

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joshua Blake S8074

fn10NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/1/10

[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 Duplin County: SS

On this the 16th day of September A.D. 1833 before us Gibson Sloan and John Linton two of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Joshua Blake a resident of Duplin County in the State of North Carolina aged ninety-eight years, and some months, 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 under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

1st Under Colonel James Kenan, Major Abraham Moulton, Captain Frederick Wells, Lieutenant Aaron Williams in November 1775 and served three months as a private, it being a company of Duplin militia, that he was a volunteer; and marched from Duplin across South River at Stewart's ferry and Cape Fear [River] at Waddell's ferry below Elizabeth [sic, Elizabeth Town] thence up Cape Fear to Rockfish bridge about seven miles below Cross Creek now Fayetteville; thence down Cape Fear River again to cut off the Tories from Wilmington, and across to Moore's Creek bridge, where he arrived the same day a battle was fought there though it was over, between the Americans under Colonels Lillington and Caswell and Tories under Captain McLeod, that he was there discharged; that there were troops at Rockfish and were called Continentals but does not know the names of any of the officers who commanded them; that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

2. He was drafted and served three months in a company of Duplin militia under Captain Sampson Grimes, Lieutenant Seaton Bluford in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Avery, \_\_\_ Johnson Adjutant; he entered the service in December 1776 and left it in March or April 1777 as well as he can recollect; that after he marched to the vicinity of Charleston he was attached to a brigade commanded by General Lillington; that he marched from Wilmington into Brunswick County; thence to Georgetown in South Carolina, thence to Bacons bridge, thence to the vicinity of Charleston where he continued until his time was out & thence marched to Moncks corner and discharged; that while he was stationed near Charleston the British raised a fortification on the opposite side of Ashley River, and commenced the cannonading the American Army with heated balls; that an American ship of war went up Ashley River, fire upon the fortification, for it up and drove the enemy from their Fort; that he served with Continental regiments on the borders of

Charleston under the command of General Lincoln; that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to prove this service.

3. In a company of Duplin cavalry under Captain Robert Merritt, King Vann [?] Lieutenant in September he thinks in the year 1779 and served three months as a private; that he was sometimes under the command of Colonel Thomas Bludworth, that he was a volunteer; that he was in a skirmish with the Tories at Bennett Smith's on South River with a private named David Tucker was wounded in the thigh; that their marches were in Duplin, Bladen & New Hanover County; that he served a tour of duty under Captain David Dodd which this applicant thinks was previous to this under Captain Merritt, that he has no documentary evidence, but thinks he can prove this service by Arthur Matthis<sup>1</sup> of this County.

4. That he volunteered in a company of Duplin cavalry under Captain David Dodd in a Regiment commanded by Colonel James Moore, the other officers he forgets, in the fall and he thinks in the year 1778 and served three months as a private that he was in two skirmishes with the Tories, one at old Alberts over the North East River, where Captain Dodd killed one; and in one at Captain She [?] Williams's went to at the Tories were killed; that his marches were confined to Duplin County; that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

5. In a company of Duplin militia as a volunteer under Captain Aaron Williams, David Williams Lieutenant, Joseph Williams Ensign in a Regiment commanded by Colonel James Kenan Abraham Moulton Major and served 2 1/2 months; that he entered this service in December 1780 and was taken sick and discharged after having served the time aforesaid; that while he was out in this service, there was a battle near the Big Bridge in New Hanover County with the enemy, and the Americans defeated, on the East side of the River, this applicant being stationed on the West side; that he marched from Duplin to the Big Bridge where he remained till taken sick and discharged; that he has no documentary evidence and knows that of no person by whom he can prove this service.

Answer of Joshua Blake the aforesaid applicant to the questions propounded to him as prescribed by the War Department

1. I was born in Craven County NC and 1735

2. I have no record of my age now wants head but it is lost

3. When called into service I was living in Duplin County NC not far from where I now live; I have ever since the Revolutionary War lived in Duplin County and I now live in Duplin County.

4. I refer to my declaration. –

5. The only regular officer whose name I can recollect who were with the troops where I served is General Lincoln & in further reply to this question I refer to my declaration

6. I received a discharge from Captain Grimes and one from Colonel James Kenan at the Big Bridge which I took no care of and have lost

7. Reverend Peter Carlton, William Stokes, Gibson Sloan, Esquire, John Linton Esquire, Reverend George W Hufham, Timothy Newkirk, Thomas Wells & many others.

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/ Gibson Sloan, JP

S/ Joshua Blake, X his mark

S/ John Linton, JP

[Peter Carlton, a clergyman, and Thomas Wells gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Arthur Matthis S9397](#)

On the day & year aforesaid before us the Justices of the Peace aforesaid personally appeared Arthur Matthis a resident of Duplin County in the State aforesaid aged 72 years who being 1st duly sworn doth on his oath depose and say that he served 3 months in a company of Duplin cavalry under Captain Robert Merritt, King Vann Lieutenant in the fall of 1779 as he believes with Joshua Blake the aforesaid applicant with whom he is well acquainted & new during the Revolutionary War, that in the service aforesaid with said applicant there was a skirmish with the Tories on South River and one David Tucker wounded in the thigh.  
Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Arthur Matthis

State of North Carolina Duplin County:

On this the 20th day of December 1833 before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared James Blanton<sup>2</sup> a resident of Duplin County NC aged seventy years next March who being duly sworn doth on his oath depose and say that he is well acquainted with Joshua Blake the above named applicant also a resident of Duplin County NC aged nearly one hundred years and although I the said deponent served the same time and under the same Captain to wit under Captain Aaron Williams the fall of 1780 and first of 1781 and in the same manner as is above stated by said applicant yet I have no distinct recollection of him in that service but I believe he was there and served as he has stated. He further swears that he distinctly recollects of serving with said applicant three months in a company of Duplin cavalry commencing about the time Cornwallis & his Army passed through this section to Petersburg Virginia in the spring of 1781 under Captain Aaron Williams in a Regiment commanded by Colonel James Kenan and was in a skirmish with the enemy at Rockfish bridge commanded by Major Craig & Manson and the Americans defeated, and although said applicant has not mentioned this tour of duty, this deponent is certain that he served it.

S/ James Blanton, X his mark

[Attested by Alfred Ward, JP]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$48.32 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 14 1/2 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>2</sup> FPA S6653