

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Ricketts S9078

f24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 1/22/17

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

State of North Carolina Anson County: October Sessions 1833

On this 16 day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, now sitting, William Ricketts a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 85 years a Soldier of the Revolution who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered in the Army of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein Stated.

I enlisted in the County of Anson State of North Carolina in the month of December 1775 for eighteen months under Captain John Donaldson, Colonel Thompson's [William Thomson's] Regiment and was marched to Cheraw and Campden [Camden] South Carolina and from thence to the 10 mile house near Charleston – thence to Sullivan's Island where we were stationed when it was besieged by the British under Sir Henry Clinton and Sir P. Parker [Peter Parker] in June 1776 and continued until the enemy left the Coast when there appeared to be no further use for us at that place – I was then ordered back to Charleston and was marched to Camden & Columbia South Carolina and from thence to Savannah State of Georgia thence to Altamaha River to Saint Tiller [Satilla River] – to St. Mary's [River]– and to St. John's [River] against the Indians¹ – then counter marched to Altamaha River where I was stationed for some time – took some Indian prisoners and brought them to Savannah. I was thence marched to the 10 mile house near Charleston South Carolina where I was discharged by Colonel William Thomson on the first day of June 1777 – having served out the term for which I enlisted of Eighteen months.

I became a Substitute in the militia in Anson County North Carolina for one (Jocky, James Liles) in June or July 1781 – under Captain William Brackin – Colonel Malmedy's [Francis de Malmedy's, Marquis of Bretagne] Regiment – I was marched to South Carolina and was in the Battle at Eutaw Springs in September 1781 [September 8, 1781] – Served three months and was discharged by Captain Brackin – I returned home to Anson County where I volunteered in the militia in October 1781 under Captain James Fares [James Farr] of Colonel Thomas Wade's Regiment a Minuteman for the purpose of being ready and constantly on the outlook against the enemy. The Tories who were numerous in this part of the Country about that period – and who – in fact – were much more troublesome to us than the British Army – during this time of Service I was in several Skirmishes with the Tories and served at least four months – and was discharged by Captain Fare – in the Spring of the year 1782 – Having Served in all during the three Terms Twenty-five months. I have now in my possession part of my written

¹ Fall of 1776 in the First Florida Expedition. See <http://www.ourgeorgiahistory.com/wars/Revolution/revolution09.html>

discharge which I received from Colonel William Thomson – for my eighteen month’s service in the Continental Army but part of which has been lost, – I herewith enclose the part on hand – I received a written discharge from Captain Brackin for my three months service but I have lost it – I received no written discharge from Captain Fares – In truth about the close of the War of the Revolution – the prospect of ever receiving any pay for our Services seemed to be so gloomy – that soldiers in this Section became careless of written discharges and negligent of those they had received – I have no other documentary evidence of my Services nor do I know of any person living, who can testify to my services in the Continental Army – as to my service in the militia the affidavit of Charles Hinson and William Jarman are hereunto annexed – I know of no other persons by whom I can prove my Service in the militia more definitely. This is the best proof I can procure of my Services.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S W/ Dismuke, Clk

S/ William Ricketts, X his mark

1st Question by Court. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Queen Ann County State of Maryland, August 1748 –

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

Answer. I have no record of my age.

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

Answer. I lived in Anson County State of North Carolina when called into Service in every instance – where I continued to live after the Revolutionary War – and is my present place of residence.

4th Question – How were you called into Service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a Substitute? And if a Substitute for whom?

Answer. I enlisted as a private Soldier in the Continental Army for 18 months. I became a Substitute for one James Liles (Jocky) as a private in the militia for three months – in my last term of service I volunteered as a minute (private) soldier in the militia & served 4 months.

5 Question. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your Services.

Answer. Colonel William Thomson under whom I first served was an officer in the Regular Army. I do not recollect the number of the Regiment, and my three months term of service in the militia Colonel Malmedy of the militia. I became attached to General Green’s [Nathanael Greene’s] Division a short time before the battle at the Eutaw Springs. I continued with General Greene’s Army until discharged. In my last term of service, I was under the Command of Colonel Thomas Wade & Colonel Williams, both of the militia. I was in no large battle but that at the Eutaw Springs – but was in many small engagements or skirmishes with the Indians & Tories.

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

Answer. I received a written discharge from Colonel William Thomson part of which is herewith (part thereof being lost). I also received a written discharge from Captain William Brackin – it is lost – I received no written discharge for my Services under Captain Fare –

7 Question. 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 of your services as a Soldier of the revolution.

Answer. The Reverend John Pearson and Jesse Wallace are acquainted with me.

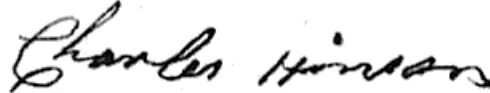
S/ William Ricketts, X his mark

[John Pearson, a clergyman, and Jesse Wallace gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting Charles Hinson – who – being first duly sworn according to law – says that William Ricketts the applicant as above for a pension was a private soldier in the militia of the Revolution under Captain James Fare, Colonel Thomas Wade's Regiment, that they Served together for 3 months in the year 1782

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court October 16th, 1833

S/ Charles Hinson²

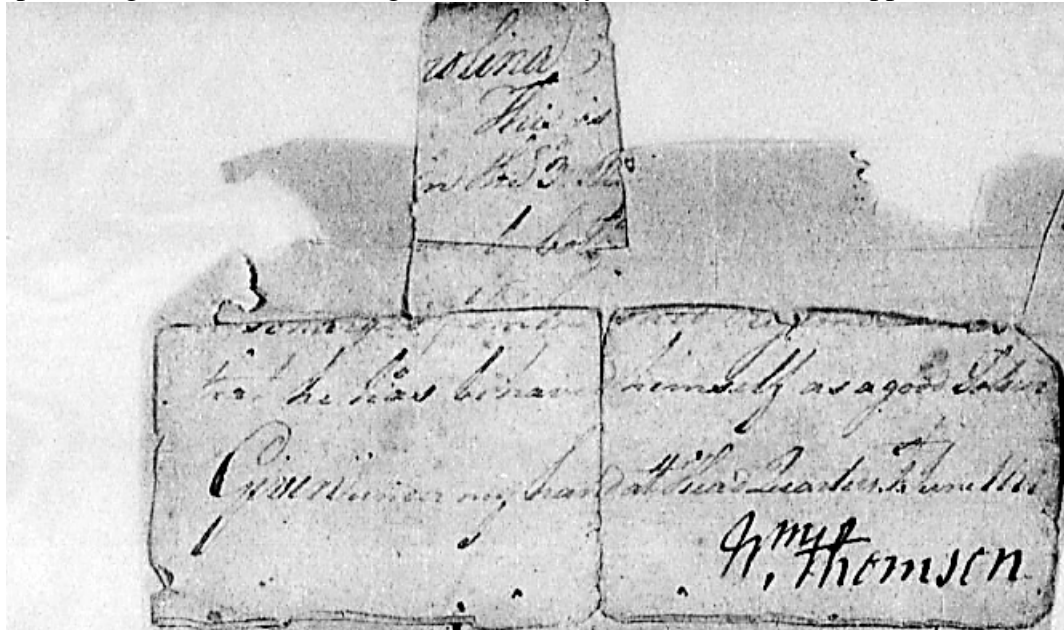


Personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting William Jarman – who being first duly sworn according to Law – deposeth and saith that he saw William Ricketts in the American Army under Colonel Malmedy of the North Carolina Militia in the battle at the Eutaw Springs, State of South Carolina in September 1781. That inasmuch as he himself belonged to the light horse Troops – he had not much opportunity of being with Ricketts but he believes that he served 3 months.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court

S/ William Jarman,³ X his mark

[p 16: fragment of the discharge referred to by the veteran and his application above]



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in both the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]

² [Charles Hinson S7014](#)

³ [William Jarman W4003](#)

Pension Application of William Ricketts, Nat'l Archives Microseries M804, Roll # ___,
Application S9078

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Anson County, NC, October Session, 1833, On this 16th day of October 1833, appeared in open court, William Ricketts, aged 85 years:

That I enlisted in the County of Anson, state of NC the month of December 1775 for eighteen months under Captain JOHN DONALDSON, Col. Thomson's regiment, and was marched to **Cheraw** and **Camden**, SC and from thence to the **Ten Mile House** near Charleston, thence to **Sullivan's Island** where we were stationed when it was besieged by the British under Sir Henry Clinton and Sir P. Parker in June 1776, and continued until the enemy left the Coast, when there appeared to be no further use for us at that place.

I was then ordered back to Charleston and was marched to **Camden** and **Columbia**, [then *Ninety-Six*] SC, and from thence to **Savannah**, state of Georgia, thence to **Altamahaw River** to **St. Tilia** to **St. Mary's** and to **St. John's** against the Indians, then countermarched to **Altamahaw River** where I was stationed for some time. Took some Indian prisoners and brought them to Savannah. I was from thence marched to the Ten Mile House near Charleston, SC where I was discharged by Colonel William Thomson on the 1st day of June, 1777, having served out the term for which I enlisted, of eighteen months.

I came a substitute in the militia in Anson County, NC for the jockey, James Lile, in June or July 1781, under Captain William Brackin, colonel Malmedy's regiment. I was marched into SC and was in the battle at Eutaw springs in September 1781. Served three months and was discharged by Captain Brackin. I returned home to Anson County, where I volunteered in the militia in October 1781, under Captain James Fair of Colonel Thomas Wade's regiment, a minute man for the purpose of being ready and continually on the lookout against the enemy, the Tories, who were numerous in this part of the country about that period, and who in fact were much more troublesome to us than the British Army. During this time of service I was in several skirmishes with the Tories and have at least four months, and was discharged by Captain Fair in the spring of the year 1782, having served in all during these terms, twenty-five months.

I have now in my possession part of my written discharge, which I received from Colonel William Thomson for my 18 months service in the Continental Army, but part of which has been lost. I herewith enclose the part on hand...As to my services in the militia, the affidavits of Charles Hinson and William Jarman are hereunto annexed.

1st Question by the Court- Where and in what year were you born?

Answer- "I was born in Queen Anne County, Maryland, in August 1748.

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

Answer- I have no record of my age.

3rd Question- Where were you living when called into service, and where have you lived since the

Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer-I lived in Anson County, North Carolina when called into service in every instance, where I continued to live after the War and is my current residence.

4th Question-How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?

Answer-I enlisted as a private soldier in the Continental Army for 18 months. I became a substitute for one James Liles (jockey) as a private in the militia for 3 months. In my last term of service, I volunteered as a minute (private) soldier in the militia and served 4 months.

5th Question-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 services.

Answer-Colonel William Thomson under whom I first served, was an officer in the Regular army. I do not recollect the number of the regiment in my three-month term in the militia. Colonel Malmedy of the militia. I became attached to General Greene's division a short time before the Battle at Eutaw Springs. I continued with General Greene's army until discharged. In my last term of service, I was under the command of Colonel Thomas Wade and Colonel Williams, both of the militia. I was in no large battle but that at Eutaw Springs, but was in many small engagements with the Indians and the Tories.