

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Samuel Parks S8937¹

Transcribed by Will Graves

f82NC

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[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 4]

State of North Carolina County of Burke } SS

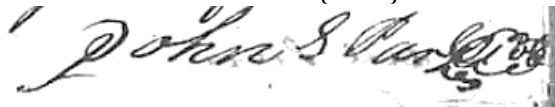
On this 17th day of November A.D. 1851 personally appeared before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County and State now sitting John S. Parks a citizen of Burke County NC and who being by said Court first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832, granting pensions to Revolutionary Soldiers; (and their heirs in certain cases). That he is the son of Samuel Parks who resided for many years in Burke County NC and who was a private in Captain Lewis' [Joel Lewis'] Company and he believes in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] in the Militia service of the North Carolina, in the Revolutionary War, and that at the time he entered said service he the said Samuel Parks was a citizen of Wilkes County State of North Carolina. Declarant further [states] that his father Samuel Parks entered said service about the beginning of said War, that he stated often that he was in said company and Regiment at the date of Independence or at the least, the men were drawn up at Wilkesboro NC and the Declaration of Independence [read to them], but he does not know whether this declaration was the one made by Congress or, the one made by the State of NC in Mecklenburg County North Carolina.

Declarant further states that he has heard his father Samuel Parks speak of a Major Lewis and Captain Cleveland, but as regards the length of time he served under each one of these officers he cannot now recollect, but has heard his father state that he served different, and many tours, and that he continued in this way, serving by tours during the whole war, and that portion of his time he was engaged in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians.

He further states that he knows of no discharges or any other papers belonging to his father Samuel Parks which related to his military services, during the Revolutionary War, that if he had such he knows nothing of them whatever. That his father was he believes an enlisted soldier as he frequently so stated while living, and that he also stated, that he served in all during said war over 3 years.

Declarant further states that his father Samuel Parks died on the 23rd day of October 1844. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court on the day and year aforesaid

S/ John S. Parks {Seal}

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John S. Parks", written in dark ink on a light-colored surface. The signature is somewhat stylized and includes a small flourish at the end.

¹ As will be seen from this transcription, the veteran did not file an application in his own behalf. He did file an affidavit in support of the claim of his brother [George Parks W27457](#) (see, below)

[Thomas Carlton, a clergyman and Alexander Perkins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 33]

State of North Carolina Caldwell County

This day personally appeared before me James C Harper an Acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County Colonel William Davenport aged Eighty Two years – who after being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he was intimately acquainted with Samuel Parks late of Burke County, Deceased for the space of Fifty years previous to his Decease and that the said Samuel Parks was universally recognized and respected as a Revolutionary Soldier that he frequently heard said Parks speak of the services he performed principally against the Tories and particularly the services performed in the Campaign against the Tories and British which resulted in the Battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780], at which place however the said Parks did not arrive until after the Battle being on foot and not able [to] reach the Battle Ground until the day after the Battle took place and said Deponent further says that it is his impression that said Parks served under either Captain Samuel Johnson or Captain William Lenoir, and further That the said Parks was a man of character above all suspicion and whose word was considered as undoubted truth and further said Deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of June A.D. 1853

S/ Jas. C. Harper, JP

S/ Wm Davenport

[p 8: Elizabeth Pendland (Penland) executed a power of attorney in favor of Daniel R. Goodloe to pursue any rights she might have as a daughter and heir of Samuel Parks—PA dated November 1853. She signed with her mark.]

[p 15 On December 12, 1855, Col. William Davenport, 83, of Caldwell County, NC gave a supporting affidavit in which he tells of his conversations with the veteran regarding the veteran's services in the revolution. Davenport refers to General William Lenoir as his father-in-law and relates what Lenoir said of Parks' services in the revolution.]

[p 21, on December 12, 1855, Col. William Dickson, 78, of Caldwell County, NC gave a supporting affidavit saying he was a neighbor of Parks and heard him speak of his services in the Revolution.]

[Facts in file: the veteran died survived by the following children: William, George, Benjamin, Poly [Polly or Mary] Alexander, Elizabeth Penland, Gabriel, John S., Ransom & Martin Parks.]

[p 35: certificate dated October 18, 1851, from the NC Comptroller's Office regarding the sums paid Samuel Parks.]

[Veteran was posthumously awarded a pension at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 and ending with his death on October 23, 1844. His pension was based on 2 years of service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

[Note: Affidavit of Samuel Parkes given in support of his brother's (George Parks) pension application –p 37 of George Park's application file.

[p 37]

State of North Carolina Burke County: On this [illegible] day of March 1836 Samuel Parkes of the County of Burke and State of North Carolina appeared before me Robert C. Pearson one of

the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County who being first duly sworn depose as follows viz.

That he was born in Amherst County Virginia on the 28th of November 1757 that his Father emigrated from that Country when he was about 10 years old and settled in Wilkes County NC known then as Rowan County where he remained until the year 1796 when he moved from Wilkes into the adjoining County Burke where he at present resides.

He further states that his Father had seventeen children 8 sons and 9 daughters. That his sons had all married and left his Father previous to the War of the Revolution except George Parkes and himself his Brother George was likewise born in Amherst County Virginia that from a Record made by his Father which he (Samuel) now has in possession George was born on the 5th day of August in the year 1759. That his Brother the said George resided with his Father in Wilkes County (then Rowan) during the War or at the Commencement of the War of the Revolution -- That both himself and George Parkes served in the war, That he remembers distinctly that the first service performed by George Parkes was in the character of a substitute for one Cornelius Sale (a Brother-in-law of ours) that he will not pretend to say precisely the time this Service was rendered nor the length of time he was engaged he thinks however it was in the year 1776 and that George was then about 16 years of age that he remembers he served in Captain William Lenoir's Company of Militia commanded by Colonel Isaacs that one William Gray was a Lieutenant in said Company that his Brother was absent for some few months and returned and that he understood from him that during his service he had been part of time engaged in building and defending Fort Defiance in Wilkes County. He likewise says he understood from him that he was a Sergeant in the Army. Some time afterwards he will not pretend to say precisely how long or at what time though he thinks it was not longer than 6 months perhaps not so long the said George Parkes again entered the service as a private under the command of Captain Samuel Johnson in the Regiment of NC Militia under the Command of Benjamin Cleveland. This expedition he went as he understood and believes to Watauga River Tennessee against the Indians. He acted as Sergeant in this tour or the other I am not certain which I think however it was the first. He might even have been a Sergeant this trip if so I have no recollection of it. My recollection does not enable me to state the length of either this tour or the one performed by him under Captain Lenoir --

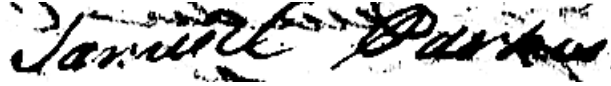
Another Tour in which I myself served George Parkes also served. He was in the service a few days before I entered, this was in the year 1780 we served under Captain William Lenoir in Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel Cleveland during this tour we marched to King's Mountain but did not arrive at the place, the battle being over before we reached. After meeting the troops engaged in the Battle at Kings Mountain we returned to Cain Creek [Cane Creek] in Burke County at which place I was discharged by Colonel Cleveland to take charge of some 2 or 3 persons who were relatives of mine and who had been badly wounded in the Battle at Kings Mountain as to render them unable to travel or continue in the service. I returned home with the said men and was not again in the service -- when I left Walker's on Cain Creek I left Georgia Parkes in the Army and did not see him again for some months until his return home when I understood from him that from Cain Creek where I left them he had marched towards Salem. I am again at a loss to say how long I was myself engaged in the service I should say however that I was out some 3 or 4 weeks and that George was engaged longer but how long he remained after I left him I would have no recollection. My recollection does not enable me to state particularly anything further relative to the services performed during the Revolutionary war by George Parks the 3 tours spoken of are the most important that I am aware of his having performed. He served frequent tours of short duration one that I remember to have heard him speak of was under Colonel Locke this I think was before the service in which I was a tour under Locke I remember myself, He marched towards the Eastern part of the State and was gone for some time

but how long I will not for I cannot say.

George Parks moved from Wilkes to this County at the same [time] I did. He remained here until about 20 years since when he left here and moved to Monroe County Indiana where he at present as I understand resides. He has or had been when he left here twice married his last wife was daughter of a Mr Reed by whom he had 5 or 6 children when he left Burke. He also had 2 sons James and Pleasant who went with him from Burke when he moved to Indiana William A. Parkes a son of mine lives near his uncle George Parkes in the State of Indiana --

Further this Deponent saith not -- Sworn to and subscribed before me at Morganton date first written.

S/ Samuel Parkes²

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel Parkes". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style with some ink bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

S/ Robert C. Pearson, JP]

² [Samuel Parks S8937](#)