

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Sterling S7637

fn16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/11/11

[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 County of Johnston: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term 1832

On this 27 day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting, Robert Sterling, a resident of the County of Johnston and State of North Carolina, aged seventy-two 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 June 7th, 1832 = That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was drafted in Wayne County North Carolina and placed under command of Captain Sessions for three months service and went down to Wilmington to guard the town against the *Scorpion* a British vessel. The Declarant cannot remember in what year he was drafted but it was several years after the commencement of the War. He spent the whole three months in Wilmington & Brunswick, and at the expiration of said term he was discharged by Captain sessions. His Lieutenant he believes to be John Grantham.

2nd He was drafted for a second service of six months – he believes in the year after his first discharge – and served under Captain Kennedy, Lieutenant Wilson & Ensign Lassiter. He was marched through South Carolina to Georgia passed through Georgia and spent some few days at Augusta and marched down the Savannah River to Brier Creek. He was there under command of General Ashe [John Ashe], Colonel __ & Captain Kennedy. After the Battle of Brier Creek the Declarant was marched to Wilmington North Carolina where he received a regular and Honorable discharge from his Captain Kennedy after having served fully and faithfully the term of six months –

3rd = A few months after the expiration of this his second term of service he engaged again in the service of his Country by ballot and was placed at Kinston North Carolina under command of Captain Armstrong of the Continental Service – he was taken to Louisburg in North Carolina thence to Dan River till he was placed under command of Captain Rhodes in South Carolina – General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] commanding – Curtis Ivey was Adjutant – he was at the battle of Eutaw Springs – He was dismissed at the Banks of the Santee after a service of twelve months from the date of his third enlistment. He was honorably discharged by Captain Rhodes. At the battle of the Eutaw Springs he remembers Colonel Washington of the Light

Horse. He has no documentary evidence of his service – and knows no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

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 and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

In answer to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department – the Declarant states – That he is 72 years old – That he has no record of his age – That he was living in Wayne County North Carolina when he was called into service, and that he lived in Wayne until about 14 years ago when he removed to Johnston where he now resides – The other answers to the Interrogatories he deems embodied in his Statement.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

Test: S/ Rm Sanders, Clk

S/ Robert Sterling, X his mark

[Wesley T Wellons and Nasareth Sterling gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina County of Johnston

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County aforesaid Robert Sterling who being duly sworn deposed & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise dates of his terms of service – in his Declaration of 27 August 1832 stated – but according to the best of his recollection the beginning of his first term of service then in State was the fall of 1777 or spring of 1778.

The beginning of the second term of service he believes to have been in the winter of 1778.

The beginning of his third term of service he believes to have been in the spring of 1780.

This affiant further states that he served his three tours as he believes in embodied Corps called into service by Competent authority – that he was on military duty in field the whole time – during which time he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

The affiant further states that he did not enter the service by enlistment in either of his said Terms – but the first and second by draft – and the third by what was then called Balloting – He has no reason therefore to believe that any evidence of his said service can be procured by application to the Office of Secretary of State in North Carolina – but relies on traditionary evidence.

The nearest clergyman resides twelve miles from the residence of this applicant – Sworn to and subscribed this 27 November 1833

S/ J. O. Watson, JP

S/ Robert Sterling, X his mark

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary War that Robert Sterling a private in Captain Rhodes's Company of the 10th Regiment entered the service in 1781, and that his time was out 25th April 1782 (served 12 months no doubt.)

Given under my hand this 25th day of February 1834

S/ Wm Hill

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 21 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]