

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Phillips¹ W3862

Polly Phillips

f64NC [sic, SC]

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/28/09: rev'd 11/29/17

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

State of North Carolina County of Johnston

On this 29th day of August [1837]² personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of this County now sitting John Phillips a resident of the County of Johnston and 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. The first time he served was in South Carolina under a Mr. Powell [Col. George Gabriel Powell] he does not recollect his grade as an officer whether General or Colonel -- he served at this time two months in what were called monthly tours, -- his Captain for the first month was named Fort [sic, James Ford], for the second to the best of his recollection Gillespie [perhaps James Gillespie of the Cheraws district Regiment of militia] -- During this tour they were garrisoned at Cheraw Hills on Big Pedee River. This was in July and August of 1775 to the best of his recollection. He resided in South Carolina near Cheraw Hills. He was drafted the second month and hired by one Zachariah MacDaniel the first. He was in no engagement during this time of service. He entered the service again in October 1778, about the 10th of the month, at which time he lived in Bladen County North Carolina near a place called Elizabeth town. The Major General was John Ashe -- the Brigadier General was Bryan [William Bryant] -- the Major of the Regiment was Abram Molten [perhaps Abraham Moulton]. -- the name of the Captain under whom he served was Joseph Wood Lieutenant James Isams [James Isham]. He volunteered at this time and served for six months until the 11th of April 1779. He was engaged in the Battle of Briar Creek, Georgia [March 3, 1779], the same officers as above mentioned commanding at the battle. -- He marched directly through South Carolina -- crossing the Congaree River near [several words obscured by the fold in the paper] near Camden and the Savannah River at Augusta. He has no documentary evidence by which these facts can be established.

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 & year aforesaid

S/ Wm H. Watson, CCC

¹ BLWt56570-160-55

² The year 1837 is added based on the clerk of court's attestation appearing on p 11.

S/ John Phillips



[Dixon Phillips, a clergyman, and John Atkinson gave the standard supporting affidavit.

- *Dixon Phillips*
John Atkinson]

[p 10]

Questions propounded to Mr. John Phillips

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: In Halifax County, on Deep Creek, in this State, in the year 1759. --

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

Ans: I had a record of my age kept by my Guardian but after it became very old I copied it off and destroyed the original. I have a copy I made, at home.

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

Ans: I lived when I served my first tour in South Carolina -- near Cheraw Hills -- and when I began my 2nd tour, in North Carolina in what was then called Bladen County. -- I have lived at various places since the Revolution -- traveling about as a school master -- but for 40 years I have resided in Johnston County where I now live. --

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

Ans: I was a substitute for Zachariah McDaniel the first month of my first tour and was drafted the second -- and during the whole of my second tour I was a volunteer. --

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: Major General Ashe -- Brigadier General Bryan -- Colonel of my Regiment Philip Alston -- Major Molten -- Captain Joseph Wood -- Lieutenant Isams and a Mr. Powell was Colonel ordered General of the first tour -- In the last tour there were 4 regiments -- one commanded by Colonel Alston another by Colonel Caswell [Richard Caswell] from the New Bern District Colonel Perkins [Solomon Perkins] from the Edenton District -- Colonel Eaton [Thomas Eaton] from Halifax district -- marched through South Carolina and had an engagement in Georgia at Briar Creek.

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

Ans: I had -- but do not remember from whom and kept it so long that it has been lost or has worn out.

7th 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.

Ans: John Atkinson Esquire -- Dixon Phillips -- John Hamilton -- Samuel Stockton and many

others who have been acquainted with me for some time.

S/ John Phillips

Sworn to & signed before me in Open Court

S/ Wm H. Watson, Clerk

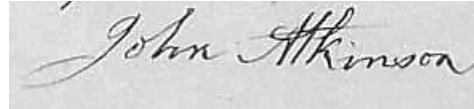
[p 59]

State of North Carolina Johnston County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term 1837
John Atkinson made oath that he was under the command of General Ashe and marched through South Carolina and was present at the Battle of Briar Creek in the State of Georgia -- & that he has frequently heard John Phillips, who applies for the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 converse on the subject of his services in the same tour under General Ashe and that he has no doubt he served faithfully, and that he is very indigent and needful of a pension.

Sworn to before me in open Court.

S/ Wm H. Watson, Clk

S/ John Atkinson³

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Atkinson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 12: On November 30, 1843 in Johnston County North Carolina Mrs. Polly Phillips, 80, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Phillips a pensioner for his services in the revolution at the rate of \$26.67 per annum; that she married him in Johnston County; that they were married by Etheldred Holt Esquire in the month of September 1791; that her husband died November 20, 1839 aged 87 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p14: copy of the marriage bond given by John Phillips and Elijah Tompson [sic, Elijah Thompson] on September 1 1791 to secure the marriage of John Phillips to Polly Thompson in Johnston County North Carolina.]

[p 5: On February 2, 1856 in Johnston County North Carolina, Polly Phillips, aged 63, made application for the bounty land due her as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier; that she was married to him in Johnston County North Carolina on the 1st day of October 1824 by Etheldred Holt, JP; that her name prior to her marriage was Polly Thompson; that her husband died in Johnston County North Carolina on November 23, 1839; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.67 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

³ This MAY be the same man as [John Atkinson BLr338228-55](#)