

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Stephens S7640

fn14NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/10/11

[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.]

North Carolina Caswell County

On the 6th day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Superior Court of law North Carolina now holding the Superior Court for the said County of Caswell Samuel Stephens residing in the County of Caswell aged seventy years on the third day of June last who being first duly sworn according to law in open Court doth upon his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed on the 7th day of June A.D. 1832. That he entered into the service of the United States in the war of the revolution under the following officers and served therein as herein after stated. That on the last of February or first of March 1780 he volunteered as a militia man in the County of Caswell under Captain Adam Sanders of said County and immediately thereafter he repaired [?] to Hillsboro in said State where he joined his Company and marched for South Carolina under his said Captain Philip Taylor Major – Wooton Colonel – from Hillsboro he marched to Salisbury & Charlotte in said state from thence to Camden to the City of Charleston South Carolina which was then threatened by an attack from the British forces then in our southern Country. That upon arriving at or near Charleston he with the troops to which he was attached was stationed at a point upon Cooper River about six miles from the City where they by command entrenched themselves in order to aid in the defense of the City. That in a few days after they were there stationed the enemy commenced there attacked and he with the troops to which he belonged were ordered to retire & took up their quarters within the [indecipherable word] of the City. That for something like 3 weeks there after frequent skirmishes and cannonade took place between the American and the British forces who upon landing had entrenched themselves in considerable number upon the point of land between Cooper and Ashley rivers – at the expiration of the time above indicated the city with every truth were surrendered to the enemy under the command (he believes) of General Clinton of the British forces. Our Army was under the command of General Lincoln who also was taken prisoner. His surrender he thinks took place about the 12th of May 1780. That agreeably to the terms of capitulation he with the rest of the militia was paroled & permitted to return home upon condition they did not enter into the service until exchanged as prisoners – that in this expedition he was actually engaged in the service for 3 months at least and under his parole he remained only exchanged for until the first of June 1781 when he upon that day thereafter again

volunteered and went into the service as a private militia man under Captain Richard Sanders of Caswell County for 3 months that [one or more indecipherable words] thereafter he was marched to you Guilford Court House North Carolina where his company was joined by other portions of the militia who marched for the South under the command of Colonel Thomas Farmer Thomas Humphreys Major in the progress of their march they passed by Salisbury & Charlotte occasionally meeting with an accretion [?] of strength by the falling in of other militia companies from the adjacent Country. At Camden in South Carolina they joined the main Army under General Greene from thence they marched with the whole Army to a place called Thompson's Fort on the Congaree River about sixty miles from Camden where we were stationed 14 or 15 days when our march was directed towards the British forces understood to be at or near a place called the Eutaw Springs where on the 8th of September about break of day our forces attacked the British lines and a general engagement ensued in which he while fighting received a wound just above the left [?] knee but was not so disabled as to prevent his continuing his fire which he well recollects he did for three rounds when he was shot in the other leg or thigh and disabled from making battle any longer. That after the battle which resulted in the success of our troop he was placed in a hospital with others of the wounded about 8 or 10 miles from the scene of action from whence in a few days he was removed to Camden where he remained in a hospital for a month or more when he was conveyed to Guilford Court-house in a wagon & discharged in writing by Colonel Farmer. That he had for a long time both his discharge and parole but both are now lost or mislaid. That although he engaged for a tour of three months he was actually engaged in the service up to the battle of the Eutaw a little more than that period & on account of his wounds was detained from his home more than six weeks longer. It being a private militia man and [indecipherable words] to the faithful discharge of his duties in that eventful day he is unprepared to detail the incidents of the battle or to give a catalog of the officers commanding our forces. He does well recollect however that besides General Green who retained the general command of Colonel William Washington, General Sumter, Pickens, Marion & Colonel Lee of the horse with others were there engaged in the battle.

Being interrogated by the Court he further states that he was born in Caroline County State of Virginia on the 3rd day of June 1762. That he lived in Caswell County when he entered into the revolutionary service as herein before set forth when he resided at the end of the war & where he still lived. That he has no written or documentary evidence of his services nor is he able to produce any other testimony thereof except the accompanying affidavits of Daniel Merritt and Jonathan Starkie


That Richard Sanders his Captain he is informed now lives in the State of Tennessee but from the great age and powers of deponent he is wholly unable to employ the means necessary to obtain his testimony. For further testimony in his behalf he refers to his neighbors James Rainey & John McAden who will testify as to his general character and their belief in his having been a soldier in the revolution. That there is no clergyman residing in his neighborhood who can testify in his behalf.

He relinquishes all claim to any pension or annuity but the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State or territory whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid

S/ Jeremiah Graves, CSC

S/ Samuel Stephens

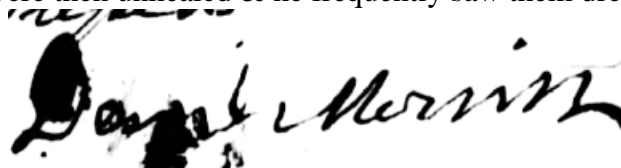


Jonathan Starkee of Caswell County North Carolina maketh oath that he was in the last expedition mentioned by Samuel Stephens in his foregoing declaration and that while on the line of March he well recollects seeing said Stevens amongst the troops. That he was well acquainted with him before and ever since that period. That Deponent being wounded before reaching Camden proceeded no further with the Army in which Stephens was serving but he well knows that up to that time he was in the line of March.

S/ Jonathan Starkey¹



That Daniel Merritt² maketh oath that [several indecipherable words] by the year 1780 he lived a near neighbor to Samuel Stephens the above applicant – that at the [several indecipherable words] acquaintance with him he understood that he was under parole having as he has explained been taken a prisoner in that year 1780 while out upon a Southern expedition. That early in the summer of 1781 or the latter part of the spring deponent was directed by his Captain to inform said Stephens that he had been exchanged & must attend muster and was shortly thereafter he knows of his going again into the service that in the fall thereafter he returned home wounded in both thighs that his wounds were then unhealed & he frequently saw them dressed.



[James Rainey and John McAdin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$24.44 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

¹ [Jonathan Starkey S7612](#)

² [Daniel Merritt W7441](#)