

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Williams S7950

Transcribed by Will Graves

f22NC

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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, Hyde County} SS

On this twenty seventh day of November A.D1833, personally appeared in open Court before us Benjamin S. Russell, John Dixon & Arthur Tooley Justices of the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Hyde, now sitting, George Williams, a resident of Mattamuskeet in the County of Hyde, and State of North Carolina, aged 76 years, who first being 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 under the following named officers, & served as herein stated: --

He was drafted as a militiaman in the State Troops of North Carolina for six ^{or} nine months he does not remember which on account of his age in the fall of the year 1780 or 1781, and he believes about two years before the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, and he entered the service soon after his draft, under the Command of Captain Gaylord [Jerry Gaylord or Jeremiah Gaylord] and Adjutant Mason, both of whom belonged in the County of Hyde, under whom, he was marched through the Counties of Beaufort, & Pitt & through other Counties, the names of which his memory does not now retain.

His march was continued westwardly until he arrived at a place called Cross Creeks [sic, Cross Creek, now Fayetteville], he believes in the County of Cumberland where he joined the Tenth Regiment of about 500 men encamped under the Command of General Linston or Lincoln Major __ Dennis [possibly William Dennis of Johnston County], and Colonel Brown [probably Thomas Brown of the Bladen County militia] of Beaufort County. He was there encamped about one month, after which he was marched to a place called the "Pine tree" near the dividing line of North and South Carolina, where he was again encamped.

After remaining at the "Pine tree" a short time, he was marched up the Pedee River, in pursuit of the Tories & English, who were two or three days in advance of him, until, he was in sight of the Blue Ridge mountains, when he again halted & encamped a short time.

The Enemy continuing their marched through North Carolina to Virginia, the company together with others were marched to the lines of Virginia, to be a check upon them and the Tories; and on his arrival at the line separating North Carolina from Virginia, some of the officers & men, refused to cross the line as their time of service, for which they had enlisted or had been drafted, had expired. He, and about one half of the men with him, forded the Roanoke River, or a branch of that Stream near the dividing line of Virginia & North Carolina, but when the other half of the men refused to cross, the men with whom he was, were ordered to recross the Stream. He was marched then to Kingston [sic, Kinston] in Lenoir County in North Carolina, when & where, he was discharged as the six months for which he was drafted, had expired. His discharge he believes was given him by Major Dennis, and he has since lost the same. At the

time of his discharge, 15 other militiamen from the County of Hyde, were likewise discharged, all of whom, are now dead, except William Spencer,¹ whose certificate is hereunto annexed. In company with the before mentioned 15 militia man discharged at Kinston, he returned to his home in the County of Hyde. He is unable to recollect the names of the officers under whom he served excepting those before mentioned. At the time of his draft, he resided in the County of Hyde & State of North Carolina. He was engaged in no battle during his time of service. He has no documentary evidence of his service, & knows of no person by whom he can prove it, except the aforesaid William Spencer, who certificate is hereunto annexed. He was drafted with the said William Spencer, marched with him from Hyde County, served with him during the time of his service, were discharged with him, & returned home with him. He was a private soldier.

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.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ George Williams, X his mark

[Henry S. Spencer, High Sheriff of Hyde County, and Talbot H. Selby, Clerk of Superior Court of Hyde County gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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I William Spencer of the County of Hyde & State of North Carolina, hereby certify that I am acquainted with George Williams (and have been for the last 55 years), who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration and that I do personally know that the facts stated by him in his declaration hereunto annexed in relation to his entering the Service after he was drafted, his marching under the Command of the officers by him mentioned, and his remaining in the service for the time he was drafted, and at the places by him stated, are true. I was with the said George Williams & served with him at the times and places by him mentioned in his declaration, and know that he performed the services to his Country by him in his declaration mentioned. Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year above written before me.

S/ William Spence[r]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Spencer". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. To the right of the signature, there is a vertical grey rectangular bar, likely a redaction or a placeholder for a seal.

S/ Riley Murray, Clk.

The said George Williams being then personally and specially examined before and by us Benjamin S. Russell, John Dixon & Arthur Tooley the Justices of the said Court on oath, deposed in said in answer to the following interrogatories viz.

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: He answered in the County of Hyde & State of North Carolina, & was born in the year of our Lord 1756 or 1757.

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

Answer: He answered No.

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

Answer: He answered & said that he lived in the County of Hyde & State of North Carolina, & has lived in said County & State ever since.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a

1 [William Spencer S3960](#)

substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer: To which interrogatory, he answered & said, that he was drafted for six or nine months, he does not remember which, as his memory is very much impaired by age.

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.

Answer: To this Question, he answered & said that as to the names of the Officers under whom he served saving & excepting those names as mentioned in his declaration, he is unable from age, & the length of time to recollect, and he thinks it was the 10th Regiment that he served with at Cross Creek & as to the general circumstances of his service, he answered as he has before in his declaration.

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

Answer: To this Interrogatory, he answered & said that he did receive a discharge from the service, and it was given him by Major Dennis to the best of his recollection, and it has been lost, mislaid or destroyed.

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.

Answer: To which Interrogatory he answered & gave the names & referred to Riley Murray, Clerk of the County Court of Hyde, Henry W. Gibbs, Clerk of the Court of Equity of said County, Henry Gibbs, late Sheriff of Hyde County, William W. Spencer, Caleb Spencer, Jonathan Harris Esq., Isaiah H. Spencer, Esq., William B. Spencer, Esq., James W. Spencer, Esq. and Seth Gibbs.

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