

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Drake S8375

f30NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/21/12

[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. 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 fails 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Chatham County: Superior Court of Law Fall Term A.D. 1832

On this 30<sup>th</sup> [?] day of September personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable the Judge of said Court now sitting, William Drake a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged 77 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated.

He volunteered his services as a private in the North Carolina Militia in the year 1776 and joined the company commanded by Captain George Herndon in the County of Chatham in North Carolina his company was attached to the troops under the command of General Butler [Brigadier General John Butler] with whom he marched down the country below Cross Creek (now called Fayetteville) and was discharged after having served three months – his discharge was signed by Captain George Herndon. From the time of his discharge as aforesaid he was very often called into service and perform Tours of three months each he was in the actual service at Fayetteville at the time Cornwallis surrendered and has no doubt but what he served at least half the time from his entrance into the service in 1776 until the capture of little York [October 19, 1781]. Yet his memory is so indistinct that he cannot connect the incidents of his service with any tolerable degree of certainty and the most that [he] remembers is serving under Captain Herndon and Clark and of his being in the Battles of Lindley Mills [September 13, 1781] on Cane Creek and the White Marsh [?] he expects that he received written discharges at the end of the various times which he served but he lost or mislaid them and is unable to procure any of them with the exception of two one of which is signed by Captain Herndon and the other by Colonel Luttrell [John Luttrell] and with the exception of those 2 discharges and a certificate signed by Captain Minter<sup>1</sup> he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure who can Testify to his services.

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 or Territory in the Union.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ William D [signature runs off the page]



[Thomas Ragland and CJ Williams gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

---

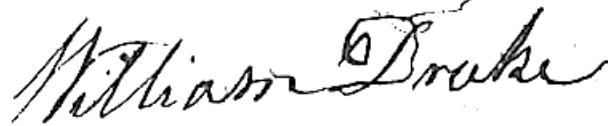
<sup>1</sup> The referenced documents are not included in this file.

State of North Carolina Chatham County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the County and State aforesaid William Drake who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grade (to wit)

For two years I served as a private in the North Carolina Militia and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May A.D. 1833.

S/William Drake

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Drake". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Facts in file: Veteran died March 12, 1837; this file contains no family data.]

State of North Carolina Chatham County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the County of Chatham William Drake who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service nor the particular times at which the same was performed nor can he in every instance state the names of his officers but such facts as he does recollect connected with his services in the Revolutionary War are as follows – In the year 1776 he served 3 months under the command of Captain George Herndon with the troops commanded by General Butler of the North Carolina Militia in the vicinity of Fayetteville, sometime afterwards he served 3 months under Captain Clark on the Cape Fear River and its branches – he served 3 months in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Thaxton [Colonel James Thackston] on the Cape Fear during this service the Battle of Moore's Bridge [Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776] was fought he was not in that action having been sent off on a detachment he does not recollect the name of his Captain—he served 3 months in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Luttrell principally in Chatham County for which he had a discharge he does not recollect the name of his Captain – he served 3 months in a Regiment commanded part of the time by Colonel Luttrell who was killed at Lindley's Mills – he served 3 months in the neighborhood of the Raft Swamp with the troops commanded by General Butler he is confident that he served many more tours but cannot give any act rich statement of them he is confident that he was in actual service half the time from the year 1776 to the capture of Cornwallis that he is the more certain of it from the fact that owing to the State of Parties in the neighborhood where he resided it was extremely perilous for him to remain at home and when he returned home it was with great caution and for a great part of the war he was afraid to sleep in his house and for the foregoing services he claims a Pension.

S/ William Drake

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 1834

S/ Gid Luther, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 18 months in the North Carolina militia.]