

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathan Upchurch S7777

Transcribed by Will Graves

f12NC

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Wake County} Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions November Session
1832

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

On this 22nd day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before _____ Esquires holding Pleas & Quarter Sessions & a Court of record for Wake County now sitting Nathan Upchurch a resident of the County of Wake 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 was born in the County of Bute ^{is seventy-three years of age} (which was afterwards divided into the Counties of Wake, Franklin & Warren) at the time he entered the service he resided in the County of Wake and about the age of 20 years he was drafted for the time of three months to be served out of the State – that his company rendezvoused at the Court house – Wake and was then placed under the command of Captain Lewis Bletcher [sic, Lewis Bledsoe] marched into line and was under the command of Colonel Moore [Stephen Moore], we marched from Wake Court house through the adjoining Country & crossed the Cape Fear River at a ferry called Sprawl's [sic, Spruill's ferry?]- then through the intervening Country to the Yadkin River crossed the same as a Ferry the name not recollected & there joined the other forces who were also placed under the command of Colonel Moore we marched from thence to the Pedee [River] crossed the same in after marching eight days about the country we United with the other forces under the command of General Gates [Horatio Gates] about 20 miles from Camden there I saw several Continental regiments but do not recollect the names of the officers commanding them from thence we marched within three or four miles of Camden and then we met the British forces our forces were ordered & marched in the night for the purpose of gaining a certain position for battle next morning the van marched to [sic, too?] far and had a slight skirmish with the English dragoons & one of our light horseman was killed the British fell back and we remained in line until next morning – when the action commenced in the left wing the attack was made by the British we were directed not to fire a gun – there was considerable fighting and shooting in the left wing I was on the right wing, the British forces continued to press forward our line began to give ground and finally it became a general retreat on the right wing and we were thrown into confusion and every man took care of himself [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. This term of service lasted for five months or thereabouts – I was under orders for two months & about 20 days before I crossed into South Carolina were [sic, where] I remained about three months. I cannot recollect the time or date when I was drafted nor the date when I exited [?] the service – I do not now recollect the names of any of the regular officers. I have no documentary evidence. I prove this term of service by my brother Moses Upchurch.

2nd I was in & about nine months -- towards the close of the war again drafted for the

term of three months in the County of Wake rendezvoused at Wake Court house under Captain Alsey High and was placed under the command of Colonel Wooten [Thomas Wooten] then marched to Cross Creek & remained on the site of the town of Fayetteville a fortnight or more, we marched into the Counties of Moore, Sampson and other Counties endeavoring to bring the numerous Tories in those Counties into an engagement, who continued to fly before us then marched to within 4 miles of Wilmington in which tour the Brits were encamped we there expected an engagement – and while preparing for the same we heard of the capture of Lord Cornwallis at York town [October 19, 1781] and we were ordered by our Captain to fire a salute an expression of our joy for the victory and before day broke the next morning the British evacuated & deserted town – left the Tories who came out with a flag of truce to General Butler [John Butler] who suffered them to pass without any molestation or injury. We then marched 18 miles up to the Red House where we were to receive money to bring us home we received nothing but a discharge which I have lost or mislaid. There were no Continental troops present – this time of service lasted three months & a few days. I have no documentary evidence – But can prove that I was in the service at this time by Moses Upchurch.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Nathan Upchurch, X his mark

[David Holland and Jesse Brower [Thomas?] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And I Moses Upchurch¹ the brother of said Nathan hereby certify that I believe him to be 72 years of age, I know that he was drafted as Stated in the first section of this declaration for I saw him mustered into line & marched off in this service and was near home when I saw him on his return – he was absent about five months – as regards the second term of service I knew he was drafted for three months and repeatedly heard from him while he remained in service and was at home when he returned with others. I think he was absent more than three months. Sworn to and Subscribed this 22nd day of November 1832.

S/ Moses Upchurch, X his mark

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State of North Carolina, Wake County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions May Session A.D. 1833

The amended declaration of Nathan Upchurch of Wake County in the particulars required.

Questions by the presiding Justices holding Wake County Court it being a Court of record.

Question When did you enter the service of the United States.

Question mention the period or periods of the time you served

Answer: I entered the service on the 3rd of April A.D. 1780 and served five months (to wit) until the 3rd September A.D. 1780 – and on the 15th day of June A.D. 1781, I again entered the service and served three months (to wit) until the 15th day of September A.D. 1781.

Question do you know of any clergyman in this County or State acquainted with you or your revolutionary services.

Ans: I know no clergyman who is acquainted with me or my revolutionary services whether in this County or State and no clergyman living in my part of the County.

And the Court do hereby certify & declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the war department that the above named Nathan of church was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states above – in the Court

¹ [Moses Upchurch S7776](#)

further certifies, that it appears to them that said Nathan Upchurch, David Holland, Jesse Brower and Moses Upchurch who have signed the preceding certificates to the original declaration made at November Session A.D. 1832 of this Court are credible persons and that their statement is entitled to credit and ordered the Clerk of this Court to certify the same.

S/ T. L. Barringer, P. M.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia.]