

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Jeffreys S8754

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina } S.S.
Orange County }

On this the 26th day of May, 1836, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Jeffrey's [sic: John Jeffreys (Jeffers), pension application W26158] of the aforesaid County, a United States pensioner, who being first duly qualified according to Law, maketh oath, that he was well acquainted with John Jeffrey's Sen'r. Dec'd of said County, that during the war of the Revolution they both resided in Brunswick County in Virginia, and that in the fall of 1780, this affiant as private in the militia in the United States Service served an eight months tour [see note below] in Capt. Thomas Threadgill Company and in the Regiment commanded by Col. Glenn - Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] Gen'l. was under Gen'l. [Nathanael] Greene.

When this affiant entered upon this tour we rendezvoused at Lamb's in Brunswick - thence to Hillsboro' [sic: Hillsborough NC] - thence to Charlotte Court House [sic: probably town of Charlotte NC] - and was one of the Guard that conducted the prisoners Gen'l. [Daniel] Morgan had taken at Cowpen's [Battle of Cowpens SC, 17 Jan 1781] to Pittsylvania Court House [VA], and at Lunenburg C. H. were discharged by Capt. Threadgill.

In this eight months tour John Jeffrey's Sen'r. aforesaid now deceased, was a private in said Company, and I always understood and believe served out his said eight months tour, and got home a day or two of the time that this affiant got home. It was some time in the Spring we got home. before the tour closed said John Jeffrey's Sen'r was taken sick, but he served out his eight months tour and was discharged by Capt. Threadgill and returned home.

John hisXmark Jeffreys

State of North Carolina } SS
Orange County }

On this the 23^d day of May 1837 personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Brittain Bowers of the aforesaid County about 74 years of age, who being first duly qualified maketh oath that he was born and raised in Southampton Virginia and was during the war of the Revolution in the United States Service as private. and remembers of seeing John Jeffreys Sen'r of Brunswick County, Va. in the Virginia Militia at the Seige of Little York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] but what the length of his tour was, this affiant does not remember, but is under the impression it was a three months tour and that said Jeffreys is now dead.

Brittain hisXmark Bowers

State of North Carolina } S.S Court of pleas & quarter sessions,
Orange County } May Term, 1837.

On this the 26th day of May 1837 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of pleas and quarter sessions now sitting, Thomas Jeffreys, a resident citizen of the aforesaid County son and only heir at Law of John Jeffreys Sen'r. (Deceased) of the County aforesaid, who after being first duly qualified according to Law, maketh upon oath the following statement To Wit:

That his father John Jeffreys Sen'r. aforesaid is dead, and that the affiant has reason to believe and does believe that his deceased father, aforesaid, during the war of the Revolution served as private Two Tours of duty in the militia in the United States Service,

1. That some time in the fall of 1780, this Declarant's father was drafted in the United States' Service, and as private of militia served an eight months tour of duty in a Company of militia under Captain Threadgill - Col. Glenn & Gen'l. Stephens — was marched to Salisbury [NC], to Charlotte - thence to the Neighbourhood of Cheraw in South Carolina & was under Gen'l. Greene, from some time in December 1780 'till his 8 months tour expired.

This Declarant does not distinctly remember of hearing his Deceased father, aforesaid say, at what place the troops rendezvoused preparatory to setting out for the South, but thinks it

was at Hillsboro [sic: Hillsborough] in the County of Orange aforesaid.

That his father, this Declarant understood served out his tour of eight months, was duly discharged and returned home.

2. This Declarant further states upon his said oath that he has reason to believe and does believe that his Deceased father aforesaid, in the fall of 1781, was drafted for a three months tour of duty as private in the militia, in the United States Service and was under Cap Threadgill and Col. Glenn he thinks were the officers in this tour. his deceased father, this affiant thinks rec'd. a discharge for this tour but that it is now lost. This Declarant has frequently in his father's life time, heard him speak of his Revolutionary Services & the officers he was under.

That his father was born in Halifax County in Virginia and resided there during the War of the Revolution, and ever since till in December 1832, when the Declarant moved his father to this County. that his father was very infirm and blind.

That some time in the month of August 1833, the said John Jeffrey's aforesaid, made a Declaration, before a Justice of peace at his own house (he being too old and infirm to attend Court) But the papers were informal, and that his father did not afterwards get an opportunity, to get his Declaration, and proofs drawn up formally.

That his father was born in the year of 1733 and was 101 years old when he died, which was on the 4th day of December 1834. That he left no widow him surviving — He has no record of his father's age, but has often heard his father say what his age was.

The reason this Declarant did not make an application for the pension due on account of his father's Revolutionary services at an earlier day, was, that he was not 'till recently informed he could draw it.

This Declarant in Conclusion says, that the name of his deceased father, John Jeffrey's Sen'r. is not upon the pension roll of the agency of any state (that he knows of.)

Thomas hisXmark Jeffreys

NOTES:

The usual tour of a militiaman was three months. Soldiers who served an eight-months tour were generally forced to do so as punishment for fleeing at the Battle of Camden SC on 16 Aug 1780 or for being absent without leave before or afterwards. See the pension application of John Jeffreys (Jeffers) W26158.

The 1830 federal census for the North District of Orange County NC lists John Jeffreys, Sr. as over 100 years of age and head of a household of "Free Colored Persons."