

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Peterson S7303

f18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/26/09: rev'd 11/14/17

[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 '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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State of North Carolina Sampson County} SS

On this the 20 day of April A.D. 1833 before me David Underwood an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Sampson aforesaid in the State aforesaid personally appeared John Peterson, a resident of Sampson County in the State of North Carolina aged eighty-three years the 3rd day of May 1833, 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

1. In a company of Duplin militia under the command of Colonel Thomas Rutledge, Captain John Treadwell, Jesse Haddock Ensign, he forgets the other officers, in the fall of the year and he thinks in the year 1775 and served six weeks, in an expedition to Wilmington, to prevent the enemy, who were on board a man of war in the River below Wilmington, from coming up and taking possession thereof; that when he entered the service he resided in Duplin, now Sampson County NC; that he was a volunteer and a private soldier, that he was in no battle nor skirmish, that he embodied at Duplin Old Court House, and marched from thence to Wilmington, where he remained some time guarding that place, expecting the enemy to march up from below and make an attack upon it; that from thence, he crossed over Cape Fear [River] and marched to a place called Old Brunswick in Brunswick County; that their encampment was near Old Brunswick; that several detachments or scouting parties of 2 or 3 men each were sent out to apprehend the enemy who were destroying the cattle of inhabitants in that section, that this applicant and Ensign Haddock went together and took 3 of the enemy prisoners and brought them into Camp; that at their encampment near Old Brunswick, they were relieved by forces from Bladen County in this applicant was discharged and came home; that he served with no Continental regiments or companies; that he knew no regular officers but Hardy Holmes, Curtis Ivey [could be Carter Ivey] and Daniel Williams that he has no documentary evidence, and knows of no persons now alive by whom he can prove this service.

2. In a company of Duplin militia under the command of Captain John Treadwell, called out by order of Colonel Caswell [Richard Caswell] in the first of the year 1776 and served 10 days; that he was a volunteer, and a private soldier, that he was in no battle or skirmish himself but the battle at Moore's Creek bridge [February 27, 1776] happened when he was out in this service; that he collected or embodied at Colonel Tatom's [sic, Tatum's] on Cohara [sic, Coharie River],

where he joined Colonel Caswell's Army and was sent in a small detachment by order of Colonel Caswell under Captain John Treadwell to guard Rockfish Bridge, just above where South Washington now is, that he was verbally discharged by his Captain at Rockfish bridge and came home; that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

3. In a company of Duplin militia also, under the command of Colonel James Moore, Captain Southy Fisher [first name written over and unclear], his other officers he forgets, but he thinks Solomon Sessoms was Lieutenant, at the last of October 1776 and served 6 weeks at least, and thinks he served 2 months; that he was a volunteer and a private soldier; that he was in no battle; that he embodied at Duplin old Court House, where he remained about 10 days or a fortnight and marched from thence to Blackmore's where South Washington now is and stayed there about a week, guarding that place and trying to take Blackmore, who was a Tory, prisoner, that from thence he marched to Wilmington, where he guarded in his turn some prisoners confined in a church, who had been the prisoners of the enemy and paroled by them, that from Wilmington he marched back to Duplin Old Court House and guarded prisoners who had been Tories and awaiting their trial, and remained there about a week or 10 days and perhaps more and was then discharged and came home, that he has no documentary evidence but thinks he can prove this service by Lot Riche¹ of this County.

4. A company of Duplin militia under General Lillington [John Alexander Lillington], Colonel Brown [probably Thomas Brown of Bladen County], Stephen Anders Major, Jonathan Taylor Captain, he forgets the names of his other officers about the first of December 1780 and left this service the 10th of March 1781 as his discharge hereunto appended will show, and served 3 months and a half, that he was a volunteer and a private soldier; that he was in a skirmish [Heron's Bridge a/k/a Big Bridge, January 30, 1781]² with the enemy under Captain Gorden [Gordon] at the Big Bridge, across the North East River, in New Hanover County where the Americans under Colonel Brown on the East side of the River were defeated and Colonel Brown's arm broke, four of our men he thinks killed and some wounded, that the Americans took to flight and were pursued by the enemy's light horse; that there was a considerable Army of the Americans stationed on the West side of the River opposite them on the East side, that the bridge was partly taken up; that he embodied at Cross Creek now Fayetteville and marched from thence to Haley's ferry on Big Pedee [River] where he remained some time, guarding that ferry, thence up to a ferry a little above and guarded awhile, thence back to Haley's ferry, thence to about within a mile of General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] camp near Guilford Court House, thence to within sight of the Blue Ridge, thence to Cross Creek, now Fayetteville, thence across Cape Fear at Cross Creek down to against Elizabeth Town in Bladen County where he remained to rest about 3 days, thence across Beatty's Bridge on to the Big Bridge in New Hanover County and crossed over the Big Bridge, that from thence he went in a detachment on towards the sound and near Wilmington to apprehend the enemy who were killing & destroying the cattle of the inhabitants in that quarter; that he came upon a place where the enemy had just killed a beef near Wilmington; that he then returned to the Big Bridge and the next day was the skirmish there and the next day or in a day or 2 after he was discharged, by General Lillington as appears from the discharge hereunto affixed, and besides the evidence of his discharge he thinks he can probably prove that he served this tour by Lot Riche of this County.

¹ Sic, [Lot \(Lott\) Rich S9076](#)

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

Answers of John Peterson the aforesaid applicant to the questions³ prescribed by the War Department, propounded to him by David Underwood justice of the peace aforesaid
To the 1st I do not know exactly where I was born but I believe I was born on Goshen in Duplin County, the 3rd of May 1750

To the 2nd I have no record of my age, it may probably be recorded in a book at my brother's Nathan Peterson's in this County

To the 3rd When called into service I was living in Duplin now Sampson County NC where I have ever since lived and now live.

To the 4th I always volunteered.

To the 5th I do not recollect that they were any regular officers with the troops where I served, I was near General Greene's camp. I do not recollect ever to have seen any Continental regiments; the militia regiments I remember were Colonel Rutledge's, Colonel Brown's and Colonel James Moore's. The general circumstances of my service are stated above.

To the 6th I never received but one discharge in writing and that was given me by General Lillington as it will show.

7th John Wright Senior, Lott Riche, David Smith, Raiford Caswell, Laban Tatum, Nicholas Parker, Doctor John Owen &c

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 to & subscribed before me the Justice of the peace aforesaid the day and date above written.

Attest: S/ David Underwood, JP

S/ John Peterson, X his mark

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State of North Carolina Sampson County:

On this the 21st day of May A.D. 1833 before me David Underwood a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Lot Riche a resident of Sampson County NC aged seventy four years last August, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath depose and say that he was acquainted with John Peterson the above named applicant for a pension, a resident of Sampson County NC aged eighty three years before the Revolutionary war and entered service with the said John Peterson in a company of Duplin militia under the command of Colonel James Moore, Captain Southy Fisher, Solomon Sessoms, this deponent thinks was Lieutenant or Ensign the other officers he forgets, that he is unlearned and cannot say what year it was in, but was in cold weather, and served with said applicant 6 weeks, that it was a

³ The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

three months tour, and a volunteer company that Captain Fisher commanded that said applicant and this deponent did not continue together the three months out, but on their march to Wilmington said applicant left this deponent at Clayton's on the North East below South Washington, and as said applicant was on his return marched from a wound to this deponent joined said company in which the aforesaid applicant then was, at Clayton's and marched with them to Duplin old Court House and there guarded some prisoners; that they embodied at or near Duplin old Court House and was there also discharged. This deponent further swears that said applicant and this deponent entered service together at another time under General Lillington, Colonel Brown, Stephen Anders Major; Jonathan Taylor Captain, the other officers he forgets, that it was in the winter season and from the date of the discharge hereunto affixed is confident it was about the first of December 1780 that they entered service and volunteered for three months, that said applicant and this deponent also parted while in this service; this deponent was not in the skirmish at the Big Bridge in New Hanover County, but understood that it occurred during this term, but that he was in one at Coles Bridge on Drowning Creek during this tour; that they embodied at Cross Creek now Fayetteville NC and marched on for Big Pedee to a mill at a place called Hedgcock, where this deponent was taken out of the company and attached to Cross Creek, & from thence guarded a public store, some provision and some beef cattle to Coles bridge on Drowning Creek.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above written.

Test: S/ David Underwood, JP

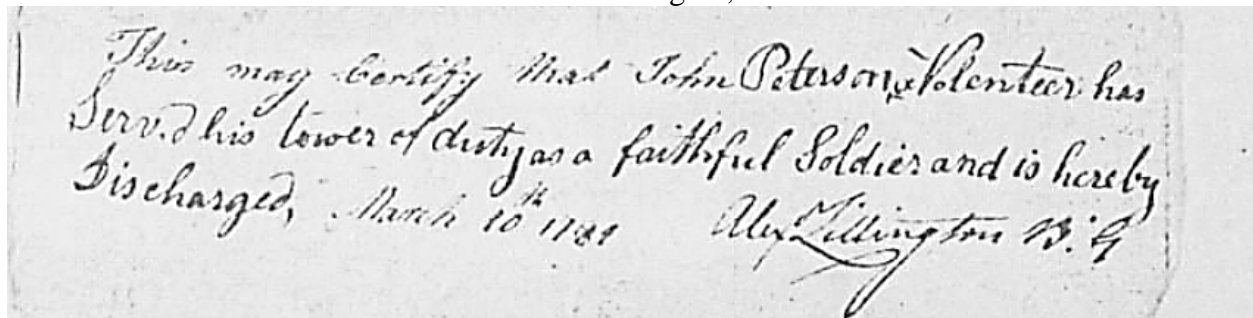
S/ Lot Riche, X his mark

[John Owen, a clergyman, and Stephen Herring gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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This may Certify that John Peterson a Volunteer has Served his tower [tour] of duty as a faithful Soldier and is hereby Discharged, March 10th 1781

S/ Alex. Lillington, B. G.



*This may Certify that John Peterson a Volunteer has
Served his tower of duty as a faithful Soldier and is hereby
Discharged, March 10th 1781 Alex. Lillington B. G.*

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20.44 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months and 4 days in the North Carolina militia.]