

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Alexander Wheatley W102  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Peggy

fn53<sup>1</sup>NC  
rev'd 6/30/10

[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 and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Weakly County

On this 28th day of August, A.D. 1832, personally appeared before me Jesse M. Paschall one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said county, Alexander Wheatley, a citizen of said county, aged seventy-five years, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December next, who being first sworn duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an Act of Congress authorizing pensions to Revolutionary soldiers passed 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States during the War of the Revolution under the following named officers and served as follows:--

He was drafted for three months by Captain Askew when he was quite young and under the government of his father; with whom he resided in the county of Martin in the State of North Carolina, the place of his nativity. He did not perform the service in person being restrained by his father who sent a substitute in his place. This was early in the year 1775. In this year he went personally forth, as a volunteer, under the command of Captain Abraham Hardy, who had raised a volunteer company of horsemen, to go against the Tories that were collected in considerable numbers in that part of the State. On their march against the enemy they were joined by Major Craig who was said to be a recruiting officer of the Continentals. He can not recollect the time for which he volunteered under Captain Hardy but was in actual service under him about six weeks. About the year 1776 he moved to Pitt County N. Carolina. His next service was as a volunteer under Captain Richard Reeves who went against the British then at New Berne [New Bern]. He does not now remember the time, for which in this instance he volunteered, but was in actual service about three weeks. His next service was with Captain Samuel Stafford who was commandant of a company of volunteer horsemen. With Captain Stafford he was in various skirmishes against the Tories and British. He served under Stafford, in all, one

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<sup>1</sup> At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

year. Both before and after his service under Captain Stafford he had frequently joined other companies; in his and adjoining counties, to go sudden expeditions, but when each one was performed, he usually returned, so that he was not long in any one company. When preparations were making by the American forces to march against the British, who had overrun South Carolina, he went under Captain Austin Spain from Pitt County, N. Carolina to Kingston [sic, Kinston], where his company went under the command of General Caswill [sic, Richard Caswell], who took command of several other companies of North Carolina militia and directed his course south with a vow to join Gen. Gates [Horatio Gates], by whom the main army was commanded. Captain Spain's company was put with many other companies under Gen. Gates, who moved in direction to Camden. Alx. Wheatley here states that he was orderly Sergeant in Captain Spain's company, during the whole of that service. He was in the battle of Camden,<sup>2</sup> and the militia with whom he fought, was the last to retreat on that occasion. A Col. Allen commanded where he (Wheatley) was. He returned home after that action, having been out in the service of his country four months. He states he got a discharge after this service, which, after preserving it a great while, he unfortunately lost. Sometime after his return home he went with a small party under William Caswill [sic, William Caswell] against some of the British at Quincy's Mill, a place of some celebrity at that time. Seven of the enemy were taken together with a British company. From advanced age, a broken constitution and in a somewhat impaired [condition] by those and other causes, he cannot state with unswerving certainty dates and names concerning this matter, but he believes that, including all his service, he served perhaps near three years. He says he is not able at this distance of time and in his feeble state of health to give positive proof of the fact of his service. In this service he wore out two valuable horses. He has never earned a pension in reward of his service. He says Capt. Stafford; Wm. Wheatley and Drury Rogers with whom he served, could be an ample testimony to the truth of the foregoing testimony but he knows not now, where they are, and his personal infirmity and indigent circumstances restrain him from going in search of them.

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jesse M. Paschall, J. P.

S/ Alexander Wheatley

[Benjamin Lockhart, a minister of the gospel, and Amos Hill gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 367]

Tennessee Weakley County: Amended declaration of Alexander Wheatley

This declarant states that he served as a private volunteer under Captain Hardy as stated in his declaration six weeks. That he served as a private under Captain Richard Reeves as also stated in his declaration three weeks. That he served as a private under Captain Stafford as also stated in his declaration twelve months. That he served under Captain Spain four months as orderly Sergeant.

He states that in the various campaigns mentioned in his declaration as having joined other companies and the exact length of each term of service having been forgotten, he states that he can positively say these services in all amounted to more than six months.

S/ Alexander Wheatley

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<sup>2</sup> August 15-16, 1780 <http://battleofcamden.org/index.htm>

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1833  
S/ E. D. Dickson, one of the Justices of Weakley County

[fn p. 151: on October 3, 1842 in Weakley County Tennessee, Peggy Wheatley filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Alexander Wheatley; that she married him in the month of July 1782<sup>3</sup> in Pitt County North Carolina; that he died in Weakley County Tennessee on the last day of October 1834; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 503: on November 4, 1846, Sarah Wheatley, about 80, gave testimony in Benton County Tennessee that she is well acquainted with Peggy Wheatley, the widow of Alexander Wheatley; that she (Sarah) was married to William Wheatley, a younger brother of Alexander Wheatley; that she (Sarah) was married to William Wheatley not long after the end of the Revolutionary war.]

[fn p. 528: note: I don't normally transcribed affidavit such as the following one but because it contains so much genealogical information I thought I would make an exception in this case]

State of Tennessee Benton County: Personally appeared Katherine Cherry before me David W. Benson an acting justice of the peace in and for said County and made oath in due form of law that she is acquainted with Peggy Wheatley the widow of Alexander Wheatley that she did not see the marriage between Alexander Wheatley and Peggy Wheatley because she did not reside in the same neighborhood which he believes it took place. She states that she does not precisely know her age because by some chance it has been lost she knows that she was acquainted with Alexander Wheatley before his marriage because she resided in Martin County in the State of North Carolina in about 3 miles of Samuel Wheatley a brother of Alexander Wheatley that Alexander Wheatley she believes resided in Edgecombe NC that in visiting his brother Samuel Wheatley she became acquainted with him the said Alexander Wheatley. She believes her own marriage to have been solemnized in 1780 in the month of December from the following reasons that she well remembers that her youngest son Henry Cherry will be 47 years of age the 26th day of this month November that her daughter Milia was 4 years older because their ages have been kept she also knows that her oldest son Lamb Cherry was 13 years of age when her daughter Milia was born that she knows that she was married near 2 years before her first child was born that she was informed by her parents that she would be 18 years of age the March after she was married. That she heard of the marriage the summer following after her own marriage that he is the marriage of Alexander Wheatley with Peggy Wheatley formerly Peggy Stokes, that her information she believes to be true because she has been acquainted with Alexander Wheatley and his wife Peggy Wheatley ever since (that is) to near the end of his life time and have never heard a contradictory report -- that as to Alexander Wheatley's serving in the Revolutionary War she only knows from information that she always heard that he served in the Revolutionary War a considerable time that she never heard it disputed that she knows that Alexander Wheatley and his wife were of good character for truth and veracity that

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<sup>3</sup> In a later affidavit she states that she was married in July 1781

she has good calls from a long acquaintance with them that either of them ought to be believed. Sworn and subscribed to before me this 3rd day of November 1846.

S/ Katharine Cherry, X her mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$97.82 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 2 years service in the revolution.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$97.82 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848.]