

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Levin Watson S7797

fn15GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/12/10

[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 errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Anson County: April Sessions 1833

On this 11th day of April 1833, Personally appeared before the worshipful Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions living Watson aged 77 years a resident of South Carolina near the State line where he has resided but a few years, the reason why he makes application in this County is that he has resided there for the space of thirty years & the citizens there of our better acquainted with him than the People of South Carolina where he resides -- has been but a short time & nearest to the agent in Fayetteville,

He was a Soldier of the Revolution after the having been 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,

I entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. I volunteered in Wilkes County in the State of Georgia in the month of can't recollect in the year 1777, under Captain John Stewart Major Burwell Smith in the Horse Company Colonel Elijah Clarke's Regiment for six months. I was marched in pursuit of the Indians in the upper part of the State of South Carolina had a Battle with them in which they were defeated. Served eight months before discharged by his officers. He returned to Wilkes County after was employed by George Walton Commissary for the Army as Waggoneer hauling grain to Mill the last of January or first of February as well as he now recollects the year he does not recollect the Wagon was pressed & he also by Colonel Clarke to go with the Army to St Augustine against the British he marched as well as recollected from Augusta the first of February for St Augustine. He thinks there'll was three thousand men under Colonel Clarke the distance he does not know but supposes it three hundred miles or more through a wilderness Country the Army cleared a road as they went with the Army arrived near the Fort at St Augustine they had a small skirmish with the British & defeated them as well as he recollects his Colonel was wounded in the leg by a ball Colonel Clarke then returned to the State of Georgia the last of August and as well as he now recollects & was discharged by his officers & returned to Wilkes County served seven months continued short time & was drafted & marched under Captain J. Stewart Major Burwell Smith Colonel Clarke's Regiment from Wilkes County to near the Town of Savannah & was sent back by his officers to hurry a company that had not joined the Regiment at the time of the Siege of Savannah he did not meet the Company but they he

understood arrived in time & he did not & was not in the Battle he served two months & ten days then discharged by his officers & returned to Wilkes County continued short time then a volunteer & marched under Captain J. Stewart Major Burwell Smith Colonel Clark's Regiment in the Horse Company and marched against the British fortified at Augusta had a small fight there they were strongly fortified he passed through a part of the Town & his Horse was shot under him after passing the Town a short distance met a large body of Cherokee Indians & had a severe Battle with them & defeated them he supposes there was thirty killed on his side & near double that number of the Indians the day month and year he does not recollect he served two months & twenty days before discharged by his officers he then returned to Wilkes County he continued short time then volunteered and marched under Captain J. Stewart Major B. Smith Colonel Clarke's Regiment for six months the year not recollected they were in camp in the woods near a Branch when a British officer came with a flag to Colonel Clarke & made him & his men an offer of Protection under the arms of the King & stated to them their State was subdued & a part of the men he believes did so his Colonel & officers crossed the Branch & his Colonel proclaimed aloud to his men all those that were willing to go & fight with him for their liberty to cross the Branch & form a line there crossed three hundred and thirty and formed a line the British officer then informed his Colonel if he & his men were not soon gone from the State he would cut him & his men off they were horsemen his officers with their men the next day fled to the mountains crossed & went through to the Cherokee nation of Indians & went to the Tennessee River as he understood name & went up that River & came to Pigeon River as understood by him crossed that River & to a River he believes called Watauga & up that River to the Mountains the men lived on wild Meat & horses on the cane when they came to the mountains they crossed at a Place called the Iron Mountain he believes in North Carolina and passed along the South East of the Mountains to South Carolina & down Santee River below the high hills of that River there watch gave notice there was a party of the British crossing the River to the other side & the last after leaving the land they rushed to the bank and fired on them & he believes killed the most of them his officers then turned for the head of Tyger River a Colonel Candler as he believes his name joined Colonel Clark with sixty men mounted at a Place called Blackstocks had a battle with the British Dragoons & defeated them Colonel Clarke was shot through the arm with ball did not break a bone he was with General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] short time left him & went to the State of Georgia & sometime after was Discharged by his officers served seven months & twenty-two days his services was five years but short Tours except as above stated he at that time received a Discharge from Colonel Clarke.

He then returned to Johnson County [sic, Johnston County] North Carolina to his father's where he was raised. Colonel Smith of the County Proffered the Company where he belonged if every 15 men would hire one out of that number to serve during the War the 15 shall be clear they did so hire his Brother James Watson the war ended soon after & James Watson never called on.

He states he never received any pay for his services or for his Horse though promised to him except his services to St. Augustine he received his wages for that time he was of the Horse Company in all service except to St. Augustine his discharge he lost crossing the Cuttaba River [sic, Catawba River?] when very high & has no papers to prove his Services & knows of no person living that he can prove his services by,

It. 1. by Court where & in what year were you born

A. in Johnston County North Carolina in the year 1756,

2. Have you any record of your age & if so where is it, yes in a family Bible kept time I Father of

his Children's ages

3. Where were you living when called into service & where have you lived since the Revolutionary War

A. in Wilkes County State of Georgia when called into service and returned to Johnston County North Carolina & continued there to the year 1797 -- then moved to Anson County in the same State & continued there to 1829, then moved across the State line in South Carolina Chesterfield District where I now live.

4. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if a substitute for home,

A. first volunteered served 8 months served  
Second Pressed with George Walton's wagon served 7 months  
third drafted served 2 months & 10 days  
fourth volunteered served 2 months & 20 days  
fifth volunteered served 7 months & 22 days.

5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the Troops where you served such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect,

A/ General Howe, General Sumter Captain Calaspe [Gallespie?] Regular Colonel Clarke Colonel Candler Major Smith Captain Stewart Militia officers,

6. Did you ever receive a Discharge from the Service & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it,

A. yes I received a Discharge from Colonel Clarke but have lost it,

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your Present Neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution,

A. John Griffin, Allen Carpenter,

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or Annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State,

Sworn & subscribed the day & year above

S/ W. Dismukes, Clk

S/ Levin Watson, X his mark

[John Pearson, clergyman, and John Griffin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$86.35 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 20 months & 22 days service in the revolution.]