

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Register W4318

Edith

fn52NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Sampson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term 1832

On this the 23rd day of August in the year of our Lord 1832, personally appeared in open Court before William Kirby, Whitney Royal, Daniel Dawson, Benjamin Phillips, Henry Godwin and David Dawson Esquires Justices of the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions aforesaid, now sitting, John Register Senior a resident of the County of Sampson in the State of North Carolina, aged sixty-nine 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.

That he entered the service under the command of Captain Michael King in the fall or winter of 1780, that he does not recollect the month or year, that he engaged for 3 months; that he was, during this term, employed in driving cattle, that he embodied at a place called Sampson Hall then in Duplin County, but now in Sampson, Duplin having been since divided, that from thence he drove cattle to Salisbury North Carolina where an American Army was then stationed, that from thence he returned to Duplin, and collected another drove of cattle, and drove them over Deep River, thence them there and marched to Cross Creek where Fayetteville now is, that there the company drew guns; that from thence he marched to Drowning Creek in Robeson County North Carolina, and thence to the White Marsh in Bladen County, that from thence he marched back to Cross Creek and was discharged, that he was a volunteer and a light horseman, that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to prove this term of service.

That he entered a 2nd term of service under the command of Captain William Vann and that he thinks it was in the winter, and the month of February in the year 1781; that he thinks he left this tour of service, in May 1781, that he embodied just above the Big Bridge in New Hanover County, that he entered this tour of service a day or 2 after he was discharged from his first, that he joined a considerable Army at the Big Bridge; that he recollects too of the American officers who commanded his Generals Lillington & Brown; that there was a skirmish there with the enemy, that he remained there about 2 1/2 months; that from thence he marched to Kinston on Neuse River in Lenore County and there discharged, that he engaged for 3 months and served out his term he was a volunteer: that Captain Vann resigned his commission during this service and Jonathan Parker took command; that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to prove his actual services, this term except John Register Junior.

That he entered a 3rd term of service under the command of Captain Robert Merritt, King

Vann Lieutenant, that he does not recollect the day, month or year, when he entered, or when he left, that he does not recollect where he rendezvoused that he marched on towards Cohara [sic, Coharie] a branch of Black River then in Duplin County, in pursuit of some Tories, that at a Captain Williams's on Coharie there was a skirmish with the Tories and 2 or 3 of them killed and some captured and sent prisoners to Duplin old Court House, that he was one of the guard detached with the prisoners, that he then returned to his company and marched through part of New Hanover County, across Black River and Long Creek and up between Long Creek and the North East to South Washington, that at South Washington there was a false alarm and a good part of his company squandered, but that he did not, that his Colonel viz. Thomas Bludworth there dismissed the company to which he belonged as part of them had left when the false alarm was given, that he returned home and remained a day or 2, went, then, to the cross roads, near where Duplin Court House now is and thinks he embodied there, that from thence he marched to Rockfish bridge just above South Washington, as one of a detachment, sent as spies to record in order the road (for the enemy) that from Rockfish he returned home, stayed a day or 2 & returned to his company at, he thinks, the cross roads, that from thence, he marched him across the North East at Limestone bridge, and down the North East to Muddy Creek bridge, that they are he lay in ambush one night expecting the enemy, that he marched a small distance below Muddy Creek, thence marched back across Muddy Creek bridge and Limestone bridge to the Cross Roads, from thence to Duplin old Court House, from thence towards the head waters of the Coharie that he served with no Continental regiments that he knew no regular officers but Curtis Ivy, that he has no documentary evidence and that he thinks he can prove this service by John Register Junior¹ & Daniel Merritt,² and further that he was a volunteer and served out his 3 months.

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.

Interrogatories propounded to John Register Senior an applicant for a pension on account of Revolutionary services in the militia of North Carolina

Question 1st Where & in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Duplin County so-called then now called Sampson on the Six Runs near Taylor's Bridge in the month of December about a fortnight before Christmas as I have been told and I think in the year 1762.

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

Answer. 9. I wants head, but it is lost.

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

Answer. When called into service I was living on the place where I was born, on the Six Runs -- Since the Revolutionary war I have lived within the bounds of Sampson County, while on Coharie, & the rest of the time on the Six Runs, and now live on the Six Runs not far from Taylor's Bridge.

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

Answer. I always volunteered.

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

¹ FPA S7368

² [Daniel Merritt W6817](#)

your service.

Answer. There were no regular officers who were with the troops where I served. I can recollect no Continental regiments; or militia regiments, I remember, were Colonel Kenan's, Colonel Bludworth's, Colonel James Moore's, General Lillington's, the general circumstances of my service are related in the foregoing declaration.

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

Answer. At Kingston, I received a discharge from Captain Jonathan Parker; which I took no care of and have lost, I don't remember of ever having received any other.

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.

Answer. Major James Mathis, William Robinson Esquire, John Bryan, Dickson Sloan Esquire, Peyton R. Parker, Esquire, Richard Parish, Robert Marley, Patrick Murphy, Reverend David Rogers, Reverend Solomon Johnson & others I could mention.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Register

[David Rogers, a clergyman, and William Robinson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 49]

State of North Carolina Sampson County: Superior Court of Law Fall Term 1832

On this the 7th day of November A.D. 1832 virtually appeared in open Court before the Honorable Robert Strange one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law & Equity for the State aforesaid residing in the Superior Court of Law for the County aforesaid John Register Junior a resident of said County who being duly someone maketh oath that he was well acquainted with John Register Senior an applicant for a pension on account of Revolutionary services, and knew him before the Revolutionary War, that the said John Register to the knowledge of this deponent served six months during that struggle as a militia man, three months as a foot soldier under Captain William Vann in the spring of 1781 and three months in the light horse under Captain Robert Merritt, that he was in a skirmish at the Big Bridge while in the foot service and in one while in the light horse at Captain She Williams's beyond Cohara, that their marches for the most part were in Duplin & New Hanover Counties, that when in the foot service they were marched to Kingston and there discharged, that he heard of the said applicant's going to drive cattle to Salisbury, that those said applicant has lately deceased, sometime in September last leaving a widow Edith Register and several children.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Register, E his mark

[fn p. 51]

State of North Carolina Sampson County: Superior Court of Law Fall Term 1832

On this the 7th day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Robert Strange one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law & Equity for the State aforesaid residing in the Superior Court of Law for the County of Sampson Daniel Merritt a resident of said County of Sampson who being first duly sworn maketh oath that he was well acquainted with John Register Senior of the County aforesaid who made a declaration of his services in the Revolutionary war at August Term of Sampson Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

1832 to obtain a pension under the act of June 7th 1832 -- that he knew him before the Revolutionary war being raised in the same neighborhood, that the said John Register to the personal knowledge of this deponent was in the militia service as a light horseman under Captain Robert Merritt, a short time before the skirmish at Rockfish bridge this deponent thinks in the summer of 1780 [last digit obliterated could be 1781 or 1782] and served a tour of 3 months in which tour this deponent served also, that their marches were for the most part in Duplin & New Hanover Counties, that the said applicant was in a sort of a skirmish with the Tories at Captain She Williams's beyond Coharie, that the said applicant died in the month of September last he is informed, and believes the 19th and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Daniel Merritt

[fn p. 14: on May 20, 1840 in Sampson County North Carolina, Edith Register, 72, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Register Senior, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution; that she married him in Duplin County North Carolina on May 11 1784; that they were married by Thomas Age a justice of the peace; that her husband died September 19 1832 and that she remains his widow.]

[facts in file: the widows maiden name was Edith Matthis]