that they marched immediately thither and took possession of both the Tories and their friends [?] ⁷—that he recollects of seeing said Neese on the festivities of this occasion – that he recollects him from the circumstance of breaking a fiddle – that once when on another tour further down the country it was discovered that there were Tories encamped on this side and not very far from a large creekbed deep Creek (since called drowning Creek) that it was supposed that these Tories would make for a Bridge that was over said Creek as soon as the Whigs should be discovered to be near – that to prevent their escape over the Bridge some of the Whigs soldiers were sent with Orders to station themselves at the other end of the bridge – that the soldiers succeeded in getting around the Tories and over the Bridge with [sic without?] detection – that when they arrived at the further end of the Bridge they tore off the planks of the Bridge at their end of it and hid themselves that as soon as the Tories were Attacked they fled with great trepidation and confusion and many of them rushed on the Bridge and were plunged into the Creek before it was discovered that the planks of the bridge were taken up – that he recollects of Neese being with him here – that he could go on and mention many other little Circumstances that occurred on other Tours which enable him to recollect with certainty that Neese was with him but thinks this would be useless – that he is old and owing to his memory having failed him greatly he cannot pretend anything like a correct history of the fourth of the little Tours which he and Neese were out together: but states this that the people in his Section of North Carolina were divided from the Commencement to the end of the war into two parties the Whig and the Tory which kept up a continued Civil War and that the Whigs who were able to bear arms were compelled to be out on service near half their time – that George Neese (aforesaid) was out on a Tour towards the south in 1780 or thereabout in which this affiant was not – that there were two Companies of Whigs in his section that done almost constant service, one called the Dutch Company and the other called the Irish Company – that the Dutch were under the command of Captain Whitesell, and the English or Irish under Captain Forbis – that Neese done the most of his service under Captain Whitesell – that both these companies were under the command of Colonel John Paisley – that he would [not] take it on himself to state the time that said Neese was out on service but would suppose not less than two years – that Neese has become a very old man and has always been an industrious blacksmith and has always been looked upon as a soldier of the revolution.

Inscribed and Sworn to the day & year aforesaid

S/ Mathias Swing, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia.]

7 *Beandy*