

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nimrod Jester<sup>1</sup> W27599

Mary Jester

f60NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/19/08 rev'd 11/20/13

[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 10]

State of Indiana, Wayne County

Be it remembered that on the 29th day of August 1832 there personally came into open Court the same being the ninth judicial day of the Wayne Circuit Court of the term of August 1832 the same being a Court of Record possessing criminal Common law and Chancery jurisdiction Nimrod Jester of the age of seventy years on the 15th day of October next an applicant to obtain the benefit of the pension Law of the United States of the 7th day of June 1832 who being first duly sworn upon his oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of said pension Law. "I entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as hereinafter stated to wit Sometime in April I think the 12th or 13th day 1780 I entered the service as a volunteer I have then being a citizen of Guilford County North Carolina and a Militia Company commanded by Captain John McDow, Lieutenant Hugh Forbes, Ensign John Findley for the term of three months which time I served out, we rendezvoused at Guilford Court house and marched from thence to Cambden [sic Camden] South Carolina at Salisbury in North Carolina we were joined by three other companies of militia of something upwards of fifty privates each and the command of the whole was assumed by General Rutherford of the North Carolina militia at the Cheraw hills we were joined by General Horatio Gates with nine thousand men of the regular service I was in the battle of Camden in the left wing of the Army near the artillery and was commanded during the engagement by regular Colonel by the name of Adams his given name I do not recollect we were defeated and dispersed and such of us as remained returned home consequently I received no discharge for my service the next tour of service I performed was a 6 weeks tour commencing in the month of September 1780 as a volunteer in the North Carolina militia then called light horse (I then still residing in the County of Guilford North Carolina) in a company commanded by Colonel Daniel Gillespie, Captain John Gillespie Lieutenant George Parks, Ensign Findley [one or more indecipherable words] we marched from there towards the Cheraw Hills to reconnoiter the Tories with whom we had several skirmishes and took a number of them prisoners, the names of three of them I still recollect John Huntsucker [Hunsucker?], David Edwards, and James Glass at the end of the time we returned home and were disbanded by the Colonel without any discharges. The next tour of service I performed was a 3 months tour, I have then residing in Guilford County North Carolina In the latter part of the year 1780 the day and month I cannot now recollect I volunteered in a

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt31783-160-55

militia Company commanded by Captain Philips of Rockingham County North Carolina whose given name I have forgotten Lieutenant John James to the best of my recollection Ensign forgotten this company was composed of 40 privates and was raised in an adjoining County to the one in which I lived which accounts for my want of recollection of the names of the Officers I am not being acquainted with them before nor since We were marched from thence to the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin River and from thence to Salisbury North Carolina to suppress the Tories that were embodying on the line Between North & South Carolina from Salisbury we marched Southward towards the line Between North & South Carolina and from thence towards the Big Pedee [River] from thence we returned to Salisbury and were stationed there about a month and at the end of about two months from the time I volunteered we were disbanded without any discharges During this tour we were passed by Colonel Lee and Colonel Washington with their troop of Light horse. In the month of October or November 1781 the day I cannot recollect I have then being on a visit in Surry County North Carolina and there being a requisition for men I entered as a volunteer for a 3 months tour in the North Carolina militia in a company commanded by Captain Salathiel Martin Lieutenant David Martin, (Ensign John Hemby I think) we marched from thence about 25 miles in the direction of the Eutaw Springs when we received the news of the battle there when we were halted, and lay in camp for some time at the end of about one month from the time I volunteered there being no further need of us in that direction we were disbanded without any discharges. On the first day of March 1782 I enlisted for a term of twelve months (I have then living at Salisbury in Rowan County North Carolina) in the State Legion of the North Carolina State Troops, composed of 10 companies of 50 privates each I served in the company commanded by Captain Charles Gordon, Lieutenant's name I do not recollect, Ensign John Loller, the Regiment was commanded by General Rutherford, Colonel Armstrong and Major Joel Lewis who was a militia Colonel -- but only ranked as a Major in the Army. We were marched from thence to the Cheraw Hills, from thence to the head of the Black Mingo River in South Carolina, from thence to a Creek known by the name of Grannus Creek, and were near 2 months between the two latter stages reconnoitering the Tories during which time I frequently saw General Marion, from thence we marched to Belluses [War Dept. read this as "Bettuses"] Bridge where we had an engagement with about five hundred Tories and British and were victorious, we killed about eighty of their men and took about one hundred prisoners principally Tories, During the engagement I received a slight wound in the leg from a buck shot which passed through, the same coming out within about an inch and a half from where it entered the scar of which wound I now carry, from thence we proceeded leisurely and reconnoitering about the country until we reached Hillsboro in Orange County North Carolina where I obtained a furlough for two months and on the first day of March 1783 I received a written discharge from the service signed by James Gillespie then a Colonel commandant which Discharge I kept until about a year ago when it was accidentally lost or mislaid now have no Documentary evidence of any part of my service And I know of but one surviving witness by whom I can prove any part of my services. My name is not on the pension roll of any State in this Union and I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension except the present.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year above named.

S/ Sam. Hannah, CWCC

S/ Nimrod Jester

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nimrod Jester". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Nimrod Jester".

[Joseph Tarkington, a clergyman, and Thomas Cranor gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 34]

State of Indiana, Wayne County

Be it remembered that on 29 August 1832 the same being the 9th judicial day of the Wayne Circuit Court (the same being a Court of record) of the term of August 1832 John S. Newman of lawful age an attorney of said Court who being duly sworn says that sometime in the month of August 1831 Nimrod Jester now an applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress of June 7th, 1832 provided in this affiant a written discharge purporting to be from under the hand and signed with the name of James Gillespie Colonel Commandant Certifying that the said Nimrod Jester had served out the term of one year (in the Revolutionary war) and was thereby duly discharged which discharge this affiant believes was genuine and that this affiant filed the said Discharge in said Court at the August Term 1832 for the purpose of being evidence to said Court to enable said Court to certify to enable said Jester to obtain a pension, That this affiant saw said discharge shortly after the adjournment of said Court and that said discharge is now Lost or mislaid and cannot be produced and further says not

Sworn to & subscribed on the day and year above written

S/ Saml Hannah, Clk

S/ John S. Newman

[p 31]

State of Indiana, Wayne County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace within and for said County of Wayne Nimrod Jester an applicant for a pension under the pension Law of the United States of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 a resident of said County and being duly Sworn on his Oath deposes and says that by reason of old age and the great lapse of time 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 to wit "I served as a private in the North Carolina Militia for 3 months commencing I think on the 12th or 13th day of April 1780 under Captain John McDow, Lieutenant Hugh Forbes Ensign John Findley, 2<sup>nd</sup> I served 6 weeks as a private in the North Carolina militia commencing in the month of September 1780 under Captain John Gillespie, Lieutenant George Parks Ensign Findley [indecipherable word or words] the Company aforesaid was also Commanded by Colonel Daniel Gillespie 3<sup>rd</sup> I served at least 2 months as a private in the North Carolina Militia Commencing sometime in the latter part of the year 1780 in a company commanded by one Captain Philips of Rockingham County in the adjoining County to the one in which I have then resided Lieutenant John James to the best of my recollection, Ensign's name I now have forgotten 4<sup>th</sup> I served at least a month as a private in the North Carolina Militia under Captain Salathiel Martin, Lieutenant Daniel Martin Ensign John Hamby to the best of my recollection and belief 5<sup>th</sup> I served as a private one year in the North Carolina State Troops under Captain Charles Gordon Lieutenant's name I do not recollect Ensign John Loller the Regiment was Commanded by General Rutherford Colonel Armstrong and Major Joel Lewis of the North Carolina State: 6<sup>th</sup> I also served 3 months as a private volunteer militia man in Rowan County North Carolina in guarding prisoners that were taken by one Colonel Campbell and stationed at Salisbury in said County of Rowan to the number of 300 or thereabouts during said last mentioned term I served under Major Armstrong a regular officer to the best of my recollection This last term of service is not embraced in my original application for a pension as it was not

thought of by me when my application was drawn up And if it shall be thought by the Department for investigation Pension Claims to require any further authentication to entitle me to claim for that service rather than there should be any further delay on that account I do hereby waive claiming any pension for said last named service and in that event only claim a pension for the residue of my services as a soldier of the Revolution herein before stated But otherwise I claim a pension for the whole of my services which amount to the best of my recollection including said last named 3 months service to 22 months and 2 weeks and excluding said last named 3 months service to 19 months and 2 weeks and I do further state that said terms of service were all in the service of the United States in the Militia and State Troops of North Carolina as herein before stated in this affidavit is made in aid and explanation of my original application for a pension.["]

S/ Nimrod Jester

Sworn to and subscribed Before me this 5th day of June A.D. 1833

S/ Wm M. Dunahm, JP

[p 19: Mary Jester, 58, filed in May 1855 in Wayne County stating her husband probably entered the service in Guilford County, NC; that they were married by on Andrew Meredith, JP; otherwise same facts as above. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 16: In Wayne County, Indiana, on March 27, 1873, Mary Jester, 80 [could be 81] filed for a widow's pension for the services of her husband Nimrod Jester [who she claims served in the SC militia], a pensioner for his revolutionary services; she states her name was Mary Bishop at the time she married him; that she married him March 26, 1841; that he died in Wayne County, Indiana on October 8, 1854.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$56.66 per annum for service as a private in the North Carolina service for 17 months. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]