

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Powers S7324

Transcribed by Will Graves

f11NC

rev'd 3/3/17

[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, Stokes County

Personally appeared before the undersigned Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid Henry Powers, Senior aged 97 years, who being 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 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer soldier in the County of Guilford & State aforesaid under the command of Captain John Leek [John Leak], James Martin was Colonel; for a tour of four months, cannot recollect the day of the month, nor the month in which he entered the service but believes that it was either in the year 1777 or '78, marched from Guilford to Salisbury thence to Cathey's Fort, thence across the mountains into Tennessee against the Indians; after the Indians was defeated & their towns demolished was marched back to Cathey's Fort, thence to Guilford County & discharged this service having served a tour of four months in that engagement.¹ Sometime after this he was drafted & taken to Guilford Court house to guard a man by the name of William Dent, served 21 days & was discharged & returned home. In a short time thereafter he was again drafted & put under a strange Captain whose name he cannot now recollect marched from Guilford County to the Southern part of the State against the British & Tories, served a three months tour in that engagement, some few days after getting home was again drafted but hired a substitute.

In the year 1780 & '81, he was drafted for a tour of three months. Marched to South Carolina, was put under Colonel McDowell [Charles McDowell] of the mounted troops & was attached to General Morgan's [Daniel Morgan's] Army, fought in the whole of the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781],² in that Battle he received a wound in his right wrist; a great many prisoners were taken from the enemy & after the day of Battle those prisoners were put under the care of Colonel McDowell. He states that he was one of the guard that went with those prisoners to Guilford Court House, when he reached that place with the prisoners his wound on his wrist became inflamed, owing to taking cold in it, which disqualified him from active service but a few days by using proper remedies his arm became so much mended ^(as to be able) to attend to his horse and to ride. He had just served out the term of three months & was retained in the service for a term of three months longer & transferred to the troop of horse under Colonel William Washington of the Cavalry was in the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781],³ became acquainted with General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and was one of the escort who conducted him to

¹ It sounds like the veteran was describing the 1776 Cherokee Expedition.

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

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

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

Martinsville on the night previous to the battle.

After this Battle the enemy under Lord Cornwallis moved off [indecipherable word] by the mounted troops under Colonel Washington were engaged in watching the movements of the British & Tories until we reached Boyd's ferry on the River Dan, at this place he states that Colonel Washington gave him his discharge & he returned home having served a tour under this engagement with McDowell & Washington of six months, he came home & went no more in the service. He states that he was born in the County of Guilford & State aforesaid was living in this County at the time he entered the service and has lived the most of the time since the revolutionary war in the same section of County & is at this time living in the County of Stokes. He has no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any person who can by his own knowledge testify to the same. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He further states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear precisely to his services but swears that he served not less (putting all his tours together) than 13 months and 21 days.

Sworn & subscribed to this second day of January 1833.

S/ W. A. Mitchell, JP

S/ Henry Powers, X his mark

S/ John Vaughn, JP

[John L. Wilson, a clergyman and Benjamin Morgan, residents of Stokes County, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$48.16 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 13 months in 21 days in the North Carolina militia.]