

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Joseph Parsons W4047

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina } Court of common Pleas
Montgomery County } and quarter sessions

October term 1832 On this the 1st day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open court before the Justices of said court now in session Joseph Parsons a resident of the county of Montgomery in the state of North Carolina aged seventy one 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 militia service of the united State in the year 1776 and served two months under Capt Cornelius Robinson in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians in the Regiment commanded by Col David Love of Anson County N.C. that he was then 16 years old and that he was duly discharged & returned home

He further states that in the year 1780 in June he again entered into the service as a volunteer under Capt James Crump of Montgomery and after serving and reconnoitering in the adjoining counties against the Tories some time he joined Gates' [Gen. Horatio Gates's] army and was in the Battle of Camden of the 16 August 1780 and when the army was dispersed he returned home after having served two months and a half

He further states that about the last of July or the first of August 1781 he volunteered and served as a Lieutenant in the Militia under Capt Shadrack Hogan of Montgomery and was chiefly employed in collecting and driving beef cattle to the Troops commanded by Genl. Hampton [probably Col. Thomas Hampton] near Cheraw on Pee Dee in which tour he served five weeks and returned home

He further states that he was commissioned a Captain by Genl Thomas Wade in October 1781 with instructions to raise thirty private soldiers to serve as horsemen for the term of three months that his commission is lost or mislaid that he served as a Captain during said three months in guarding and scouring the Country against the Tories that he was in an engagement with the Tories on little River Montgomery & returned home

He further states that he was induced by Gen'l Wade sometime in the year 1781 to collect what Troops he could and join him which he did and marched with them to Bettys Bridge on Drowning creek NC and had a battle with the British and Tories [Skirmish at Beatti's Bridge, 4 Aug 1781] and served two weeks in this tour He further states that he volunteered under Capt. Raiford as a private in the summer of 1782 Raiford was under Col. Lytle and that he served three weeks in reconnoitring in the counties of Randolph Chatham and Orange

He further states that he joined Major Dunlap in August in 1782 and went with him to Haileys ferry on Pee Dee and was then in the service two weeks and was taken sick and returned home. He further states that a few weeks after in 1782 he volunteered in the service under Capt John Lopp of Rowan N.C. and was employed in reconnoitring the counties of Montgomery & Moore and had a fight with the Tories in Montgomery and served in this tour three weeks. He further states he was appointed by Genl. [Griffith] Rutherford in 1782 to raise the militia in the county of Montgomery and to guard and protect the said county and surrounding counties and served some time but don't recollect but believes as much as one month and that he served in all eleven or twelve months Say three months as Captain and about nine months as a private as he thinks that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except Henry Fraser and Joseph Deaton who can testify to a part of said service and whose testimony is herewith enclosed [not found] and that he has no Documentary or other evidence that is herewith sent 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

[signed] Jo Parsons

NB The small time Mr Parsons served as Lieutenant he charges for as a private

NOTE: On 4 July 1839 Nancy Parsons, about 65, applied for a pension stating that she married Joseph Parsons sometime between when he left the service and 1794, and that he died 28 Nov 1837. The file includes a copy of a bond signed 12 Feb 1790 by Joseph Parsons and George Taylor and witnessed by Samuel Parsons for the marriage of Joseph Parsons to Nancy Jordan. Thomas Parsons, about 57, deposed that he was the brother of Joseph Parsons, and "that though he was young when Joseph Parsons and Nancy Parsons were married he believes they were married on or about the year 1790 and that he lived with them seven or eight years shortly after they were married." On 8 Jul 1843 Nancy Parson's age was given as 69, on 19 Aug 1844 she was said to be "seventy one or thereabouts," and on 13 Jul 1848 her age was given as 77 years.