

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Wellons<sup>1</sup> W3903      Bethany      fn44VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves      8/24/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[fn p. 8]

State of North Carolina County of Johnston: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions May Term 1833

On this 29th day of May 1833 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Johnston Charles Wellons of the County & State aforesaid aged 71 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That in the spring of the year 1778 he was drafted for six weeks in the 10th Division of the first Regiment in Virginia under Colonel Jefferson & Colonel Richardson, Major Cosper, Captain Turner, Lieutenant Foster, Ensign Ivey. Declarant was drafted in the South Hampton [Southampton] County Virginia and was marched immediately to Smithfield Virginia where he was stationed the whole term of six weeks where he was discharged. The Colonels were Continental officers – appointed to take charge of the Virginia militia – Engaged this tour in no battles

2. That in the succeeding the spring 1779 the turn of said 10th division again came in rotation and Declarant was ordered to a second tour of six weeks – rendezvoused at the Black Water and in this tour Declarant was in almost constant action – the British commanded by Arnold [Benedict Arnold] and Phillips [William Phillips] being then in Portsmouth – and the adjacent counties. Declarant assisted in taking several small scouting parties – and one piquet [picket] guard at which four were killed and four taken prisoners – The term was spent principally in the Isle of Wight County and Nansemond County – and along James River from Petersburg to Portsmouth. His officers were Colonel Gaston – Majors Duval & Ewell, Captain Barnes – Lieutenant \_\_ Boykin. After which the British pursued them 12 miles to South Ky [?]; when they turned back to Portsmouth – and we followed them about 15 miles below Suffolk – where we turned into the Isle of Wight where Declarant staid a few days until the enemy left Portsmouth and proceeded up James River and Declarant was relieved – his tour of six weeks terminated and he was discharged –

About three days after his return home orders came for all the Division to turn out and Declarant joined the Army a few miles below Richmond – Officers the same as his last tour. There was an apprehension that Cornwallis & Arnold would join their forces and a strong effort was to be made to prevent it. General Washington had been charge of the Army – and gave permission to all who were sick to return home – of which permission Declarant availed himself and returned home about seven days before the capture of Cornwallis – having served in this tour as much as three weeks – He was near Little York when permission was given to return home –

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt35676-160-55

In all these tours of service Declarant was a private except the second, when he acted as orderly Sergeant –

In answer to the Interrogatories prescribed not already answered in the above declaration Declarant says that he was born 1762 in South Hampton County Virginia – as it appears in a family Bible now in his possession – When called into service he was living in South Hampton County Virginia where he continued to live until 1783 or 1784 when he removed into Johnston County North Carolina where he has always since lived – He was drafted into the service – and performed it by divisions as his term came – In all his tours he received only one written discharge – and he has lost that – no written discharges then being generally given to the division as their term expired – He received no commission as orderly Sergeant.

He states the following as names of men to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his veracity & their belief in its service as a soldier of Revolution – Elias Godwin, Samuel Mitchum, Thomas Lockhardt – William Tarleton & Arthur Tarleton –

He knows of no person living by whom he can prove his actual service – and has no documentary evidence thereof – 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 and year aforesaid.

S/ Charles Wellons, X his mark

[Elias Godwin & Naseworthy Stirling gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 12: On November 25, 1843 in Johnston County North Carolina, Mrs. Bethany Wellons, 81, applied for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Charles Wellons a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$23 and 11 per annum for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Johnston County March 17, 1782; that they were married by William Wall, a clergyman; that her husband died in Johnston County North Carolina May 25, 1848 aged 82; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[fn p. 16: marriage bond dated February 21, 1780 issued in Johnston County North Carolina to Charles Wellons and James Corbet to secure the marriage of Charles Wellons to Bethany Wellons.]

[fn p. 6: On August 29, 1855 in Johnston County North Carolina, Mrs. Bethany Wellons, 58 1/2, applied for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Charles Wellons; she states that she married him in Johnston County North Carolina; that they were married by William Wall, a Minister of the gospel; that her name prior to her marriage was Bethany Jones; that her husband died in Johnston County North Carolina May 25, 1840.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.11 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months & 28 days service as a private in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned for a like amount commencing March 4th, 1848.]