

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Penly (Penby) S7302

f16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

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State of North Carolina Burke County }

On this 25th day of July in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and twenty-four [sic, 1834] personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in & for said County, John Penly a resident of said County and State 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 of the 7th of June 1832.

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

He was born in the State of Virginia in the County of Dunmore (now Shenandoah) the precise time I am unable to say my Father having made no record of my birth. About the age of 17 or 18 years my Father moved to the Western part of North Carolina and settled in this Burke County, soon after our arrival here I entered the service as a volunteer under Captain John Russell Major Joseph White Colonel Joseph McDowell and General Charles McDowell. Captain Russell's Company to which I belonged marched to a place near Rutherfordton North Carolina known at that day by the name of Gilbert Town where we all rendezvoused and marched from there to a place on Broad River called Cherokee Ford where we remained a few days, from there we marched down the Country in the direction of Wilmington to a place known by the name of the Brick House where we were stationed a short time, and from there to Wilmington where we remained until discharged. During this tour we had on our way down the Country several engagements with the Tories but were in no Battles with the British. While at Cherokee Ford an engagement occurred between part of our Company and a party of Tories in which Thomas Scott a man with whom I was well acquainted and who was also a resident of Burke [County] and a near neighbor of my Father's was killed, this was my first tour. I volunteered for 3 months and served my time out. If I ever received a written discharge I now forget it. As well as I can remember I left home about the 15th or middle of June and served until the latter part of September in the year 1780.

2nd Tour

In the following year 1781 about the first of September I again volunteered under command of Captain Richard White commanded by Colonel Joseph McDowell and Major White. Soon after forming Captain White's Company we marched from Morganton the County Town of Burke and went on down the Country towards Wilmington -- the particular places through which we passed I am unable now to state -- This last tour was for three months also. I

returned home after being discharged at or rather near Wilmington a short time before Christmas -- while out on this tour several engagements similar to those we first had, took place between our company or rather parts of them, and [indecipherable word or words]¹ on parties of the Tories. There were however no Regular engagements with the British in either of the Tours which I made -- only such engagements as the Whigs were subject to when attempting to subdue the Tories.

These two tours of 3 months each were the only Regular duties I served during the war of the Revolution. The date of the service is as correct as I am able to state -- The officers under whom I served are those mentioned in the preceding part of this Declaration -- I am now a resident of Burke County and have resided here for at least 55 years past -- as stated in my Declaration I have no means of ascertaining precisely my age but think from the best information I have been able to get that I am 72 years old --

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension roll of the Agency of any State whatever.

If there is any person living by whom I can prove my services I am not acquainted with them --

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day and date first above written.

Witness

S/ R. C. Parson, JP

S/ John Penly, X his mark

[John Fox,² a soldier of the revolution and Abdial H. Erwin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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

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² [John Fox R3734](#)

