

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of William Watson S7831

fn17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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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. 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, Rutherford County

On this 23rd day of October 1833 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of pleas & quarter Sessions held for the County and State aforesaid William Watson Senior aged 74 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 provision of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 saith that he entered the Army of the United States in the year 1779 and served under the following named Officers and in the Towers [sic, Tours] as herein stated from the best of my Recollection my Mother Settled in Tryon [County] now Rutherford County in the latter part of the year 1777 in the year 1779 I Volunteered myself and Served a Tour of three months under Captain Gilkey Col Hampton commanded we was kept on the lines and at the Different forts Grants Fort and a Fort at the head of the Catawba [River] where my time was Out I was Discharged and Returned home In the year 1780 I was a Volunteer and served Six Months under Captain Patrick Watson Col McDowell [Charles McDowell] Col Hampton and Majors McDowell [Joseph McDowell] and Porter Command this Tour we was marched Down Broad River to the Cherokee ford from that place I was one of the Guard that was sent over to Rowan [County] after provision we Returned and Joined the Army near the place we left it about that time Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] Army was in pursuit of us we Retreated before him until we got his Army to the head of Cane Creek in Burke County where we had an engagement both parties I think left the place in Confusion Ferguson went back to South Carolina and we crossed the Mountains in order to Reinforce our Companies the Company that I belonged to reached the Battle ground in time to be in the battle I was sent of [sic, off] on some other business He joined them at Col Walker's and was one of the Guard placed over the prisoners until they were placed under a Troop of Horse sent for that purpose we was stationed on the frontiers until my six months expired Discharged and Returned home in the same year I was a Volunteer under Captain Wood for a southern Tour we was marched below Williamson's Fort near Ninety Six we Returned and Joined the Army under General or Colonel Picken [sic, Andrew Pickens] near Saluda [River] Discharged and Returned home this I think was performed in half a month in the year 1781 I Volunteered three months under Captain Beatey and Served as

an Indian spy under Col Porter we was stationed the greater part of this time in Mumford's Cove and on the lines This makes my Service Twelve Months and a half that I was [in] actual Service and done nothing else but to serve my Country and I have no way to establish my service only by my Own Oath I hereby Relinquish every Claim to a pension except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State whatever and for those services I claim a pension

Question by the Court 1st: Where and in what year were you born Answer from Information I was born in York County Pennsylvania in the month of November 1758

Question 2nd: Have you any Record of your Age if so where is it Answer I have not only from circumstances of the age of a near Relation who was born the same year who has the Record of her age set down in the family Bible Question 3rd: Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now Reside? Answer: I was living in Tryon County North Carolina now Rutherford County where I have resided ever since Question 4th: How were you called into service were you Drafted or did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for Whom Answer: I was a volunteer first under Captain Gilkey Colonel Hampton commanded Three Months my second Tour was a volunteer and served under Captain Patrick Watson Colonel McDowell & Hampton Majors McDowell & Porter commanded This was six months my third Tour was under Captain Wood Col Pickens commanded this was only half a month my fourth day Volunteer for Three Months under Captain Beaty Col Porter commanded Question 5: 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 Answer: I have no Recollection of the Number of the Regiment that I served in I well Remember Genl Pickens Cols McDowell, Hampton, Porter, Campbell, Shelby, Cleveland and Sevier I have given all the Detail I can Recollect in the first part of this statement Question 6th: Did you ever Receive a Discharge from the Service and if so what [sic] by whom was it signed and what has become of it Answer I have no Recollection that I ever had a Written Discharge Question 7 State the names of some persons in your Neighborhood to whom you are known who can Testify as to your Character for Veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. [No answer to this question was given by applicant]

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Watson {Seal}

S/ T. P. Burchett, Clk

[John Padgett, a clergyman (illiterate, he signed with his mark) and John Carson, a neighbor, give the standard certificate of veracity and belief.]

State of North Carolina, Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid William Watson being duly sworn Deposeth and saith that by Reason of Old age and consequent loss of Memory he cannot Swear positively to the [sic] as to the precise length of his Service but according to the best of his recollection he Served not less than periods mentioned below and in the following Grades

for the year	1779	Volunteered under Captain Gilkey Col Hampton	3 Months
	1780	Volunteered under Captain Watson for 3 months our	

	time was Out at the time of the Battle near the head of Cane Creek Burke County & the Volunteers was called on and kept together we Crossed the Mountains where we Joined the Army under Col McDowell and returned to the Battle of King's Mountain this was 3 months and the two explains my Tour of	6 Mos
1780	Volunteer under Captain Wood in Service	2 weeks
1781	Volunteer under Captain Beaty Col Porter Com'd	3 Months

Months 12 ½

This is the Service I Rendered to the best of my Recollection as a private and for which service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this ninth day of December 1833.

S/ William Watson {Seal}

S/ A. Mills, J. P.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$31.55 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 9 months 14 days service in the revolution.]