

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Waters (Watters) S9518

fn13NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/16/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Wilkes County

On this 29th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of the County of & State of North Carolina now sitting Moses Watters Esquire a resident of the County of Wilkes & State of North Carolina, aged seventy-eight 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 was born on the 15th day of May 1753 in the County of Baltimore & State of Maryland, the record of which he has in a large book now in his possession & where he resided until he was about eighteen years of age when he removed to Wilkes County North Carolina, where he resided until he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer, in the month of June 1776, in a company of militia raised partly by draft and partly by volunteer and commanded by Captain Francis Hargrave. This company rendezvoused at Holman's Ford on the Yadkin [River] in the said County of Wilkes, and immediately repaired to an eligible position on a branch of the said River called Lewis' Fort, where they were stationed a considerable time guarding the frontier settlements, and occasionally scouring the surrounding country to keep in check the Cherokee Indians, who at that time were very troublesome and dangerous, from the many depredations which they had committed upon the whites -- About the last of August or first of September following, Captain Hargrave received orders to march with his company against the Cherokee nation of Indians, and accordingly as soon as they could prepare, they set out upon their march, and rendezvoused at the Pleasant Gardens in the County of Burke, where they joined the troops under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. After remaining a few days at the Pleasant Gardens for the troops all to collect and organize, they marched direct to the Cherokee Towns of Cowee, Oconelufu [?], the Valley Towns & some others not recollected -- upon arriving at the these Towns the Indians made but a feeble resistance -- in one instance however they fired upon the advance guard of the American Army, and then made their escape. The Indians having generally fled, and abandoned their towns upon the approach of the Army, there remained but little to do, more than to destroy their Towns, Corn and other property, and to commit such depredations upon them as was in their power -- the Army returned to North Carolina where they were discharged, and each man repaired to his home, which place this deponent reached some time in the month of December -- having been in service from the time

he first entered it, about six months.

This deponent remained at home from the time of his return, until the fall of the year 1780 (having however in the meantime hired a substitute to perform one tour of duty) when he volunteered himself again, and joined a company of Light Horse commanded by Captain John Beverly which was under the Superior command of Colonel Benjamin Herndon, and marched directed from Wilkes County to the Cherokee Nation, -- and after burning several Indian Towns they returned home, having been gone about one month (though they were promised by their officers that it should be accounted to them for a three months tour).

About the first of March 1781, at the time that Lord Cornwallis was marching through North Carolina, orders were given for all the militia in the County of Wilkes to muster and march in pursuit of him -- this deponent repaired immediately to Wilkes CH and joined the company of Captain Robert Cleveland, and marched direct towards Salem NC but before reaching that place, an express met them with intelligence of the battle of Guilford, and the march of Lord Cornwallis' Army towards Wilmington; upon hearing which, the deponent and the troops that were with him, were ordered to return home, which place they reached about the last of March, having been gone about three or four weeks -- this closed the service performed by this deponent during the revolutionary war.

This deponent has lived in the County of Wilkes ever since the revolutionary war, and resides there at this time. He has no documentary evidence to prove his services, although he received discharges for a part of them, but cannot tell what has become of them. He refers however to Mr. David Laws¹ for proof of the tour under General Rutherford. The rest of his services, he knows of no person living, who can prove them. He refers to the Reverend Thomas Fletcher & Jno. Ferguson as persons to whom he is well acquainted, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. 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 & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Test: S/ R. Martin, C. W. C. C.

S/ Moses Waters

On the day and year aforesaid, personally appeared in Open Court, before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of the County of Wilkes, David Laws, who being first duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith, that he served with Moses Watters, Esquire the above applicant, during the tour of service performed under General Rutherford in the year 1776 against the Cherokee Indians, and that the service set forth and specified in the foregoing declaration as having been performed by the said Moses Watters Esquire under General Rutherford, were performed by him.

Sworn to & subscribed, the day and year aforesaid

S/ David Laws, X his mark

[Thomas Fletcher, a clergyman, and John Ferguson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina County of Wilkes

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Moses waters Esquire who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: 48 months I served as a private, and for such service I claim a

¹ [David Laws W5125](#)

pension.

Sworn to & subscribed before made this 21st day of May 1833

S/ Benj. F. Martin, JP

S/ Moses Waters

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 around commencing March 4th, 1831, for 8 months service in the North Carolina militia.]