

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Parker <sup>1</sup> W10856

Rhoda Parker f35NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/2/09: rev'd 10/27/17

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 5]

State of North Carolina Bladen County} Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions February Sessions  
1833

On this the 4th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Worshipful, William H. Beatty, Alexander King & John I. McMillan holding the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Bladen, now sitting; John Parker, a resident of the County of Bladen, and State of North Carolina; aged Eighty 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated.

That in the second year of the Revolutionary War, he believes in February or March 1777, he volunteered as a Private, for a service of one month in a Company of Bladen Militia, under the command of Captain William Ellis, and Lieutenant James Isham. The Company rendezvoused at Singletary's Lake in said County, marched thence to Rockfish Creek in Bladen (now Cumberland) County -- having crossed the Cape Fear River at one Sylvanus Wilson's, for the purpose of meeting the Tories under the command of Colonel McDonald [Donald MacDonald] and McLeod [Donald McLeod]; when at Rockfish heard that the Tories had crossed the River at Campbellton (now Fayetteville) and were proceeding through Sampson County towards Wilmington. On receiving this intelligence the Company recrossed the River, and marched through Bladen to Corbet's Ferry on Black River, where they were in advance of the Tories and where information was received that they had torn down a frame house and had crossed the River on the broad side of it. At Corbet's Ferry, the Company joined a body of North Carolina Militia under General Richard Caswell, General Lillington [John Alexander Lillington] was also with General Caswell. From Corbet's Ferry General Caswell marched his Troops to the widow Moore's and arrived there the night of the same day. The next morning, about daybreak, the Tories made an attack on the advanced guard; and an engagement at the Bridge over Moore's Creek ensued,<sup>2</sup> which eventuated in the defeat of the Tories. McLeod, then second in Command was killed in leading on the attack against the American entrenchments, which had been thrown up by the minute men under the command of Captains Clinton [Richard Clinton] & Love [James

---

<sup>1</sup> BLWt24437-160-55

<sup>2</sup> Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_moores\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html)

Love], before the approach of General Caswell. The day after the battle the Company, after receiving orders to march at a minutes warning, were verbally discharged, and marched back to Bladen County; and in a few days afterwards, they were ordered on an expedition under the same Officers, against the Tories in about Fayetteville & in different parts of Cumberland County -- While in Captain Ellis's Company on the expeditions above detailed, he was in actual service, three months, as the accompanying artifact will show -- He remembers no Continental Officers, there were several Regiments of Militia under General Caswell; but being with them but a short time, he neither remembers their numbers, or the names of their Officers. He then resided in Bladen County.

2. Immediately after (about a fortnight), at the same place, under the same Officers -- he volunteered on an expedition to Wilmington, for the purpose of protecting that place from the Tories, and British, who had arrived in the waters of the Cape Fear -- joined other Troops at that place under the command of General Moore, who he understood was a Continental Officer -- remained there and at Jumping Run, two miles below, about \_\_\_\_, in the Militia service; when he enlisted at the latter place, in the Continental Service, for a service of six months in a Company commanded by Captain Griffith J. McRee [Griffith John McRae or McRee] and of Francis Childs and \_\_ Gooden [probably Christopher Goodin] were the subalterns -- The Company remained during the period of his enlistment at Wilmington & its vicinity, and sometimes at the Old Fort below Wilmington. He remained in service seven months and fourteen days, owing to the absence of Captain McRee in Bladen County, on account of sickness; after the return of Captain McRee he received a discharge in writing -- which discharge, and he believes another for the service, hereinafter enumerated, he had in his possession, when a man by the name of James Anderson applied to him for the loan of them, as he said for the purpose of throwing some light upon an application he (Anderson) was about to make for a Pension under the Act of 1818. As soon as he (Parker) ascertained that they might be of service to him in his present application, he applied to Anderson for them, and is informed by him; that they cannot be found.

3. Near the close of the War, (but that time not recollected) He volunteered at Fayetteville, then Cross-Creek, in a Company of Bladen Militia, under the Command of Captain Ephraim Mulford -- continued at that place some time, but how long not recollected -- marched thence to Haly's Ferry on Big Pedee [River]; thence to Cheraws -- where he remained until discharged -- General Harrington [William Henry Harrington] commanded a considerable body of Troops and took command of them at Fayetteville but has not so particular recollection of any of the ~~Continental~~ Regiments -- there was no Continental Troops. He was called out for, and served three months. He has no documentary evidence, except a discharge from Captain William Ellis; for three months service as above detailed -- dated 27th April 1782 -- and which was given to him, several years after the service was performed, as will be seen by the date: and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service, except William Smith whose affidavit is hereunto annexed.

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 and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Parker, X his mark

Answers to the Interrogatories<sup>3</sup> prescribed by the War Department as propounded to the

---

<sup>3</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

applicant by the Court.

1. I was born in Bladen County, February 23rd 1753.
2. That is a Record of my age in my Nicholas Parker's family Bible in Sampson County.
3. In Bladen County; and have resided there ever since
4. I was a volunteer in every instance.
5. I recollect no Regular or Continental Officers, or Militia Officers or Regiments except such as are referred to in the body of my Declaration
6. The answer to this Question is contained in the body of my Declaration except that I omitted to mention therein, that James Anderson, to whose care I entrusted two of my discharges has left the State, and I cannot procure his testimony as to the loss of them.
7. General James Owen, John Bryant, James Bryant Senior, John D. Saltar, Joshua Sykes, Samuel Cain, Esq., Sheriff, John Beard, & Sampson Davis Junior  
[Samuel Cain, and Sampson Davis Junior gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 11]

State of North Carolina Bladen County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, February Sessions 1833

Personally appeared in open Court, on the 4th day of February A.D. 1833, before the Worshipful William A. Beatty, Alexander King & John Iver McMillan Justices of the Peace for said County, holding said Court -- William Smith,<sup>4</sup> who being first duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith --

That he was acquainted with John Parker during the Revolutionary War, that he entered the service of the United States with him in a company of Bladen Militia, under the command of Captain William Ellis (time not recollected); that they marched to Wilmington and Jumping Run about two miles below that place, and that while there, he recollects, that said Parker enlisted as a Soldier in the Continental Service. Further this Deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court, the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William Smith, X his mark

Attest: P. Nelly, Clk

[p 14: On May 2, 1855 in Bladen County North Carolina, Rhoda Parker, 76 filed for a widow's pension as the widow of John Parker; she states that she married him some 50 years since but cannot remember the exact date she thinks about the year 1805; she is also unable to state the exact time of the death of John Parker but thinks it was in the year 1838 or 1839. she signed her application with her mark.]

---

<sup>2</sup>nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

<sup>3</sup>rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

<sup>4</sup>th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

<sup>5</sup>th 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 service.

<sup>6</sup>th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

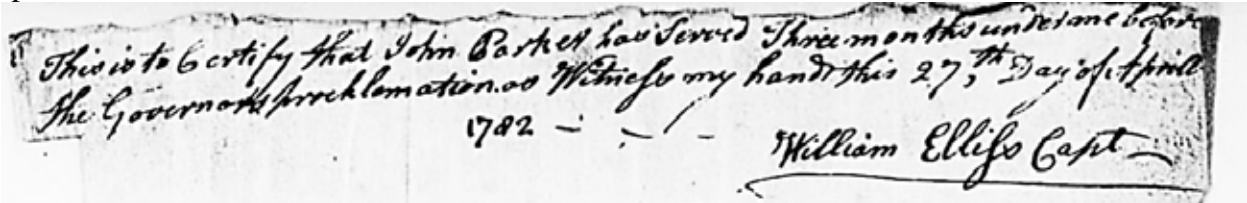
<sup>7</sup>th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

<sup>4</sup> [William Smith S7534](#)

[p 18: On June 1, 1855 in Bladen County North Carolina, the widow applied for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. She states that her name prior to her marriage was Rhoda Bedsole [?]<sup>5</sup>. She signed this document with her mark. P 20: her application was supported by an affidavit signed by Owen Bedsole.

*Owen Bedsole*  
-----]

[p 32]



This is to Certify that John Parker has served Three months under me before the Governours proclamation.oo Witness my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> Day of April 1782. - - - William Elliss Capt.

"This is to Certify that John Parker has served three months under me before the Governors proclamation as witness my hand this 25th day of April 1782.

S/ William Elliss, Capt."

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$44.88 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 13 months and 14 days in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[Facts in file: veteran died in Bladen County July 7, 1838]

*Rhoda Bedsole*  
-----