

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathaniel Farrar S8458

f30NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/17/08 rev'd 1/15/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: The image of this application as posted on Fold3.com is very faint and difficult to read. The image of it as posted on Herritage quest.com is much more legible.]

State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County: February Sessions 1834

On this twenty fifth day of February personally appeared in open Court of Pleas & Quarter sessions for the County of Mecklenburg, now sitting, Nathaniel Farrar, a resident of Mecklenburg County, now aged Seventy ^{five} or Seventy Six years, who first being sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain a pension in the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That he was born near Richmond in the State of Virginia in the year 1758 or 1759, but that he has no register of his birth, that he moved with his parents when quite young into Granville County North Carolina, where he resided at the commencement of, and during the Revolutionary War; that he volunteered under Captain Cuthbert Hudson Colonel Ramsey's [Ambrose Ramsey's] Regiment of militia, William Moore Senior Colonel in General Person's [Thomas Person's] Brigade to go against the Cherokee Indians, that we marched into the mountains but effected nothing. On our return home we made a diversion towards Fayetteville N. C. against the Scotch, and it was then said, to fill up our term of service. This declarant states that his memory is much impaired from age and infirmity, he cannot therefore state with precision in what year it was or how long he served, but he believes that it was in the year 1775 or 1776; and that he served three months. After this expedition he enlisted under John Farrar fourth North Carolina Regiment commanded by Colonel Archy Lytle [Archibald Lytle] for nine months and actually served fifteen months; after the Regiment was organized and ordered to the South, we marched to Charlotte NC and he thinks Captain Gooding [sic, Christopher Goodwin] took command of the Company to which he belonged, and Captain John Farrar returned to Granville County from that place; that the Regiment then took up the line of march for South Carolina, we crossed the Santee River at Nelson's Ferry, and uniting with other troops we marched into Georgia; that he was engaged with the British and General Ashe's defeat at Briar Creek [March 3, 1779]; that after the defeat, we crossed over the Savannah into South Carolina and that he was one of a detachment commanded by Colonel Lytle who returned into Georgia, marched towards Sunbury and then, we recrossed again and marched to Stono near Charleston, where we lay until the battle of Stono [June 20, 1779], in which action he was engaged; in this battle the Regiment was commanded by Colonel Malmedy [Francis de Malmedy, Marquis of Bretagne], Lytle being absent at that time, Captain Gooding still commanded, and a Lieutenant Chevalie [Chevalier?] so called, a Frenchman was

mortally wounded. Not long after this battle the troops of this Regiment were generally discharged at Monks Corner [Moncks Corner], but Lytle who had again taken the command refused to discharge him (the declarant) as he had enlisted under Pulaski, and Lytle was unwilling that he should do so, refused then to discharge him and retained him in his (Lytle's) service until his return to Hillsboro, NC, where he was regularly discharged. During the foregoing campaign while under the command of Colonel Moore he was engaged in a battle or skirmish with the British at Bluford [sic, Beaufort?] in which this applicant was dangerously wounded; While Moore was attempting to cut off or drive back to their ships the British sailors and soldiers. After this service he substituted in the place of Solomon Walker or was employed by Walker as a substitute in Captain Gilliam's [William Gilliam's] Company he does not recollect the Regiment, but thinks it must have been Colonel Lytle's as he well remembers seeing him in service at that time. -- That we marched from Granville and joined the Army near Charlotte NC and then joined General Sumner [Jethro Sumner] & General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and he thinks General Smallwood [William Smallwood] the Army lay there sometime, during which time he went in a detachment under General Morgan [sic, William Washington was in command at the taking of Rugeley's mill, December 4, 1780] and took Rugeley [Henry Rugeley] and a good many other prisoners, that we returned to Camp and the prisoners, he thinks, were sent to Salisbury, and that shortly afterwards our Company was discharged, having served out their tour of three months, but this declarant was detained by Colonel Lytle, and given the command of twenty men, and that he remained until he received orders to march these men back to Granville and that his term of service at this time was four months. That he afterwards volunteered under Captain Potter [Abraham Potter] and that he also served as a guard to Governor Nash [Abner Nash], he has no distinct recollection of the time of this service. -- He afterwards substituted under Captain Joseph Langston in place of a Doctor Smith, that during that time we guarded the Legislature of North Carolina then sitting in Hillsboro; and also guarded the Jail, and he thinks Lytle commanded the Regiment, that during this service he acted as Adjutant to the Regiment, this was about the close of the War, and that we were furloughed some time after the Assembly broke up and never again called upon, he thinks he served more than two months at this time.

This declarant from his age and infirmity & consequent loss of memory and being illiterate cannot recollect the respective tours taken by him or services rendered, but states that it was about five years from the time he entered the Army of the Revolution until he quit it finally, during which time he was in actual and active service two years and a half, that he has no documentary evidence or written discharges to establish the fact of his service, & he does not know of any person now living who knows of, or who he could get to testify to his services except Charles Riggans¹ of Lincoln County who he thinks recollects a part of his services. -- After the close of the War to wit in 1783 he removed to Mecklenburg County where he resided until 1790, he then removed to Lincoln County lived there until 1803, when he returned to Mecklenburg, and has lived in Mecklenburg ever since & now does. -- He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to any pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll or Agency of any State.

This declarant further states that he does not know of any minister of the Gospel who can make the declaration required except the Reverend Robert J. Miller of the Episcopal Church who resides in Burke County about 70 or 80 miles from him and he is about the age of this declarant, he further more states that he is so infirm that he cannot travel for any distance any other way than in a wagon or some carriage.

¹ Sic, [Charles Regan \(Riggin\) W5688](#)

Sworn to and Subscribed the day above written.

S/ Nathaniel Farrar, X his mark

[David Lawing & John W. King gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 25, Robert Johnston Miller, Rector of Saint Andrews Church, Burke County North Carolina, gave the standard preacher's affidavit.]

[p 17]

State of North Carolina Lincoln County

This day 17th July 1833 Charles Rigan a resident of Lincoln County aged about seventy-five years, appeared before me George Hoke an acting justice of the peace for said County and made oath in due form of law that he is and was well acquainted with Nathaniel Farrar of Mecklenburg County North Carolina during the war of the revolution he swears that he believes said Farrar to be about his same age or older, he further states that he Farrar served a tour of nine months, in the 4th Regiment of the North Carolina line, for three months of which time this affiant was with Farrar nearly every day -- that affiant from his age & bodily infirmity cannot conveniently attend Mecklenburg but it has been reputed and generally believed that Farrar was a soldier of the revolution -- this affiant knows it to be the fact.

S/ G. Hoke, JP

S/ Charles Rigan, X his mark

[p 20]

State of North Carolina Lincoln County

This day appeared before me Elisha Saunders one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County General Joseph Graham² of Lincoln County North Carolina aged between 74 and 75 years, who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and saith that he is well acquainted with Nathaniel Farrar of Mecklenburg County, who is as well as he remembers of time about 75 or 76, that he became acquainted with him during the war of the revolution.

That the declaration made by the said Nat Farrar for a pension under the act of Congress of 1832 is now before this affiant, which was made before the County Court of Mecklenburg on the 25th day of February 1834 and certified by the Clerk of the County Court on 21 February with the affidavit of Charles Riggins of Lincoln appended to it dated 17th of July 1833. That He Nathan Farrar whose application is attested as above stated is the same man with whom he was acquainted during the war of the revolution. That the company to which Nathaniel Farrar belonged joined the Army in Charlotte on the 5th of November 1778 or about that time, that the company to which he belonged had been marched (as it was understood in the Army) from the County of Granville a distance of about 190 miles, From this period viz. 5th of November 1778 until the 5th of August 1779 this affiant was acquainted with said Nathaniel Farrar frequently saw him in the service during the whole of this period. That during the period before stated he knew said Farrar and knows that the marches and counter marches stated by him are true, and that his recollection of the engagement and of the officers commanding are likewise true, This affiant further states that from the period when the Army or North Carolina Brigade I know that the men enlisted from Mecklenburg generally served three months before their nine months commenced -- was generally discharged viz. 5th of August 1779 until the close of the war he had no personal acquaintance with Farrar, although both in the service yet they were with different

² [Joseph Graham S6937](#)

commands; shortly after the close of the war he renewed his acquaintance with him and has been well acquainted with him since then; he was always reputed to have been a soldier of the revolution, and it never was as he believes doubted by any person acquainted with Farrar but that he was a soldier of the revolution. This affiant further states that Farrar is a man of good character and reputation and that he would give credit to any statement made by him on oath or otherwise – Farrar was observer or manager for Major John Davidson of Mecklenburg a number of years, whose daughter this affiant married in 1788.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of March 1834.

S/ Elisha Saunders, JP

S/ J. Graham

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Graham". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background. Below the main signature, there are two small, handwritten marks that look like double quotation marks or a similar flourish.

[p 25: Rev. Robert Johnston Miller, Rector of St. Andrews church Burke County North Carolina gave testimony as to the reputation of the veteran as a soldier of the revolution.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 21 months in the North Carolina militia.]