

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Peterson ¹ W4050

Elizabeth Peterson f88NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/25/09: rev'd 11/13/17

[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.]

[p 15]

County of Caswell & State of North Carolina

On __ day of July 1830 Personally appeared in the County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Caswell the same being a Court of Record expressly so constituted by an act of the General Assembly passed in the year 1777 and possessing all the attributes belonging to such court in & for the County aforesaid James Peterson a resident in said County aged about seventy-two years who being first duly sworn on the Holy Gospel of God doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820. That the said James Peterson enlisted for the term of 2 years & 6 months on or about the first of March 1776 in the County of Caswell [sic, then Orange County] & State of North Carolina, the company commanded by Captain Archibald Lytle in the Regiment commanded by Colonel __ Taylor in the Line of North Carolina on Continental establishment. That he continued to serve in the said Corps until about the month of September 1778 when he was discharged from the service at Wilmington in the State of North Carolina. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present. That his name is not on the roll of any State except North Carolina & that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension. That is that this declarant was ignorant of the provisions made by law for the soldiers of the revolution until about 3 or 4 months previous to the filing of this declaration & that he has been making use of since that time every effort in his power to obtain the provision. And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed to wit my entire property consist of one feather Bed & its necessary furniture one weaving loom -- my occupation is that of a planter and from age and infirmity I am unable by my labor to procure a support: My family consists of 5 persons viz. My wife aged about 60 my daughter Sarah aged about 35 years my daughter Fanny aged about 30:

¹ BLWt26665-160-55

my daughter Betsey aged about 28 and my daughter Leathey aged about 20 years: since the 18th of March 1818 the following changes have been made in my property viz. at that time I was in possession of a tract of land on Country Line Creek adjoining Stephen Kitchen, John Johnston & others, another tract of land on Country Line Creek adjoining Charles D. Donoho, John Peterson & others and the following Negro slaves (viz.) Phebe, Amy, Sarah, Frank -- which property has been disposed of in the following manner. Having become security some time about the year 1818 for my son William Peterson for \$1200 on a bond which we executed to Major James Holder of Milton & my son being unable to pay said some I sold to the said James Holder in discharge of said debt the tract of land on Country Line Creek which adjoined Stephen Kitchen John Johnston & others containing 236 acres & the other tract of land adjoining Charles D. Donoho, John Peterson & others was sold under a trust which I gave to secure one Thomas D. Johnston for money paid by him to the bank of New Bern as my security a copy of said trust is hereto appended & Marked A. The Negro woman named Pheby was sold by an execution in favor of William Lea by Thomas Lea a Deputy Sheriff for the sum of \$77 & __ Cents towards the discharge of several bonds I had given said William Lea for money he lent me. My Negro woman named Sarah I sold to one Asa Gunn who has removed to the State of Tennessee for the sum of \$475 in order to pay George Williamson & Nathaniel Lea a debt which I owed them for merchandise and to Romulus Sanders for land I purchased of him. My Negro fellow called Frank I sold for the sum of \$325 to John Poteat [John Poteet] in order to pay one Abner Walker for money borrowed of said Walker.

S/ James Peterson, X his mark

Subscribed & sworn to in open Court this 13th of July 1830

S/ Paul A. Haralson, Clerk

[p 67]

North Carolina Caswell County} on the 10th day of May 1831 personally appeared in open court the same being a Court of record Hastin Bartlett² who being duly sworn according to law deposed and saith that he has long known James Peterson of Caswell County North Carolina that he served with said Peterson as a soldier in the revolutionary war & of the North Carolina line upon the Continental establishment for 2 years and 6 months agreeably to the terms of his Enlistment. That he was under the command of Archibald Lytle of the 6th Regiment commanded by Colonel Taylor.

Sworn in open court

S/ Hastin Bartlett



S/ Jeremiah Graves, C. S. C.

[p 68]

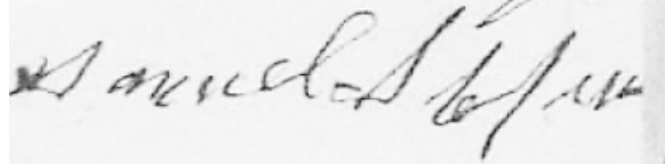
Samuel Stephens³ being sworn in open Court deposed and saith that he was well acquainted with James Peterson during the revolutionary war -- That he knows that said Peterson enlisted and served for 2 years and 6 months in the North Carolina Regiment on the Continental establishment during the war of the revolution under the command of Captain Archibald Lytle --

² [Andrew Bartlett W4883](#)

³ [Samuel Stephens S7640](#)

Taylor Colonel of said Regiment.

S/ Samuel Stephens

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Samuel Stephens", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Sworn to in open Court
S/ Jeremiah Graves, C. S. C.

[p87]

Hastin Bartlett maketh oath that he enlisted under Captain Archibald Lytle on or about the year A.D. 1776 & about the month of March of said year and served in the 6th Regiment of North Carolina Line under the command of Colonel Philip Taylor for the space of 2 years and 6 months and that during said term he became acquainted with James Peterson who enlisted as a soldier under Captain Archibald Lytle about the first of March 1776 & continued and served in the 6th Regiment of the North Carolina Line until about the month of September 1778 when he was discharged (his term of service being then expired) in the town of Wilmington in State of North Carolina.

S/ Hastin Bartlett

S/ Paul A. Haralson, Clerk

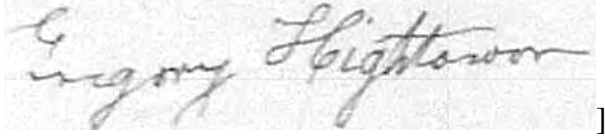
[p 20: On April 1, 1840, in Caswell County, Elizabeth Peterson, 77, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of James Peterson who was a revolutionary pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she married him February 2, 1782 and that her husband died November 25, 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 8: On April 1, 1840 in Caswell County North Carolina, Nancy Lea testifies that she knew James and Elizabeth Peterson that they lived together as husband and wife and had 11 children; that James, being illiterate, kept no family record but she knows their oldest child, John, was born August 9, 1783. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 10: On April 17, 1855 in Caswell County North Carolina, Elizabeth Peterson, 92, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of James Peterson. She signed this application with her mark.]

[p 22: Copy of a marriage bond given by James Patterson [sic] & Pressley Thorn to secure the marriage of James Patterson to Betty Hightower: given in Warren County North Carolina February 1, 1782.]

[p 25: On March 26, 1840 in Caswell County North Carolina Gregory Hightower, gave testimony that James Peterson came to his (Hightower's) father's house announcing his intention of marrying Elizabeth Hightower (alias Betty Hightower); her parents were very much opposed to the union; James Peterson and Elizabeth went to an acquaintance of Peterson's in Warren County and returned in early February announcing that they were man and wife and they have lived together as man and wife ever since and have had 11 children.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gregory Lightfoot". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background. The name "Gregory" is written on the first line, and "Lightfoot" is written on the second line, with the two words connected at the end of the first line. The signature is enclosed in a small rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

Gregory Lightfoot]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing December 16, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]