

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Peter Vendrick S7791

Transcribed by Will Graves

f16NC

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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, Craven County: SS

On this 17th day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Joseph J. Hamil, one of the Judges of the Superior Court of Law & Equity in and for the State of North Carolina, and now holding the Superior Court of Law for the County of Craven, Peter Vendrick, a resident of Craven County N. C. 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, about the middle of the war, but at what precise time this affiant is unable to State, but it was in the month of June after Charleston was taken [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]; that he was drafted in the Second Regiment, out of Captain James Perkins' Militia Company, & put under the Command of Captain David Roach, and marched from New Bern to Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) where they met other companies assembled from various counties. At Cross Creek General Caswell [Richard Caswell] took the Command, and Benjamin Axum or Exum [Benjamin Exum] was Colonel to the Second Regiment to which this affiant belonged. After remaining there some time he marched under General Caswell to the Western part of North Carolina; and was there joined by General Gates [Horatio Gates] who had under his Command about 1500 regular troops and 70 light horseman; General Gates then took the Command of all the troops, and under him this declarant marched to within 12 miles above Camden, where Cornwallis, a British officer lay encamped, at which place the American forces were joined by the Virginia militia. The night after the morning of the arrival of the Virginia Militia, the Americans were ordered to fall in, without drum or fife, and an engagement took place between the outposts of the British and American armies, but this declarant's Regiment lay all that night upon their arms. In the morning the British under Cornwallis hove in sight, and commenced an attack upon the American lines, a general engagement [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] was brought on, and militia belonging to this declarant's Regiment retreated, & surrendered the woods to Cornwallis. After General Gates was there defeated this declarant in Company with seven others, in the confusion of the retreat, became detached from the Main body of the Army, and commenced their journey to North Carolina – this declarant being intimate with Mr. James who drove General Caswell's baggage wagon, was in the habit of putting his knapsack containing his clothes, in said wagon for safekeeping, all of which he lost in the confusion incident to the battle, and never heard of James, the wagon or his clothes afterwards. This declarant journeyed on from South Carolina to Kinston in North Carolina, where the scattered remnants of the militia were ordered to rendezvous by General Caswell. After they were thus organized, this declarant, marched under the command of Colonel Benjamin Exum, to Hillsborough and thence to the Yadkin River below Salisbury, where they encamped. After they had remained in camp for some time Colonel Axum or Exum, marched from the

Yadkin for Hillsboro, and before they reached Hillsboro, they were discharged by Colonel Exum. This declarant does not recollect the day, and months of his discharge, neither has he preserved the same, but he well remembers that he served five months, his three months in South Carolina and two months in North Carolina. Captain Roach was missing after the battle with Cornwallis, and has never since been heard of, Francis Delamar, acted as Lieutenant under Captain Roach, Christopher Bexly¹ as Ensign, and one Bold or Bowls as commissary. This declarant has no documentary Evidence in his possession to Substantiate his claim. 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. Before this declarant was drafted into Captain James Perkins Company, about six months, he was drafted by Colonel John Tilghman [John Tilman] to guard the Jail in Newbern, and which were confined many Tories and British at upon this duty this declarant served three months under the command of Captain Council Bryan [John Council Bryan), who was at the time High Sheriff of Craven County.

That he Sworn to before me in open Court 17th of October A. D. 1832

S/ Edw. Stanly

S/ Peter Vendrick, X his mark

Interrogatories

1st: Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: In Craven County North Carolina, on Beard's Creek, on the 10th day of September A.D. 1760.

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

Ans: Yes it is contained in my father's family Bible, which said Bible now belongs to my Brother Jesse Vendrick who resides in Craven County, and who now has it in possession.

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

Ans: In Craven County North Carolina, on Beard's Creek, I have lived there ever since the revolutionary war, and still continued to reside there.

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

Ans: A requisition was made upon Captain James Perkins' Company of militia and I was drafted to serve in the army & to guard the Jail in Newbern.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: General Gates, General Caswell, Colonel Exum, Captain David Roach, the Second Regiment I belonged to. General Gates had some regular troops, whom I suppose belonged to the Continental line, but I do not know, to what Regiment, my tour of duty was very laborious, marching through the whole Extent of North Carolina and into the interior of South Carolina, besides being stripped of Everything in the engagement with Lord Cornwallis; after which I was ordered to rendezvous at Kinston in Lenoir County North Carolina, which necessarily compelled me again to traverse the whole Extent of North Carolina, whereupon I was ordered to the encampment on the Yadkin River below Salisbury, where I remained for some time, after which I [was] discharged before we reached Hillsboro N. C., on our march from the said encampment.

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 did receive a discharge from the Service, on our march from the encampment on the

¹ J. D. Lewis lists this officer as "William Becksley" (a/k/a, Christopher Bexley or James Bexley)

http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_ensigns.html

Yadkin River to Hillsboro, and it was given to me by Colonel Benjamin Axum or Exum, (his name was pronounced Axum), but not thinking that it would ever be of any value to me, I did not preserve it, & it is now lost.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Ans: William B. Perkins, John Brinson, Shadrach Hoover, ~~Thomas Masters~~, and William Spight.

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

S/ Edw. Stanly

S/ Peter Vendrick, PV his mark

[John Brinson and Wm B. Perkins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[William B. Masters, a clergyman, also gave an affidavit.]

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