

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Castle S8144

fn23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/9/10

[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 Wilkes County: SS

On this 23rd day of January A.D. 1839 personally appeared before the undersigned subscriber one of the acting justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid and one of the Judges of the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the same, Samuel Castle a resident of said County of Wilkes and State of North Carolina aged ninety-eight 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 act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the spring of the year 1775 or 1776 (this declarant cannot be positive which) the Scotch Tories in the neighborhood of Cross Creek or Fayetteville North Carolina became very troublesome, annoying the Whig settlements adjacent to where they lived very much so that it became necessary to call out the militia to suppress them – A call for volunteers was accordingly made upon the County of Wilkes among others, for that purpose. This declarant turned out under the call, (which he believes was made by the Governor of the State) and joined a company raised by Captain Francis Haregrave, and rendezvoused at Wilkes CH and as soon thereafter as some hasty preparations could be made they took up the line of march for Cross Creek and after proceeding a distance of upwards of sixty miles they received intelligence that the Tories had been suppressed by other troops near the scene of action, whereupon the Company to which this declarant belonged was ordered back and after reaching Wilkes County they were discharged and repaired to their respective homes. In this tour this declarant is satisfied that he served not less than ten days.

About the month of August 1776 another call was made upon the County of Wilkes for volunteers to go against the Cherokee Indians, when this declarant again turned out and joined a company raised by his former Captain, Francis Hargrave, and immediately set out for the nation. They proceeded as far as Kriders Fort [sic, Crider's Fort] on the waters of the Catawba [River] where they were stationed for 10 days or two weeks, from whence they proceeded to the Pleasant Gardens near the head of the Catawba where they joined the main Army under General Griffith Rutherford – this declarant being attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Martin Armstrong. On the next day after joining the main Army they set out on their march and proceeded by the most direct route to near the head of Tennessee River – from thence they

proceeded to several of the Indian Towns which they found most generally abandoned. The Indians having embodied themselves to some extent had an engagement with a body of troops from South Carolina in which they were defeated and put to the route. After which they generally fled leaving only some women & children and old men in possession of their towns. It was the purpose and intention of General Rutherford to join the South Carolina troops but owing to some mistake or want of knowledge in the guide he was not able to do so until after the engagement above spoken of. After burning the Indian Towns, destroying their corn and committing such other depredations upon them as they could the Army returned to North Carolina, and upon reaching Wilkes CH this declarant was discharged. In this expedition this declarant is confident that he served not less than three months.

In the spring of the following year (to wit 1777) as this declarant believes in the month of March or April he again volunteered his services (under what particular authority is not now recollected) and joined a company of volunteers commanded by Captain Benjamin Cleveland and Lieutenant Moses Poor and after organizing and preparing for the campaigns set out on their march from Wilkes County to the Watauga settlements (in what is now Tennessee) to guard the frontiers. They were stationed at what was called Carter's Fort or Carter Station from whence they occasionally make short excursions along the frontier settlements to protect them against the depredations of the Cherokee Indians who previous to that time had been very troublesome. At the time Captain Cleveland's company was then stationed at Carter's Fort or Station there were also some troops from the State of Virginia stationed at the Long Islands of Holston [River]. About this time also the Indians sued for peace, and commissioners were appointed on the part of the Government to form a treaty which was accordingly done at the Long Islands of Holston. During the formation of this treaty the company of Captain Cleveland was ordered to the Long Island which were distant probably 25 or 30 miles from the Station. After which the company returned to Wilkes County and was discharged. In this expedition this declarant believes he served not less than three months.

Sometime after the return of this declarant from Watauga Settlements, (but how long he cannot now recollect) he again volunteered his services to march against the Tories who at that time were embodying themselves in various places to the South of where the declarant lived – he joined a company commanded by Captain Robert Cleveland and marched southwardly with an expectation of cooperating with other Whig troops against the Tories – upon reaching Lincoln County they understood that the Tories were collecting at or near a place called Ramsour's, upon which they pressed forward with all possible dispatch, but before they reached the place the other Whig troops had engaged with and defeated the Tories. After which this declarant was discharged by his Captain and returned home. In this tour he is satisfied he served not less than six days.

In the fall of the year 1780, information was received that a body of British and Tories was approaching from South Carolina, whereupon Colonel Cleveland made a call for volunteers to march to oppose their progress. This declarant again turned out a volunteer and joined a company commanded by Captain William Jackson and rendezvoused at Wilkes CH. After the necessary organization & preparation were made the Regiment set out under command of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland on their march towards the upper part of South Carolina to oppose the approach of the British and Tories. After proceeding as far as Crider's Fort in Burke Count this declarant was rendered unable to proceed by reason of an attack of Rheumatism, whereupon he was discharged and sent home which place he reached by the aid of a horse furnished him by a friend. After the engagement with Colonel Ferguson at King's Mountain and the prisoners

captured there were brought as far back as Wilkes CH this declarant rejoined the Army and proceeded with them aiding and assisting in guarding the prisoners as far as the Moravian Towns where they were relieved by the substitution of other troops, when the company to which this declarant was attached was discharged and returned home. In these two tours, this declarant is confident he served not less than one month.

In the spring of the year following when Lord Cornwallis was approaching from South Carolina the Whig militia was called out in order to harass & annoy his out posts and flanking parties as much as possible and also to cooperate with the main Army in case a general action should occur. This declarant again turned out and joined the company of volunteers commanded by Captain Robert Cleveland & Lieutenant Stonecypher and marched with all possible haste to join General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] before a meeting could be had between him & Lord Cornwallis – in this expectation have other they were disappointed as Cornwallis had passed the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin [River] before they reached that point, and Captain Cleveland finding it would be impossible to join General Greene before the expected engagement, discharged his company and directed them to return home – he however being on horseback proceeded with a determination to join General Greene at all hazards if possible. In this tour this declarant believes he served not less than eight days. This declarant was born in the Town of Danby County of Fairfield and State of Connecticut on the 16th day of June 1740, the record of which he has in his family Bible. He was living in Wilkes County when called into service of the United States. He has lived there since the revolutionary war, and lives there at this time. He volunteered his services at an early period of the war and considered himself a standing volunteer throughout the war. There were no regular officers nor any Continental regiments with the militia where he served – such militia regiments and the general circumstances of his service are detailed above. He never received any written discharge, nor has he any documentary evidence to prove his services, but refers to David Laws¹ as a witness who can prove the service performed against the Indians under General Rutherford and on the Watauga under Captain Cleveland – Also to Abijah Fairchild² as a witness who can prove the service performed in the expedition part of the way to Kings Mountain and in guarding the prisoners to the Moravian Towns also in the attempt under Captain Cleveland to join General Greene. He also refers to the Reverend Smith Ferguson and Captain William Dyer as persons to whom he is well known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 and year aforesaid.

S/ S. F. Patterson, JP

S/ Samuel Castle, X his mark

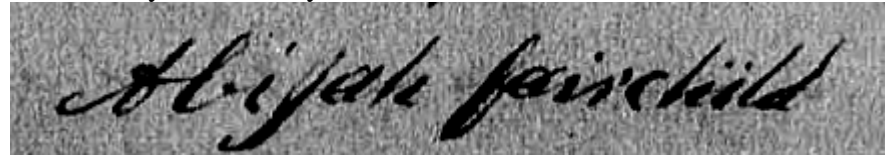
Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, Abijah Fairchild, the person referred to in the foregoing declaration, and after being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he served in the revolutionary War with Samuel Castle the above declarant during two of the tours of duty described by him in the foregoing declaration to wit: the first, part of the way to Kings Mountain until he was turned back on account of the rheumatism, and afterward in guarding the prisoners from Wilkes CH to the Moravian Towns – and the second, in the effort under Captain Cleveland to join General Greene – and that the service their described as having been performed by the said Samuel

¹ [David Laws W5125](#)

² [Abijah Fairchild R3428](#)

Castle, comprising a period of not less than one month and eight days was performed by him.
Sworn to and subscribed the fifth day of February 1839

S/

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "Abijah Fairchild". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, David Laws the person referred to in the foregoing declaration, and after being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he served in the revolutionary War with Samuel Castle the foregoing declarant during two of the tours of duty described by him in the foregoing declaration – to wit: the first under General Rutherford against the Cherokee Indians, and the second under Captain Cleveland at Carter's Fort or Stationed on the Watauga River and at the Long Islands of Holston – and that the services their described as having been performed by the said Samuel Castle comprising a period of not less than six months were performed by him.

Sworn to and subscribed this fifth day of February 1839.

S/ David Laws, X his mark

[Smith Ferguson, a clergyman, and William Dyer gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for seven months and 24 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]