

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathaniel Laffoon S8813

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/12/13

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Warren County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Session August Term, 1832

On this 27th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of Said Court, now sitting, it being a Court of Record -- Nathaniel Laffoon of said County aged 86 years who having 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 7th June 1832 to wit --

That sometime in the fall of the year 1780 being then a resident of the County of Lunenburg, State of Virginia, he was drafted as a militia during the war. That he was called out to service, he thinks, for six months and met, as well as he remembers, at Lunenburg Court House on the 16th October in that year, and attached to the Regiment under Col. John Glenn of Lunenburg. From thence they marched to Hillsboro, N. Carolina -- where they met other militia and Regulars whose officers he does not recollect except Col. James Lucas of the Brunswick Militia -- remained here two or three weeks, -- then marched to Salisbury, N.C. wading in and out--Haw River and Deep River -- then to Charlottesville [sic, Charlotte] -- where I was left as one of the sick -- and was carried back to Salisbury in a wagon with others -- after having been absent a week and of getting in a condition to travel, I was marched to Cheraw Hill on Pee Dee River [Pedee River] -- after a short stay there, where I again joined my Regiment, on the 26th January 1781, as well as I remember we resumed our march for the purpose of returning to Salisbury -- but within about fifteen miles of this place, we received orders to cross the Yadkin [River] at Island Ford about seven miles from the Town -- where it was expected the British would attempt to cross -- when we arrived at the ferry, so many Americans were crossing we were detained on the Hill till next day when we were able to cross over. After we got over we found on this side several hundred prisoners whom, I understand, Genl. Morgan [Daniel Morgan] had taken shortly before at the battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] -- In his march to this place we saw a Genl. officer on horseback pass along the lines -- which we understood, was Genl. Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. From thence we marched to Guilford Court House -- remained one night -- and set off for Albemarle Barracks in Virginia -- but after one days march my feet and legs were so swollen I could not travel and permission was given me to return home. I got home the last day of February 1781. After we had crossed the Yadkin at Island Ford, as mentioned above -- The Enemy made his appearance on the other Bank. We were drawn up in a line

on this side remained under arms all night. In the morning a few fires were exchanged across the River -- and the Enemy marched off up the River.

In the next June, about the 20th, I think, (for I had not long finished in seeding corn the first time) I was called out again to service six weeks -- met at Lunenburg Court House under the command of Capt. Ned Ragsdale whose Brother William Ragsdale was a Lieutenant in another company. We were marched through Cumberland County & crossed James River near the mountains -- and through Powhatan County and by way of Richmond through Henrico County to a place near James Town, Virginia, where we were stationed about a week. In our march down we joined a great many troops after we crossed James River. I saw a great many Generals officers, but cannot speak confidently of their names -- one, I think, was called General or Col. Lawson. From our camp near James Town we marched and joined the army which I was told was Genl. Washington's Army. We marched with them one day. When I was discharged -- having performed my six weeks Tour it was not long after I got home before I heard of the Surrender [October 19, 1781] of Cornwallis at Little York.

This affiant is eighty-six years old. He has no Register of his age. He was born in Brunswick Virginia -- his parents moved while he was very young to Lunenburg, where this affiant resided during the War and many years after it. He has lived in N. Carolina about twenty six years -- the first four in Wake - the residue of the time in the County of Warren aforesaid.

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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. He knows of no person -- by whose personal knowledge he can prove his services -- and has no documentary evidence of them. He does not recollect that he rec'd any written discharge -- if he did he has lost or mislaid it.

Sworn to in open Court

S/ Caswell Drake, CWCC

S/ Nathl Laffoon, X his mark

State of North Carolina, Wake County

This day came Nathaniel Laffoon, before us Allen Rogers & Michael Thompson, two of the Justices of the Peace for Wake County and maketh the amendatory declaration in order, to be reinstated, in drawing the pension for the Benefit, of Revolutionary Soldiers made and provided by & Act of Congress --

deposeth as follows:

That he served as set forth in his first declaration the first Tower [sic, Tour] commencing the 14th day of October 1780 to The Last of February 1781. The second Tour he is certain the Justice made a mistake or misunderstood him if it expresses only six weeks, as it is set forth in your Letter of the 18th of Augt 1835 explaining the reason why my pay was Suspended, that the Time set forth, fell Short of Six months, This deponent declareth, that on; his second, tour he was drafted, as it was Said for Six weeks. That he served over that time That he left home on the 10th day of June and Served in the Army until the 10th day of August following Making a little over Six months that he only claims for Six months, That he is certain of the fact, That he Served in all fully Six months, and that the Magistrate before who he set, forth his claims informed him upon his statement, as before made in his declaration, that he had Served over Six months But only designed to cover the provision for Six months Service in this way the deponent

Believes the way the time Set Forth, falls short, of the time prescribed by law To entitle him to the Benefit of the provision made and provided by Congress. --

This deponent states that he is now living in Wake County, with one of his daughters who is not able to support him without some aid, that he is nearly blind, unable to Travel alone, that he believes that he made his first declaration Before Weldon Edwards Esq. of Warren County who he can refer the Committee to for the establishment of his character, that he is now without the aid of funds, that is sufficient, to carry him to Warren County before the Magistrate he made his first declaration he is fully satisfied that if he had the means to get to Weldon Edwards Esq. he could easily correct the mistake made in the first declaration. He now hopes as he is very old and dependent that the [illegible word, looks like 'bode' may be intended to be "board"] will reconsider and reinstate his claim Sworn to & subscribed to before us this 14th day of September 1835.

Stet: S/ Allen Rogers, JP

S/ M. Thompson, JP

S/ Alexander [SIC] Laffoon, X his mark

State of North Carolina, Wake County

This Will Certify That we Believe, that full faith & Credit should, be paid to the declaration of Alexander [SIC] Laffoonl who have made the above declaration, that he have always been under the character of a revolutionary Soldier.

Witness our hands this 14th day of Sept 1835.

S/ Allen Rogers, JP

S/ Michael Thompson, JP

[NOTE: THE REFERENCE TO THE APPLICANT AS "ALEXANDER" LAFFOON INSTEAD OF "NATHANIEL" LAFFOON IS AS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$34.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia Line.]