

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Steele S7604

fn20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/9/11

[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.]

State of North Carolina Stokes County: SS

On this tenth day of September 1833 personally appeared in open Court before us the Justices of the County Court of Stokes aforesaid, now sitting, William Steele a resident of said County in North Carolina aged seventy-nine 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated (according to the best of [his] recollection to wit) That he entered the service sometime in the summer of the year 1776, there being a call for the militia in the County of Surry North Carolina in which County this applicant resided when he turned out as a volunteer in a Company commanded by a Captain James Shepperd Edmond Kirby was Lieutenant & James Williams Ensign and he joined said Company on the Blue Ridge of Mountains where our Company met with Captain Carlands [?] Company, the object of this expedition was to prevent the Cherokee Indians from committing incursions on the frontier inhabitants of North Carolina & Virginia, at which time they were very hostile & troublesome in this same year say 1776 and Army was marched from Surry & other Counties in North Carolina against the said hospital tribe of Indians to their Nation as this applicant understood, during which expedition the applicant with the Companies of his Captain James Shepperd & Carlands Companies often met and were continually ranging the crossing places of the Mountains to prevent the Indians from crossing over to the frontier Settlements. Martin Armstrong was Colonel and our Company was detached from his Regiment in Surry County aforesaid in this service he remained & served until the Army returned from the Cherokee expedition, which was at least 3 months and was dismissed by his officers & returned where he resided on Mitchels River [sic, Mitchell River] in Surry County North Carolina.

The next service this applicant entered as a volunteer light horse troop or under said Captain Shepperd Edward Lavell [Edmund Lovell?] was his Lieutenant and Underwood Ensign, there being a call, this was in 1777 in the spring of the year the object of the expedition was to keep the Tories in subjection & deprived him of all their guns & arms for war. Our Company convened at a point on Mitchels River and ranged & scoured all the County of Surry which then comprised a very extensive Territory including at large train of Mountains through which the disaffected people who were not friends to their Country were settled & hids [sic, ?]. Our

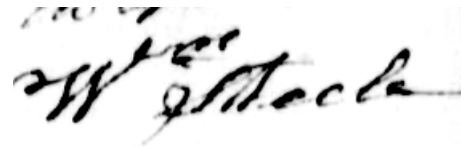
troopers captured a number of them, tried & chastised many & took their arms and compelled those to desist from committing depredations against the Whigs as was then called in this Service as a trooper or Ranger whenever called on at different periods sometimes two weeks sometimes a month & two months & sometimes a week or ten days finding his own horse at all times & places when called on by his Officers Colonel M. Armstrong or Captain Shepperd and at one time when the news reached Colonel Armstrong that the British had landed at Wilmington this Applicant volunteered his services as a light horse troop or to go against the British & started with his Captain James Shepperd and marched to old Richmond & after remaining in this service at least one month was discharged, & he returned home in all these ranging & Scouting expeditions last above mentioned he remained in Actual Service at least six months in the light horse & three months in the Infantry for which he claims a pension. He has no documentary evidence and knows of no person now living in the County near him that can Testify as to his Services aforesaid – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present, and declares that he is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State. He answers the seven questions or Interrogatories which were put to him as follows (to wit) that he was born in the State of Maryland in Charles County that he kept a record from his father's Record that he was born in the year 1754 the 23rd July – that he was living in Surry County North Carolina on Mitchels River & has lived in the neighborhood ever since, which is now Stokes County. That he turned out A Volunteer in All His Services – he was always in the Militia & regular officer or soldiers served with him; that he never received a written discharge. He states John Venables & Charles Banner Esquire with a number of others in his County can Testify as to his Character of Veracity etc..

Sworn & subscribed the day & year first above mentioned. He further states that there is a clergyman convenient so that he has in his power to procure a Certificate to procure his

Certificate (to wit) Henry Bailey who has just arrived at Court.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court

S/ Wm Steele

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wm Steele". The signature is written in a cursive style with some flourishes.

[Henry Bailey, a clergyman, John Venables & Charles Banner gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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