

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Potter S8910

fn23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/17/09

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[fn p. 8]

State of North Carolina Lincoln County: Personally came William Potter before me Isaac Holland one of the acting Justices of the peace of said County and after being duly sworn [on] the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith that he said William Potter did serve as a militia Soldier in the Service of the United States for the full term of 3 separate towers (3 months each) 2 of these terms in his own person, & part of the 3rd one, and then hired a substitute by the name of Burtin the remainder of the time, and that he got an honorable Discharge but they are all lost long ago (to the best of his knowledge) that he served the first tower in Charlestown South Carolina, and the 2nd tower Iredell North Carolina under General Jones & the 3rd tower under Colonel Sowell pursuing General Wallis [sic, Cornwallis], -- and further saith that he said William Potter did at another time hire a Substitute (His brother John Potter) to go a 12 months tower in his place, (under General Jones to the best of his recollection) -- and that his brother John did serve the most of the time but was dismissed in consequence of the peace being concluded.

Sworn to and subscribed the 25th day of July 1832 before

S/ I Holland, JP

S/ William Potter

North Carolina Lincoln County: Mary Massey being also sworn as above Deposeth & saith that the above Deposition is true so far as her knowledge can extend, that she was not along with her Brother said William Potter, but that he said William, did start from & come back to her father's house, that it was always understood that said William & John Potter did serve as above, and that said John Potter is dead some years back, and that they did frequently say that they did serve as above and would recount the troubles and toils which they underwent in the camps & elsewhere.

-- Sworn to and subscribed the 25th day of July 1832 before

S/ I. Holland, JP

S/ Mary Massey, X her mark

State of North Carolina Lincoln County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions October Term 1832

On this first day of November in said year, personally appeared in open Court William Potter a resident of said County & State aged eighty-two 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 7th 1832.

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

That he was drafted in Franklin County this State by Captain Ransom who marched him

to Charleston he does not remember exactly the date his papers having been lost, here he was attached to General Lincoln's Army he thinks it was sometime about the 1st of February 1780 that he was drafted, he remembers getting his discharge in Charleston shortly before General Lincoln surrendered having served 3 months = he also states that he was drafted again in Franklin County for 3 months and was under the command of General Jones having been drafted by him and marched against the Tories in Iredell County this State -- he again received his discharge but has lost it -- he states in both tours he was appointed a Corporal he also states that he was drafted a 3rd time by Colonel Sowell or Seawell [Benjamin Seawell], that he was marched to Halifax in this State in pursuit of Cornwallis, that he served their part of the 3 months for which he was drafted when he procured a substitute named Burton that he was drafted for 12 months when he hired his brother John Potter to join [?] his place -- who served until peace was declared --

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above mentioned.

S/ William Potter, X his mark

[Oliver W. Holland and Isaac Holland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1st Where and in what year were you born?

A: I was born in Virginia near Lunenburg in the year 1750

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A: I have not the record was burnt when I lost my discharges

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

A: I lived in Franklin County this State when called into service and moved to this County shortly after the revolution & have lived here since

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

A: I was drafted

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A: I knew General Lincoln & saw the regulars that were with him

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

A: I received a discharge each time I served but they are lost

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

A: I know Colonel Holland Esquire Hoyle &c

S/ William Potter, X his mark

Sworn to in Open court

Test: S/ Vardry McBee, Clerk

On the 30th day of April 1833 came the fore named William Potter of the County & State aforesaid after being duly sworn according to law in open Court doth on his oath make a further

Declaration & saith that in the two first towers he served 3 months each & acted as a Corporal 4 months & a half in said tours & further that he served one month in the 3rd tour before he hired a substitute. That is to say seven months at least in all & in said time 4 months & a half as a Corporal & the balance of the time as a private soldier. And said William Potter further saith that he could not obtain a clergyman as he knew of none that he could obtain that was acquainted with his age & character as a revolutionary soldier -- He further saith that he has no knowledge at this time of any other witness that he can procure to prove his service in the revolutionary war. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above written.

S/ William Potter, X his mark