

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Benson S8061

fn11NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/26/10

[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 and any other errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Bladen County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Bladen November Term 1832

On this 5th November 1832 personally appeared in the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Bladen, now sitting, John Benson of the State and County aforesaid aged seventy years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of a law of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as he states. That he was drafted into the service of the United States in Captain Robert Haynes Company in the County of Bladen. The day and year not recollected under the command of Colonel Thomas Owen, he was sixteen years old when he entered the service – he marched to Sturgeon's Creek, and was there stationed about three months from thence to the Hoods Creek he remained there about five months – during which time there was one engagement with the British, he states however he was not in that skirmish having obtained permission from the officer in command to return home the evening before to get some clothes, he returned the next morning and heard the result. The Americans were attacked about daybreak (the day and year not known) by the British from Wilmington who were in possession of that Town at that time. The Americans gave way it first, the British returned to Wilmington. The American cavalry pursued them to Brunswick ferry and fired upon them, Captain Simmons and Lieutenant Thomas Smith were killed in this battle. He here received a written discharge from Captain McRae written by Lieutenant James Perdie [could be James Perdue or Perdee] and returned home he remained but one night his brother William Benson being drafted during his absence, and having a family to support he readily took his place without any compensation he states that he went up to Captain William Robeson's in the Cape Fear River Bladen County and joined a company of men under the command of Captain McRae and Lieutenant Purdie for the purpose of collecting cattle for the use of the American camp he states that the cattle was put in Captain Robeson's pasture until they had nearly destroyed all the forage they were then carried down to a place called the Sugar Loaf on the Cape Fear River owned by William Singletary, from thence the cattle were taken within 5 miles of Charleston South Carolina on Strawberry River and delivered at General Greene's Camp. There he received a written discharge from Captain McRae and returned home. He states that he received (during his service) two written discharges but as he

never expected they would render him any service, at any future period he supposes he neglected them as he is now unable to say what has become of them. He states that he was born in the County of Bladen lived there when he entered the service of the United States and now lives in the same County and State. He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on any pension roll of the agency of State. He further states that there is no clergyman that he can get who know him without great trouble and expense. He [indecipherable word] Duncan McCallan<sup>1</sup> who can testify to a part of his service.

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born. Answer 1st. I was born in Bladen County North Carolina on Cape Fear River I was born in I think the year 1762 month not known.

Question 2nd have you any record of your age and if so where is it. Answer 2nd I have my age written down on a sheet of paper in my house; Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolution and where do you now live. Answer 3rd. I was living when called into service in the County of Bladen North Carolina have lived in the same County and there since the revolutionary war and you now live in the same place.

Question 4th. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute. Answer 4th I was drafted the first tour I served the second I acted as substitute for my brother William Benson who was drafted –

Question 5th State the names 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 5th. I knew Colonel Thomas Brown, Colonel Thomas Owen, Captain McRae, Captain Robert Haynes Captain Simmons and Lieutenant Perdue. Question 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 6. I have received two discharges one was given by Captain McRae written by Lieutenant Perdue. I received the other from Captain McRae and written by himself, but I am unable to say what has since become of them. Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood who can testify as to your character for truth and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution, Answer 7th. I am well known to James Allen, John Russ, Samuel B. Anders and William Jones who can furnish the requisite testimony.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Benson, X his mark

Samuel B. Anders gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

I, Duncan McCullen of the County of Bladen and State aforesaid have been long acquainted with John Benson and know him to have been a Revolutionary Soldier for I lived with him he has also generally reputed to have been a Soldier of the Revolution and that I concur in that opinion.

S/ Duncan McCullen

[facts in the file: veteran died March 3, 1839 survived by children but they are not named in the file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>1</sup> Sic, [Duncan McCulloch \(McCulloch\) S7203](#)