

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Nelson S8916

Transcribed by Will Graves

f21NC

rev'd 12/28/12

[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, Orange County

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting Samuel Nelson a resident of the Hawfields in the County of Orange and State aforesaid in the 77<sup>th</sup> year of age, 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

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

That he was in three different Tours (viz.)

The 1<sup>st</sup> was a tour of one month, when he entered the service of the United States as a Light horse man, sometime in the Spring of 1776 or '77, our officers were John Williams, Captain, James Thaxton [sic, James Thackston] Colonel, we were organized in Hillsboro – our object was to suppress the Tories who were becoming troublesome South of us – we marched from Hillsboro crossing Deep River at Ramsey's Mills and proceeded to what was then called Cross Creek; we then marched up the River 20 or 25 miles, crossed the River and attacked, a body of Scotch Tories commanded by McDaniel and McNeil, near Smith's Ferry. Took them all the prisoners being several hundred and about 500 stand of arms, the arms were put in a boat and sent down to Cross Creek, we recrossed the River, and went down to Cross Creek where I with the rest of the company was dismissed.

This applicant again entered the service of the United States for a term of five months, as Ensign in a company of which Joseph Young was Captain, & William Rogers Lieutenant. That said company was organized and marched from the Town of Hillsboro in this County, about the latter part of the month of October 1778, and proceeded to General Rutherford's Camp above Salisbury & upon arriving at said camp he was put under the command of General Rutherford and that Francis Locke was Colonel of the Regiment he was then – he was from Rutherford's Camp marched to Charlotte; Thence to the Santee River, crossing it at Nelson's ferry, thence towards Charleston to what is called "the 10 mile house" -- Thence to Augusta where we were joined by General Ashe; Crossed the Savannah; went down the said River on the Georgia side to "Briar Creek" bridge where we were routed by certain British forces; driven across the River to the South Carolina side, where we again joined with General Rutherford – From this place we went down the River to "the two Sisters" -- Thence to "the Black Swamp," where we remained till our five months term expired, being as well as this applicant now remembers about the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1779. This applicant as a volunteer again entered the service of the United States in the early part of February 1781. The company to which he belonged was commanded by Thomas Thompson – the Lieutenant, now not recollected, and that he himself was Ensign. That they marched out of the Hawfields in Orange County under General Butler, to Harrisburg in Granville County. From Harrisburg they returned to Orange, passing through Hillsborough to the high Rock on Haw River, where he joined General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], and under Greene was marched to Guilford old Court House, and was in the battle fought at that place on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 1781, and

marched with Greene's Army till about the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, when by permission from General Butler he returned home.

And the Said applicant being further interrogated made the following additional declarations

That he was born in the Hawfields in this County

That he has no record of his age, but from the best information he is of the age he has stated that is in his 77<sup>th</sup> year of his age.

That he was living in the Hawfields in the said County of Orange when called into service. And that he now lives there and has ever since the war of the revolution.

That he was called into the Service – volunteered & drafted.

That he was acquainted with the following officers, General Butler, General Rutherford, Colonel Lytle & Colonel Joseph Taylor of Granville &c

That he received a discharge from General Butler but it is now lost – as also the one he got from General Rutherford.

That he is acquainted with James Mebane Esq. & Duncan Cameron Esq. of his neighborhood.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to prove his services except that of Thomas Tate<sup>1</sup> & James Turner.<sup>2</sup>

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and that his name is not upon the pension roll of the agency of this State or any other State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ J. Taylor, CC

S/ Saml. Nelson



[Veteran died May 22, 1837]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the aforesaid County of Orange, Samuel Allen,<sup>3</sup> of the County of Orange aforesaid, now in the 72<sup>nd</sup> year of his age, who being duly qualified maketh oath that in the Spring of the year 1781, he was in the Service of the United States a three months tour in the militia in Captain Thomas Thompson's Company and in said Tour, he was well acquainted with Samuel Nelson of Orange aforesaid, who has become an applicant for a pension, and well remembers that said Nelson was Commissioned and performed the duties of Ensign during said three months tour and at the Guilford Battle, said Nelson gave orders to our platoon to "fire!" -- Hodge's and our Co. were in the same platoon.

Sworn and subscribed the day and date aforesaid.

Witness: S/ James A. Craig, JP

S/ Sam Allen



[Thomas Lynch, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

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1 [Thomas Tate S7675](#)

2 [James Turner W11573](#)

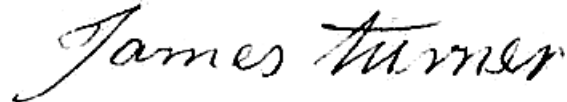
3 [Samuel Allen S6480](#)

On this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833, personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County & State aforesaid James Turner a resident of the County of Orange aforesaid, who being first duly sworn maketh oath that, he was a private in Captain Young's Company of militia in the United States Service for a five months tour in 1778– 9 and that Samuel Nelson of Orange, aforesaid, was commissioned, and performed the duties of Ensign in our Company, during said five months Tour,

And this affiant further states that he was again in the Service of the United States in the Spring of 1781 – and that said Samuel Nelson in this tour also was Commissioned and acted Ensign in Captain Thomas Thompson's Company – and remembers distinctly of said Samuel Nelson's commanding a platoon at the Guilford Battle on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1781 and hearing him give the word “Fire!” to his platoon.

Test: S/ James A. Craig, JP

S/ James Turner

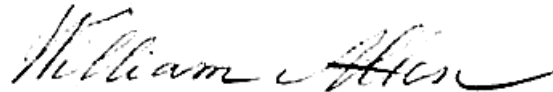
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Turner".

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County of Orange aforesaid – William Allen, of the County of Orange aforesaid, who being first duly qualified, maketh oath, that in the year of 1781, he was a private in Captain George Hodge's Company and was in the engagement at the Guilford Court House 15 March 1781 of that year, and well remembers that Samuel Nelson of the County of Orange aforesaid, gave command to platoon of militia in said engagement to “Fire.”

Test: S/ James A. Craig, JP

S/ William Allen

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Allen".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]