

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Guest W11072

Eleanor Guest

f157NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 9/5/08 & 6/21/14

[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.]

State of Georgia, County of Franklin

On this third day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared before the Inferior Court of the County and State aforesaid for ordinary purposes, Captain Moses Guest, a resident of Captain Mangrum's District of the County and State aforesaid, aged Eighty one years, who being 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 7, 1832.

Was commissioned as a Captain of the North Carolina Militia by the Governor of that State on or about the year 1775. And served a tour of more than two months against the Cherokee Indians under Colonel Armstrong and General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. After he was marched as Captain of a Horse Company under Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] to Ramsour's Mill [June 20, 1780] but arrived too late for the Battle. From Ramsour's was marched home to Wilkes County.

Was marched from Wilkes under Colonel Cleveland through Burke to Rutherford and by the Cowpens after the Tories & met them at King's Mountain [October 7, 1780] where we defeated them. He was the only commander of the Horse at that battle. After the battle of King's Mountain [he] was sent as a Guard with about 700 prisoners to Moravian town North Carolina. From thence was marched home to Wilkes. Afterwards he was continually out with his Minute Men, on scouting parties against the British & Tories until nearly the End of the War.

In the Battle of King's Mountain he commanded a Horse Company of about 50 men & was in command of a Horse Company immediately after the Indian campaign first above recital [sic] until just before the close of the War when he was again put in command of a Foot Company.

Was in service during the whole War, and does not think he had one year's rest during the War.

1. Was born in January 1750 in Faquher [Fauquier] County Virginia.
2. His father had a record of his age, but does not know where it is now in the family or destroyed.
3. When he entered the service he lived in Wilkes County North Carolina, removed from there to Pendleton South Carolina about 45 years since, & about 32 years since he removed to his present residence.
4. Does not recollect the names of Continental officers other than those mentioned above & Colonels Shelby [Isaac Shelby], Sevier [John Sevier], Campbell [William Campbell], Williams [James Williams] & Cleveland at King's Mountain.
5. He had three commissions as Captain of different dates. Thinks Governor Martin signed one of them, the others does not recollect. He can procure the last one, but it is dated just before the close of the War.
6. Is known to Thompson Epperson<sup>1</sup> & Henry Parks<sup>2</sup> who saw him and knew him in the service &

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1 [Thompson Epperson \(Epposon\) W7115](#)

2 [Henry Parks S31898](#)

also John Stonecypher.<sup>3</sup> He is also known to Dozier Thornton a preacher of the Gospel all of whom will testify to his character and veracity & to their knowledge and belief of his having been a Captain in the revolutionary war.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of any agency of any State within his knowledge or belief. Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year first above written.

S/ Thomas King, clerk

S/ Moses Guest

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Moses Guest", written in a cursive style on a light-colored, textured background.

[Dozier Thornton, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

We Thompson Epposon, Henry Parks and John Stonecypher & William Glover<sup>4</sup> residing in the County and State first aforesaid Hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Moses Guest who has subscribed and sworn to the above Declaration That we believe him to be 81 years of age and that we saw him & knew him acting as a Captain in the Militia of North Carolina in the Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War.

Test: S/ Thos. King, Clk

S/ William Glover, X his mark

S/ Henry Parks

S/ Thompson Epposon, X his mark

S/ John Stonecypher, X his mark

State of Georgia, County of Franklin

On this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833 personally appeared before the Inferior Court for the County and State aforesaid now sitting for ordinary purposes Moses Guest who has heretofore subscribed and sworn to the original Declaration to which this is attached & who being duly sworn according to law – on his oath makes the following addition & amendment to said Declaration.

“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,

For two months he served under Colonel Armstrong as a Captain against the Cherokee Indians in 1775.

In 1776 – 77 – 78 -- & 1779 he served twenty-two months as a Captain under Colonel Cleveland.

In June 1780 until December, same year he served as a Captain under Colonel Cleveland five months.

In November 1780 he was ordered as Captain by Colonel Cleveland, to march with his minute men whenever he heard of Tories in any direction and he did serve as Captain in this duty, actively engaged until the end of the War (without more rest than 2 months including all the rest days) and served on this duty as Captain 10 months.

His service and '76 – '77 – '78 & '79 was against the Tories in different parts of North Carolina; He served as a Commissioned Regular Captain 3 years altogether he is certain & was regularly ordered out by Competent authority, and for that time was not employed in any civil pursuit. His commissions are all lost except the last one, which was received after the War & under which he did not serve. Can

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<sup>3</sup> [John Stonecypher S16539](#)

<sup>4</sup> [William Glover W929](#)

prove his service as Captain by Thompson Epperson, & Henry Parks & for such service I claim a pension.[”]

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court the day and year first above written.

S/ Thos. King, CCC

S/ Moses Guest

We Thompson Epperson and Henry Parks do further Certify that we knew the above named Moses Guest as a Captain in the Revolutionary War and believe he was a Regularly Commissioned officer, and he was treated and acknowledged as such by Colonel Campbell and Colonel Shelby & Colonel Sevier & all the other officers in the Army, And said Epperson knew him to serve as Captain for 6 months, and heard of his being so much & serving for 2 or 3 years during the War as such H. Parks only new that he served one tour of his own knowledge.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day and year first above

S/ Thos. King, CCC

S/ Thompson Epperson, X his mark

S/ Henry Parks

[p 30]

State of Georgia, Franklin County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned an Acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County Moses Guest, to whose original & amended Declaration this is attached and who being sworn sayeth That he has stated in said amendment his several services as fully as he can from Memory except that from papers since discovered he served as Captain but does not recollect whether he had a commission or not in writing, But he knows he was fully authorized to Act as such in 1777 he held and Ensign's Commission in the Infantry but does not recollect that he served under it, he held at the time a Captain's Commission which is lost or so misplaced that he cannot possibly obtain it. He has written to the Secretary of State in North Carolina to find if his name is not enrolled there & if any proof is obtained will afford it herewith. He also forwards the affidavit of Colonel Blair late a Senator from the adjoining County of Habersham & also annexes an additional List of Light Horsemen who were under his command in the War, also his Ensign's Commission & a Captain's commission dated in January 1782 for a Captain of a Foot Company which was at home & not in Service. He further states that both the Ensign's & Captain's Commissions annexed were for Foot Companies, while the Commission he has lost and the service he performed was in a Horse Company.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833.

S/ Christopher Addison, JP

S/ Moses Guest

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State of Georgia, County of Franklin

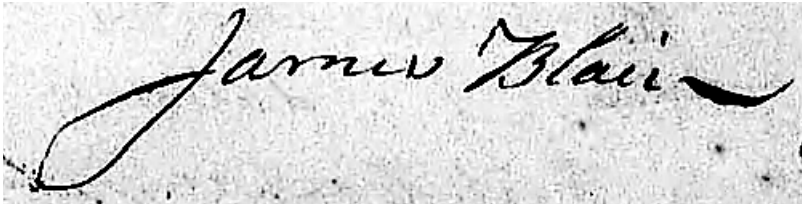
Personally appeared before the undersigned and Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County Colonel James Blair<sup>5</sup> of Habersham County in the State aforesaid, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he has been well acquainted with the aforesaid Moses Guest for about 60 years. That deponent knew said Guest in the Revolutionary War at several different periods of the war, when he was always acting as a Captain of Horse and was obeyed and respected as such. Deponent saw said Guest presiding as Captain upon Courts Martial and Courts of Inquiry, both before and after the Battle of King's Mountain in which battle Deponent was & so was Guest Commanding his Horse Company Deponent further saith upon looking over the annexed list of Captain Guest's Troops at King's Mountain, that he knew all the Men named as belonging to Captain Guest's Company in the first column of said List except John Snody and that they were serving at that battle under Guest. Deponent saith that Guest was then and is now a very Respectable and truthful Man and he is as certain as he can be of any thing that he must have held a Regular Captains Commission at the time he states.

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<sup>5</sup> [James Blair S22125](#)

Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833.

S/ James Blair



S/ C. Addison, JP

[p 10: On March 23 1853, in Lumpkin County Georgia, Eleanor Guest, 64, filed for a widows pension stating that she was the widow of Moses Guest a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$280 per annum; that she married him on May 8, 1829; and that he died October 1 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[facts in file: Eleanor's maiden name was Eleanor York; they married in Franklin County, Ga.; veteran's first wife (not named) died in 1827; Eleanor died May 24, 1866 in Dawson County, Ga.; veteran had several children by his first wife, but the only one named in the file is Sandford Guest who lived in Flintsville, Franklin County, Ga. in 1857; veteran and Eleanor York Guest had only one child, Joseph, born Sept. 1 or 3, 1830.]

State of Georgia, Franklin County

Personally appeared before me Alfred E. Whitten one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of said County, William Guest – a resident of Pickens District, in the State of South Carolina, who has heretofore made an affidavit and the amended Declaration of Captain Moses Guest of Franklin County Georgia for a pension under the Act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832 – the amendment dated the 8<sup>th</sup> November 1833 who being duly sworn, depose and saith, in addition to what he then stated, that, he served under Captain Moses Guest all the tours of duty as set forth in his said amended Declaration, except, the first Tour when he served as Ensign, and from January 1781 until June 1781 – when he deponent was nursing a wounded soldier, and knows that the statement of Captain Moses Guest, is correct, he deponent was one of his Company at the battle of King's Mountain, and that the names of the first part of the role of the company attached to the said Declaration, are the names of the same men that actually did belong to said Company at the said Battle of Kings Mountain, and the said Moses Guest did command said company during said Battle, and this deponent further states that he always understood from the said Moses Guest that he had a commission, and carried it with him, fastened to a string around his neck, so that the commission could be in his bosom, & safe at all times, And this deponent further states that the said Moses Guest was in actual service in the Army of the United States – except the 2 or 3 months this deponent was absent from the Company, and during the balance of the time, the said Moses Guest was either in the field or in garrisoning, as stated in his said Amended Declaration, and was not employed in any Civil pursuit – Sworn to and Subscribed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1834 before.

S/ A. Whitten, JIC

S/ William Guest, X his mark

Georgia, Franklin County

Personally appeared before me A. E. Whitten one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of Law, Captain Thompson Epperson who being duly sworn depose and saith that he has been well acquainted with Captain Moses Guest, and that time, and ever since the Revolutionary War, he was one of Captain Guest's Company at the Battle of Kings Mountain, which was a company of Horse, & upon looking over the annexed list of Captain Guest's Troops at King's Mountain, that he knew all the men

named to belonged to Captain Guest's Company, in the first column of said list annexed, Deponent further states that he served under Captain Guest for 6 months, & was with him at Ramsour's Mill, Deponent saw said Guest presiding at Courts Martial and Courts of Inquiry. He never saw said Guest's Commission, but always understood that he was a commissioned officer – and knows that he was respected & obeyed as such, and was a very brave and truthful man – and believes that Captain Guest performed all the service as stated in his last amended declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 1834

S/ A. E. Whitten, JIC

S/ Thompson Epperson, X his mark

[p 68 & p. 71 NC Comptroller's certificates of payments to Moses Guest.]

[p 54, Captain's commission signed by Gov. Alex. Martin dated Jan. 25, 1782]

[p 55, Ensign's commission signed by Gov. R. Caswell, dated Augt. 6, 1777]

[Veteran was initially pensioned at the rate of \$280 per annum later increased to \$385 per annum for his service as an Ensign & Captain of Infantry & cavalry in the North Carolina service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[WTG has looked at the file very thoroughly and cannot find in it the roster of the men under the command of Guest at the Battle of King's Mountain to which he and several of the other affiants make reference. If anyone finds that roster, please let me know.]