

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of John Taylor S7683

fn18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 5/2/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. 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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Greene County: February A. D. 1833 Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On this 11th day of February A. D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting John Taylor a resident of Greene County in State of North Carolina aged 72, 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 June 1832.

This applicant, John Taylor, volunteered when he was 19 years old, the first of March 1779 in the County of Hertford in State of North Carolina under the command of Colonels George Lytle and George Wynn, and Abraham Porter Captain, William Crichlow [?] Lieutenant, and William Darden Ensign, under the command of these officers we marched on an expedition to the town of Suffolk in the State of Virginia, where the enemy then was, but when we arrived there, they had left Suffolk, and gone to a place called Jericho, we pursued after them they are, but when we got there the British had likewise evacuated that place, and gone on board their shipping, and returned to Hertford County. Our whole company was made up in Hertford County. From Hertford County, we were then marched to Edenton in North Carolina, where we remained until the last of August making altogether six months, we were then discharged and returned to Hertford County a second time. In the autumn of the same year 1779, on the first, or very early in the month of October, this applicant substituted himself (in the town of Wynton in Hertford County) in the room of William Langston of said County and State, who was drafted to go to Charleston in South Carolina, under the command of Captain Samuel Harrell, Lieutenant William Outlaw and Ensign Thomas Brickell, under command of these officers we marched through the State of North Carolina, and into the State of South Carolina within a few miles of Charleston, where we joined General Lillington and part of the Regiment to which we belonged and in a few days after marched into the city, and came under the command of General Lincoln, who was chief commander at that time. After having been in Charleston one month this applicant was ordered on board the ship *Truet* [*Truite*]¹ Capt. Tines [sic, Capt. James Pyne] at Fort Moultrie where he served a

¹ The *Truite* [French for trout] was one of several ships the American scuttled in Charleston Harbor in an unsuccessful attempt to keep the British fleet from progressing within cannon range of the city during the siege in 1780. A gabare or small transport, the *Truite* was originally built by the French at Le Harve in 1776 and had been converted to carry twenty-six 12-pounders at the time she was scuttled. Her captain was James Pyne at the time this veteran served on her. Source: **Oared Fighting Ships of the South Carolina Navy, 1776-1780** Author: John J. Sayen Jr. The South Carolina Historical Magazine, Vol. 87, No. 4 (Oct., 1986), pp. 213-237 Published by: South Carolina Historical Society

short time (10 days only) as a marine, until the ships were ordered up to Charleston and sunk in the channel in order to prevent the approach of the enemy. After this, this applicant returned to his company and served as before a soldier until he was discharged. Our Captain and company were discharged by the town Major, whose name was Parker – such was the confusion at the time this applicant left with his company that he received no written discharge himself, but remembers that his Captain gave a written passport to the Sergeant and seven others of us as a sort of protection. This applicant was not personally engaged in any combat, but while in Charleston frequent cannonading took place between the city batteries and the enemies Forts. This applicant left Charleston the 5th day of April 1780. This applicant served from the time he substituted, as a soldier and marine together, on the expedition to South Carolina six months which added to the six months he had served before as a volunteer makes 12 months, the whole time this applicant was in actual service during the revolutionary war.

After this, this applicant returned home into Hertford County a third time on the 21st of April, and on the 10th of May 1780 was the capitulation of Charleston (as well as he recollects) and General Lincoln and the whole Army were made prisoners --

He has no documentary evidence of his services as above stated. He knows at present no person with whom he served in Charleston. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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 & subscribed the day & year above written.

S/ John Taylor, S. M.

[Thomas Speight, a clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Q 1st When and in what year were you born?

Ans: In Hertford County and State of North Carolina in the year 1760.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans: He has none, it was recorded in a sermon book of my father's books, and they have been sold. It is recorded in the book with his children's ages.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: When called into service I lived in Hertford, since the war, I lived eight years in Hertford, one year in the County of Northampton, and 43 years in Greene County and State of North Carolina (he thinks that this County was called Dobbs, when he first came here to live).

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: first volunteered and first of March 1779, afterward was a substitute for William Langston.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: General Lincoln, General Hogans [probably, James Hogun] and General Woolford, does not remember the names of the regiments was first in service in Virginia and North Carolina and six months afterward marched into Charleston in South Carolina where he served six months as a soldier except 10 days of the time he served as a Marine on board the ship *Truet [Truite]*.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans: I never received anything more than a written passport from Captain Samuel Harrell at Charleston which answered for myself & seven others & do not know what has become of it.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans: Jesse Speight, Henry Miller, Willis Dixon, John Dixon and Joseph Williams and Levi Braston [?].

Sworn & subscribed the day & year above said

S/ John Taylor, S. M.

Your applicant presumes that the act of assembly passed the 15th May 1779 could not interfere with his volunteering service as to the best of his recollection he volunteered the first of the month of March 1779, which was 2 ½ months before the act of Assembly was passed. Volunteers turned out in the revolutionary war, as in the late war, upon certain emergencies and served until they were not needed, and then dismissed. And so it was with us, after the enemy was driven both from Suffolk and Jericho, there was no more need of the volunteers there and we returned to Hertford County, from thence we were ordered to Edenton in North Carolina, where we remained until the last of August when we were finally discharged, making (as it was then called) a tour of six months.

After your applicant's substituting himself the first of October 1779, we did not immediately march for the place of destination, but were ordered to keep ourselves in readiness to march at a moments warning, and so for several times we were ordered to meet in order to march; and as often dismissed until further orders, all which time your applicant supposed himself in his Country's service, for had your applicant, or any other soldier left the County, and not been ready to march when called upon, he would have been returned as a deserter and punished accordingly, and your applicant does not know how he would have returned a deserter if he was not in the service. Be that as it may at length we marched for the place of destination, which was Charleston in South Carolina, where we were in service until the 8th of April 1780, when we were finally discharged as before stated, which is six months; but if the act of assembly prohibits me from being entitled to a tour of six months, it will at least entitled me to a tour of three months, which will make nine months instead of 12.

5th May 1835

S/ John Taylor, S. M.

John Taylor S. M.

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