

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nicholas Chapman S8193

fn62NC

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.]

[fn p. 7]

State of North Carolina Burke County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions April Sessions 1833

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We Ranson P. Cloud, a clergyman residing in the County of Burke and Mark Brittain Residing in the same do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Nicholas Chapman, who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration; that we believe him to be about 75 years of age: that he is reputed & believed, in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

S/ Ranson P. Cloud

S/ M Britain

Sworn to in open Court this 27th of April 1833

S/ J. Erwin, Clk

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions July Term 1833

On this 22nd day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Burke & State of North Carolina now in session Nicholas Chapman, a resident of the County of Burke & State of North Carolina aged 75 years who first being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated.

That in October 1778 he commenced & served as a private soldier under Captain James Nichols of Colonel Francis Locke's Regiment of North Carolina Regiment for the term of 6 months against the public enemy, that our commander when we marched was General Rutherford, that when he entered the service he lived in the County of Rowan North Carolina that he was a volunteer at the term for which he engaged was 5 months: that we were marched to within 10 miles of Charleston: but learning that the city was evacuated by the British we were marched to a place above Savannah called Purrysburg & from thence to a place called the Two Sisters [ferry]; that he for one stayed with his Captain James Nichols and his Lieutenant James Chapman & Colonel Locke whilst part of Rutherford's Army went over & joined General Nash [sic, John Ashe] & were defeated at a place called Briar Creek in Georgia side: just across the Savannah River. I was detained at the Two Sisters for a month's time more than my engagement when I was then regularly discharged by Colonel Locke, the last of April or first of May the next year after my entering. The next term of said service of my service was that of 2 months in driving a wagon belonging to the Continental line at the time that the American Stores were kept

at Salisbury when one Yarborough had the command it being the spring of the year that Tarleton was defeated at the battle of the Cowpens. The next service I performed was that I was ordered on by our Captain John Johnson to guard the prisoners (taken at the battle of the Cowpens) on from Salisbury to the North. I was out on duty for 3 or 4 weeks when we were relieved in Virginia by other troops & we were discharged, this was just before the battle of Guilford. I think in the month of March 1781 for Cornwallis was in pursuit of us when we guarded the prisoners to the North it was a dangerous & troublesome time for it was not so easy to get soldiers as the Tories were ravaging the Country. He has no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure to prove the same excepting the affidavit of Samuel Reed. That he relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

Answer to the Interrogatories propounded by the Court I was born in the year 1758 in Baltimore County but now it is the State of Maryland: I have no record of my age, But it was recorded in my father's Common Prayer book as used by the Church of England but my Sister has taken off to some new Country & I do not know where it now is: when I went into service I lived in Rowan North Carolina & continued to live there for 8 years & next in Rutherford about one year: then next in Burke for about 3 years in moved to Lincoln & lived there about 20 or 21 years & then moved back to Burke & have lived here where I now live for about 20 years. I was always a volunteer except when I drove the wagon in the Regular Service, when I was a Substitute for one Ruedolph Vanclieve [sic, Rudolph Vancleave?] whose wagon & team was pressed & he got me to substitute for him, when I was a substitute as above Yarborough commanded but what grade I cannot now recollect. So did Joel Lewis, I think he was a Major: when I served under Rutherford as above described we joined General Lincoln at the 10 mile house this side of Charleston as described first above, & he & his Continental Troops continued with us until I was discharged at the place called the Two Sisters & called heretofore. As to fighting we had a good deal of firing just above Purrysburg on the Savannah, but there was not much damage done on either side. I was discharged the first campaign by Colonel Locke but have lost the same: the other 2 times I cannot recollect who discharged me for it was tight times & we anxious to get home.

I am well known to Ranson P. Cloud a Baptist clergyman & Mark Britain Esquire who has been for at least 8 years the Sheriff of Burke & at least 2 years a Senator from this County both of whom have certified on oath as marked (A.) in my behalf.

Sworn to in open Court 22nd of July 1833

S/ J. Erwin, Clk

S/ Nicholas Chapman

State of North Carolina Burke County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions July Sessions 1833

Samuel Reed¹ comes into open court & makes oath that he marched from Rowan County in the Company of Captain James Nichols Lieutenant James Chapman in the Militia Regiment commanded by Colonel Francis Locke in the Army of the Revolution in the year 1778 in October when they marched to the 10 mile house near Charleston in South Carolina & then on to a place called the Two Sisters [ferry] & served for 6 months against the common enemy and that Nicholas Chapman served with him as a private soldier and that they both this affiant & Nicholas Chapman were both of them Honorably discharged after having served together all the time that there term for which they engaged to serve or were called out for was 5 months but that they

¹ FPA S7372

stayed with one month after the time was out and were regularly discharged at the end of 6 months, it being the last of April or first of May 1789 [sic, 1779]. That they were of the Rowan Militia at this time.

Sworn to in open Court this 23rd of July 1833.

S/ J. Emory, Clk

S/ Samuel Reed, U his mark

[fn p.

[fn p. 13: James Chapman filed in Burke County, NC, a power of attorney dated May 11, 1852 in which he states he is the son of Nicholas Chapman, his attorney to seek benefits due his father with the any proceeds to be payable to George, James, Robert, Joshua and John Chapman and Mary Hoil [presumably the surviving children of the veteran.]

[fn p. 14: Absilom Hoil and Samuel Roper testified in May Term 1852 of Burke County Court of Pleas that Nicholas Chapman, pensioner of the US for his services in the Revolution, died in his residence in Burke County, NC on July 25, 1851 leaving no widow but the following named Children: George, James, Robert, Joshua and John Chapman and Mary Hoil.]

[fn p. 48]

State of North Carolina Cherokee County

This day Samuel Reed Pensioner appeared before me Nathan D. Hart an acting Justice of the Peace for said County & made oath to the following facts in regard to the Revolutionary services of Nicholas Chapman of Burke County & State aforesaid as follows. I am well & intimately acquainted with Nicholas Chapman of the above named place to wit Burke County & State of North Carolina & have been ever since the commencement of the Revolution & that he deponent volunteered under Captain Nichols Colonel Locke to serve a tour of 5 months he is certain of & probably 6, in South Carolina in 1779 in the same company with the said Nicholas Chapman, that they volunteered for the term of 5 months at Salisbury in the fall of 1778 & left said place & under the aforesaid officers & marched into South Carolina near Charleston from thence to or near Savannah & from thence up the River to Purrysburg where they spent the winter & were discharged after the Battle of Briar Creek in that County & paid off & that the said Nicholas Chapman served the above term of 5 months honestly & faithfully. This deponent further states that the said Nicholas Chapman volunteered & served a 2nd tour of 3 months at the Garrison at Salisbury under Captain & Colonel Lewis, that after serving part of the time in the Garrison he spent the remainder of this 3 months tour in driving 18 employed in hauling for the Garrison. And I the said Samuel A Reed do certify that all the foregoing facts are true & I do hereby subscribed to the same.

Sworn to & subscribed to before me this 27th day of November 1847

S/ Nathan D. Hart, JP

S/ Samuel Reed, X his mark

State of North Carolina Burke County: On this 17th day of December 1845 personally appeared before me Samuel Roper one of the acting Magistrates in & for said County, Nicholas Chapman, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged 88 years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath make the following supplemental declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 ranking Pensions to the Soldiers of the Revolution, That he the declarant entered the Army of the Revolution as a private Soldier,

and a volunteer for the term of 5 months on the last of October or the first of November, 1778, under Captain James Nichols, Colonel Locke and General Rutherford. That he went on to Salisbury where he joined the Army, under the aforesaid officers and from there they marched on to South Carolina to a place called the 10 mile Springs; 10 miles from the City of Charleston, where they made a halt for some 2 or 3 weeks, during which time the British left Charleston for Savannah. After that moved of the enemy, General Rutherford with his Army marched on the South and joined General Lincoln who had command of the South Carolina Troops, and after joining said Army they all marched on to Purrysburg, a post about 20 miles out from Savannah where they took their winter quarters, and where they remained till spring or until about the middle of February, 1779. From thence they marched up the Savannah River to a place called the Two Sisters, not far distant from where the Battle of Briar Creek was fought, that he well recollects that part of their troops crossed over the River into Georgia and was in that Battle while he with the rest of their Army remained at the aforesaid place -- And that the Main Army did continue at the said post till he was discharged, which was about the 10th of May 1779, having been in the service 6 months -- That the reason why declarant was not discharged at the expiration of 5 months, for which time he had volunteered was, that at that time their officers were daily expecting an engagement with the British and Tories with whom they were almost surrounded.

His next tour of service was in the fall of the year 1780, Captain Johnsons company to which he belonged at home was called together to stand a draft or 3 months at the State Garrison at Salisbury. On that occasion declarant volunteered his services for the above term of 3 months, and went on with others to the Garrison at Salisbury and was placed under Captain Lewis and Colonel Lewis who had the command of the Garrison at that time and after having served about a month at the said Garrison, he was sent to driving the wagon & team under Abraham Ruth wagon master in the United States service, and that he continued in the latter service as a Waggoner until his term of 3 months expired and he was discharged.

His 3rd and last tour of service was in the spring of 1781, soon after the Battle of the Cowpens, he volunteered under Captain Mills or Sanders, to go to guard some British prisoners that had been taken at the battle of the Cowpens and were then in Salisbury and was to be sent on to Virginia. That he on that occasion left Salisbury about the middle of February and went on with these prisoners to the State of Virginia, and then returned back to Salisbury & was discharged having served in this last tour 22 or 23 days which ended his services in the Revolution.

And this declarant also states that the foregoing contains a correct, and true, statement of his Revolutionary Services, according to his best recollection: And he further states that he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove said service.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before me.

S/ Saml. Roper, JP

S/ Nicholas Chapman, C his mark

[fn p. 58]

State of North Carolina Burke County: Personally appeared before me Samuel Roper one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County Nicholas Chapman a resident of the State & County aforesaid an applicant for a pension due him for his Revolutionary Services & made oath in due form of law to the following statement relative to the manner in which he was paid for his services in the Army of the revolution the is that for his 6 months service in South Carolina in 1778 and 1779 under Captain James Nichols & General Rutherford he was paid off in

Continental money that during the above campaign he received on sundry occasions a part of his wages such as a needed for his then necessities & on being discharged he received balance of his wages that was due him which was paid to him by his officers & was paid in Continental money as above stated this deponent further states on oath that for his other services in the years of 1780 & 1781 to it 3 months in the Garrison in Salisbury in 1780 under Lewis & Abraham Ruth wagon master and the tour of 22 or 23 days guarding British prisoners from Salisbury to Virginia in the spring of 1781 he has never received any pay whatever neither in indents Continental money nor script of any kind that such was the situation of the [indecipherable word] matters of the state that even indents were thought to be almost worthless & that he never put himself to the trouble of obtaining those that was due him. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 26th of August 1847
S/ Saml. Roper, JP
S/ Nicholas Chapman, C his mark

[fn p. 60]

State of North Carolina Macon County: Personally appeared before me John Howard one of the justices for said County Aaron Thomas² and after being sworn deposed and saith that he was acquainted with Nicholas Chapman of Rutherford County at this time but also knew him in Rowan County in time of the Revolution War that he knew of him serving several tours but only served with him one 2 months tour under Captain Humphreys in guarding the Prisoners from the State of North Carolina to the Virginia State I also saw him [indecipherable word or words] a 5 months tour to South Carolina and Georgia and saw him after he returned and understood from him that he had served and the above named tour under Captain Nicholas I also was in the service a trip to Salisbury 83 months trip under Colonel Langham [?] and said Nicholas Chapman was in the said service as a Waggoner all the above services was in the militia service as well as my recollection serves me, I think the said 5 months service was performed in the year 1778 and 1779. I am now in my 89th for 90th year.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of March 1847

S/ Aaron Thomas

[fn p. 55: On April 25, 1849, the veteran gave yet another declaration substantially identical to his prior declarations (except as noted below). He states that while serving as a Waggoner, he was still subject to military law and was not serving under any private contract and consequently did not receive any indents for such service. He also states that his officer during his last term of service was Captain Miller or Leonard.]

² [Aaron Thomas W2704](#)