

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Timothy Spencer W4341 Mary Spencer NC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 31 July 2014.

Virginia Grayson County to wit.

On this 25th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court, before the County Court of Grayson now sitting, Timothy Spencer a resident of the County of Grayson and State of Virginia aged seventy four years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following amended declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born in the year 1759 in the county of Bucks & State of Pennsylvania He has no record of his age, nor was there ever one that he recollects— that he entered the service of the United States, in the fall of the year 1776 as well as he now recollects (being drafted), under Capt. Smith of Salem North Carolina, he then residing in the County of Surry State of North Carolina, and marched against the Cherokee Indians. He marched to the Cherokee towns a distance of three hundred miles through the Wilderness, and the army with which he marched destroyed the towns and crops of the Indians and retook a Mrs. Beane who had been captured by the Indians. He recollects well the meeting between Mrs. Beane and her two sons William & Robert, which was a very affecting one [see endnote]. On this expedition Col. Joseph Williams of Surry County North Carolina, commanded the Regiment to which he was attached. He had a written discharge for this tour of duty which he has lost. He was three months in service on this tour. He afterwards (year not recollected but several years after the above mentioned tour) then residing in the county of Henry (now Patrick) State of Virginia enlisted or was drafted, he does not recollect which, but believes he enlisted for a tour of eighteen months. He does not recollect the name of the Capt. he served under, but recollects that he first served under Col. [William] Tunstall of Henry County Virginia, who gave him several furloughs till called for, the troops not being ready to march. He was then marched under a Lieutenant, whose name he does not recollect, to Hillsborough in North Carolina where he was put under the command of Col. [Abraham] Buford [see note below], but does not recollect the names of his company officers. He was during this tour six months in actual service and twelve months on Furlough, till called for, which required him to be constantly on the alert and ready to march. Some time after (time not recollected) he went into service as a substitute for one Benjamin Farmer from the county of Surry North Carolina under Capt. Scott on a three months tour of duty. marched through North Carolina beyond Salisbury, where he joined the command of General [William Lee] Davidson. He was then ordered to take charge of a waggon to convey some wounded prisoners to Salisbury, with a promise that he should be discharged from his three months tour aforesaid upon the performance of that service. When he arrived at Salisbury, he was induced by Capt. Alexander the Captain of the Guard, to go on with the prisoners to the trading ford of the Yadkin, where he was discharged by the said Capt of the Guard according to the promise of the General. He received a written discharge which has been preserved and is forwarded with this Declaration. He states positively that he did not enter the service on the last, mentioned occasion by contract as a waggoner but was ordered while on the march to drive a waggon which was without a driver.

He has then served three tours, amounting in the whole to one year actual service, and twelve months on furlough subject to be called on at any moment.

He has resided since the war of the Revolution a part of his time in the County of Montgomery and State of Virginia, and the ballance of his time in the County of Grayson (now) formerly a part of the County of Patrick Va – On all the above tours of duty he served as a private Soldier.

He has no other Documentary evidence of his services than the discharge aforesaid – Jabez Johnson Senr and Martin Dickenson his neighbors and to whom he is known will testify as to his character for veracity and that they believe he was a soldier of the revolution. There being no clergyman living in his neighborhood 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.

Timothy hisXmark Spencer

This will Certify that the Bearer hereof Timothy Spencer was ordered by General Davison to Carry the Wounded prisoners to Salisbury under my care, and that I was ordered by s'd General to discharge said Spencer and Waggon. and he and his waggon is accordingly discharged from publick Service – given under my hand at Salisbury this 28th Jan 1781.

By Jno. McAlexander [John McAlexander]. Capt'n. guard

Virg Grayson County to wit

On this 27th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court of Grayson now sitting Timothy Spencer, a resident of the County of of Grayson State of Virginia aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following additional declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1833. The Declarant refers to his declaration made in the Count Court of Grayson on the 25th day of Februay last past contained on this sheet for the particular circumstances of his services & makes the same a part of his present Declaration – and being informed that it is necessary he should state precisely [the] time he served on his last tour, when he was discharged by Capt Alexander from a three months tour, he now sates that on that tour he served one month exactly.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Timothy hisXmark Spencer

NOTES:

A Lydia Russell Bean, widow of William Bean, was captured by Cherokees on 20 July 1776 and condemned to be burned at the stake. She was rescued by Nancy Ward and returned in late 1776 or early 1777. Compare the pension application of William Cloud: W5247.

Spencer's third tour apparently occurred before 21 July 1780, when Davidson was shot in the stomach at Colson's Mill NC.

Spencer evidently lived in the southwest corner of Patrick County at the time it was transferred to Grayson County around 1806. In the 1840s that eastern part of Grayson County became Carroll County.

On 30 Nov 1839 Mary Spencer, 78, applied for a pension stating that she married Timothy Spencer on 20 Aug 1779 in the part of Surry County that became Stokes County, and that he died on 28 July 1837. She stated that two of their children were still living near her: the older one being Kindness Woody, 58 or 59, widow of Taulton Woody, and the other one being Samuel Spencer, their fourth child, aged 51.