

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of William Southern S7575

fn15NC

Transcribed by Will Graves 7/5/06

rev'd 3/2/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 6]

State of North Carolina, Stokes County

Be it known that on the 30th Day of July A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me Charles Banner one of the Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid William Southern Sen. at his own place of residence in said county aged about seventy five or six years, who having 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 the 7th June 1832.

First he states that from the infirmities of old age also he being badly Ruptured that he is unable to travel to Germanton the Seat where the Courts of Record are held in the County of Stokes aforesaid it being upwards of twenty miles distant from his residence, and he further states that from old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot precisely mention the different periods or dates where he entered into & returned out of the Service of the United States. But as well as his memory will serve him that he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as hereinafter stated (to wit)

The first Service he entered & served as a private volunteer Militia Soldier of Infantry under the Command of Captain William Meredith in Surry County North Carolina ^{Lieut. Hill [Robert Hill] & Ensign Hickman [Thomas Hickman]¹} for three months and marched from Surry Court house to Salisbury N. Carolina & there joined head quarters under the Command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] & from thence marched to a place called Rugeley's Mill near Camden in South Carolina and after remaining at that place a week or ten days perhaps there being a call for a reinforcement to join General Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] Brigade to Scour the Country & Rout a party of British & Tories around about the Catawba tribe of Indians on the Catawba River. This applicant turned out with seven others of his Capt. Meredith's Company under Ensign Thos. Hickman & marched & joined Genl. Sumter on the said River near the Nation of Indians. During this Rout the Notorious Battle of Genl. Gates' [Horatio Gates'] defeat [Battle of Camden]

¹ [Thomas Hickman S4371](#)

happened and our army was compelled to flee from the Enemy & were irregularly dispersed and retreated homewards. He thinks this happened in the month of August 1780 he was acquainted with a Capt. Joel Lewis² & his Lieut. Robert Hill who was accidentally wounded by the fall of a tree near or in Cabarrus N. Carolina. In this service he served three months & was discharged in Salem N. Carolina by his Capt. Meredith some time in September 1780—He thinks he can prove this Service by ^{his} Lieut. Robert Hill or Wm. Meredith if in this County.

The next Service this applicant performed was he was drafted in Surry County N. Carolina and marched from Richmond in said County commanded by Capt. Arthur Scott to Haw River & thence to the Water Course called Alamance [Creek] in Guilford County N. Carolina at which place we joined the Army under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and marched from thence towards Guilford Court house when & where the Notorious Battle of Guilford happened which was in March of 1781 in which Battle this applicant served as one of the Guards of the Baggage & Military stores and after serving nine weeks or two months & 7 days as ^{a private} was discharged by his Captain & returned home very sick. He knows of no person ^{that he can get to} testify as to this Service.

The next Service he rendered was as a draft private Militia Soldier under Capt. David Humphries at old Richmond in Surry County N.C. which was not long or many Months after Guilford Battle aforesaid and marched from thence to Guilford & then joined Col. James Martin's Regiment then marched towards Wilmington in N. Carolina crossing Deep River & through several counties, he does not recollect the names, to a place called the Raft Swamp & to a Brick House near Wilmington. General Rutherford was our Commander in Chief during this Tour when some time in November 1781 we were ordered to form in a line which being done our officers came riding along the lines making proclamation aloud that the Enemy had surrendered; Cornwallis was taken; with his whole Army; by Washington & his forces. Whereupon our Officers ordered a salute to the Glorious News by firing several rounds. In this Service the applicant served three months, and can prove the same by John Maib, Senr., Edwin Hickman³ and a John Quillin⁴ if living Stokes County which he believes they are. He had a discharge but has lost it.

He has no documentary evidence of his services. And after propounding the 7 interrogations prescribed by War department, he answers as follows, to wit:
1st that he was born in Buckingham County in Virginia in the year 1758 or 59.
2nd that he has no record of is age only Traditionary information.
3rd, 4th, & 5th that he lived in Surry County N. Carolina when he entered each Tour of Duty, the first as a volunteer & the two last as a drafted private each time; that he knew & served with all the officers named in the foregoing, that he now resides in the same neighborhood (which from the division of Surry is now Stokes County) where he resided ever since the Revolutionary War.
6th that he only rec'd one written discharge as he can recollect from his Capt. or Col. James Martin, he does not recollect which, has been lost.
7th that he is acquainted with many good citizens in his county that can testify as to his character for veracity and will name Cols James Martin & James Davis, Esq., that there is

² [Joel Lewis W780](#)

³ [Edwin Hickman S8712](#)

⁴ [John Quillin S9461](#)

no clergyman in his neighborhood but itinerant preachers that is not settled citizens of the county.

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.

S/ William Southern, X his mark

Sworn and subscribed this 30th day of July 1833 before me:

S/ Banner J.P.

[James Martin Senior and James Davis Senior gave the standard supporting affidavit. Martin describes himself as formerly "Colonel of Guilford Militia"]

[fn p. 4]

State of North Carolina Stokes County:

On this 14th day of September 1833 personally appeared before me Charles Banner a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid William Merritt⁵ now a Pensioner of the United States a man of character for veracity & truth he being first sworn according to law to state what he knew of Services rendered by a William Southern Senior in the United States during the Revolutionary War, deposes and saith that sometime in the spring or summer of 1780 he saw said Southern & marched in the same Regiment & [indecipherable interlineations] from Surry County North Carolina this Deponent under Lieutenant Robert Hill with said Southern under a Captain Meredith he believes & met at Salisbury & joined headquarters under General Rutherford marched from thence through Charlotte North Carolina crossing Rocky River to a place near Colonel Barringer's North Carolina he thinks at some Mills the name he has forgotten near that place his Lieutenant Hill was wounded by the fall of a tree & this Deponent was ordered to nurse and take his Lieutenant aforesaid with other assistance, at which place he saw said Southern for the last time in that Tour &c.

Sworn and subscribed the day first above mentioned before me

S/ Charles banner, JP

S/ William Merritt, X his mark

On the date first above mentioned John Maib⁶ Senior and aged old man of good Character for Veracity & truth who being first sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he is well acquainted with William Southern Senior of Stokes County & has been acquainted with him for at least sixty years past, that he served one Tour of service in the militia with him, both as privates & messmates, three months under a Captain David Humphries marched from Richmond in Surry old Courthouse North Carolina to or near Wilmington North Carolina a distance of upwards of two hundred miles and served together three months at least & was discharged this was about the close of the Revolutionary War when the news came to General Rutherford our Commander in Chief that Lord Cornwallis had surrendered to Washington. James Martin was our Colonel. The said William Southern is the identical same person that I served with who is at this time my neighbor & can scarcely travel about his plantation owing to a large Rupture in the rise of his Belly.

Sworn and subscribed this 14th September 1833 before me

S/ C. Banner, JP

S/ John Maib, Senr., X his mark

⁵ [William Merritt S2821](#)

⁶ [John Maabe \(Maib, Mabe, Maibe\) W4726](#)

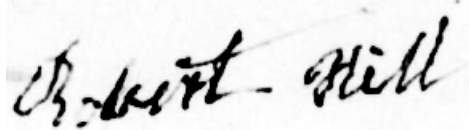
North Carolina Stokes County: SS

On this 18th day of September 1833, personally appeared before me Charles Banner a Justice of the peace in and for said County Major Robert Hill⁷ a respectable Citizen of said County & he being Sworn according to law, declares on his oath that William Southern who claims a pension agreeable to the declaration this day read to me by Charles Banner that he recollects of said William Southern serving in Captain Meredith's Company in which this Deponent acted as Lieutenant on an expedition from Surry County North Carolina towards the South about the time of Gates defeat, in which this Deponent was wounded by the fall of a tree & was conveyed home by a William Merritt & others, that he believes the Applicant William Southern served as he states in his declaration. Sworn & subscribed the date above mentioned by said Declarant a Pensioner also.

Before me

S/ C. Banner, JP

S/ Robert Hill

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Hill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$27 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 8 months & 3 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

⁷ [Robert Hill S7012](#)