

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Matlock W4723

Mary Matlock

f62NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/17/09: rev'd 7/10/16

[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 5]

State of North Carolina

On the 27th day of August 1823, personally appeared in open Court, of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of the County of Rockingham and State aforesaid (which is a Court of Record) John Matlock aged upwards of 70 -- years, residing in Rockingham County & State aforesaid, he being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows; He enlisted under Capt. John Nelson, as a Sgt. in the County of Guilford (now Rockingham), & State of North Carolina, in the 4th Regiment of the North Carolina troops on Continental Establishment in the month of May 1776. The Regiment was commanded by Col. Alexander Martin; I enlisted for the service a number of soldiers in the County, until the month of April 1777: at which time I marched with the men I enlisted by orders of my superior officers and joined troops under the command of Col. Tho. Polk [Thomas Polk] in Granville [County]; from that place we marched to Georgetown, then in[to] the State of Maryland, from there to Philadelphia; and then up to Delaware; from this place we marched to meet Lord Cornwallis near the head of Elk [River], the Army met him near Iron Hill [Battle of Cooch's Bridge also known as the Battle of Iron Hill, September 3, 1777] at which place we had a severe skirmish: I was selected in this affair as one of the light Infantry to march in front & was commanded by Col. Martin: I was then in the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] & was one of the number of soldiers, who brought on the battle: after this battle we went into winter quarters on the Schuylkill [River]: The Spring following, I was in the battle of Germantown [Germantown, October 4, 1777]: after this we pursued the enemy towards Sandy Hook & we had another severe skirmish: after this I was in the battle of Stony Point [July 16, 1779], at the time it was taken, under the command of General Wayne [Anthony Wayne]; after this the Army marched to a little town in Jersey, I think called Paramus, at which place after a service of 3 years & some months I was discharged by Col. Thomas Clark & returned to what was called Guilford County (now Rockingham). About a month after I had returned home, the Tories & British being troublesome in this state, I again volunteered my services under Col. Washington [William Washington], & we had a severe skirmish at Whitesill's [sic, Wetzel's or Weitzel's Mill, March 6, 1781]:¹ after this I was sent home to recruit men, & had procured several & was on my way to join the Army again, at the time of the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781]:² after this, I was discharged from the service: At both times of my leaving the Army, I received from the

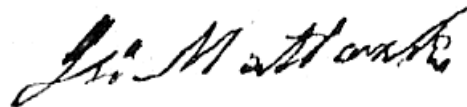
¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_weitzells_mill.html

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

Commanding officer, an honorable discharge but having been for 25 years & more concerned in a great deal of public business, I have lost or mislaid them: during the whole time I was in the service, I served as a Sgt.: I know of no person in particular, now residing in this Vicinity, who was with me in the six battles in which I fought, but many persons in this County can testify, that I was a considerable time in the Revolutionary service:

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: I have a small crop of corn growing & suppose it may make from 5 to 10 barrels [sic, bushels?]: I have a very small quantity of provisions on hand for the support of my family: I have had a number of small debts due to me, but having been Sheriff of the County of Rockingham for twenty-six years in succession, and having been unfortunate in the pecuniary matters of my office, and my securities having paid for me considerable sums of money, I have issued to them, honestly and in good faith, all the debts and property that belonged to me, all of which will be far short of paying to them the money, which they had paid & will have to pay for me. My occupation at this time is that of tilling in the earth, & but with little ability to do that; I am upwards of 70 years of age, have a second wife & two small boys, am poor & stand in need of the assistance of my country for support, and I have not conveyed or otherwise transferred any portion of my property to defraud the government of the United States, or to bring myself within the provisions of the law for the relief of Revolutionary Soldiers.

S/ Jno Matlock



Schedule the above property

Crop of corn, valued by the court at \$10

Sworn to in open Court the 27th day of August 1823

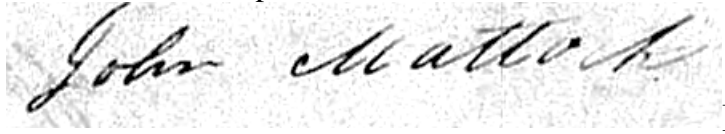
S/ John Matlock

S/ Ro. Gallaway, CC

[p 10: On November 23, 1844 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Mary Matlock, 70, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act, stating that she is the widow of John Matlock who she understood served under John Griffith McCray and who was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she married him and 1792, she thinks in the month of November but does not recollect the date precisely; that the marriage took place in Rockingham County; that the Bible containing the record of her marriage was carried to the West many years ago by a relative; that the wedding took place at William Bethell's in Rockingham County; that her eldest son Charles Matlock was born in 1793 and is still living; that her husband John Matlock died September 1, 1838; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

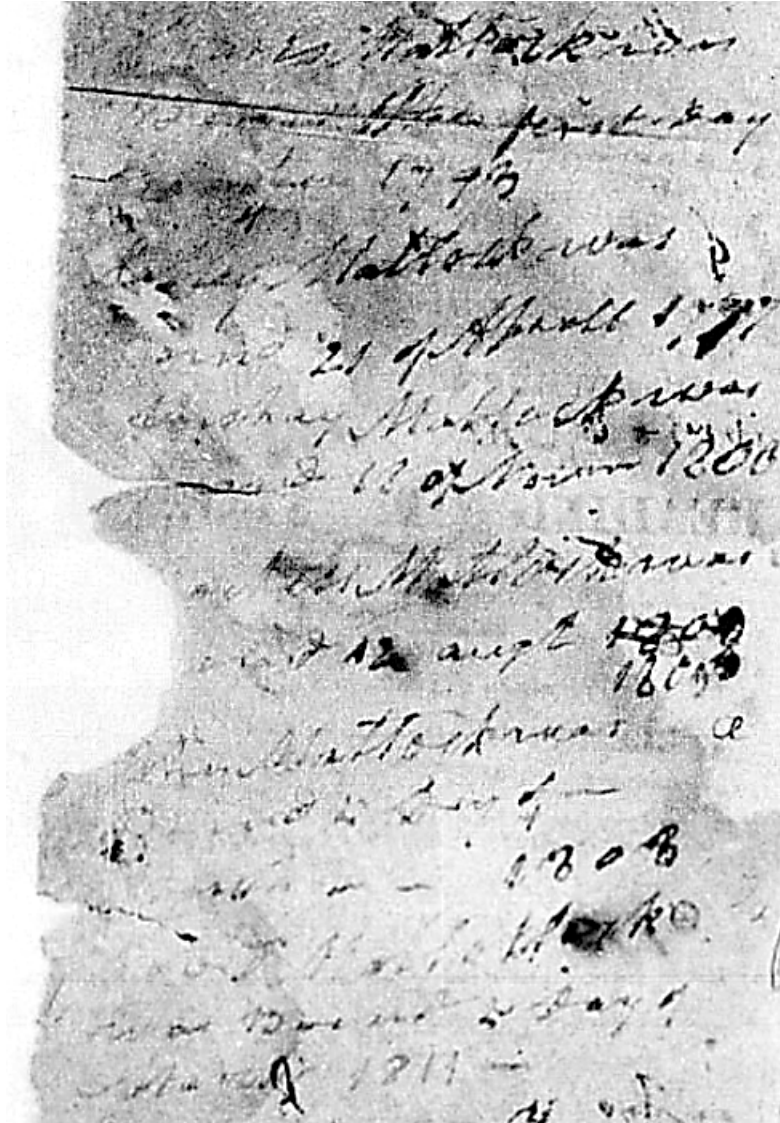
[p 18: On December 31, 1844 in Rockingham County North Carolina, John Matlock filed an affidavit stating that he is the son of John Matlock, a revolutionary war soldier, and his wife Mary Matlock who has applied for a pension; that the attached family record is in the

handwriting of his father John Matlock; that his parents lived together as man and wife until his father's death on September 1, 1838.



John Matlock

[p 9: contains the family record but it is mostly illegible as posted in both Fold3.com and Ancestry.com. The Fold3.com version is the more legible of the two as appears as follows:

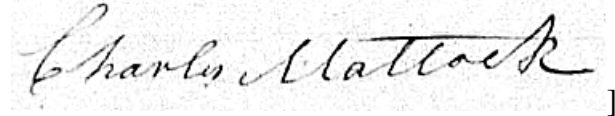


John Matlock was
born first day
of September 1773
Mary Matlock was
born 21 of April 1771
John Matlock was
born 10 of October 1800
Mary Matlock was
born 12 of August 1800
John Matlock was
born 10 of August 1808
John Matlock was
born 10 of August 1811

[p 20: On December 31, 1844 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Rhodie Settle, 76, gave testimony that she was present at the marriage of John Matlock and Mary his wife; that they lived together as man and wife and that there oldest child Charles Matlock was born about the year after their marriage. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 17: On March 13, 1855 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Charles Matlock filed a power of attorney in which he states he is the son and heir at law of John Matlock, deceased, a

revolutionary war pensioner.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Matlock". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "Charles" is written in a larger, more prominent hand than "Matlock". The signature is enclosed in a small rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[Facts in file: widow's maiden name was Mary Settle or Suttle; the following is a list of the names of the children of John Matlock and Mary his wife as found in different documents within the file:

Charles born December 1, 1793

Salley born April 21, 1797

Abishay [Abisha] born November 18, 1800

[paper torn] born August 12, 1803 or 1805

John born March 1808

David born March 1811]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing August 27, 1823, for service as a Sergeant for 3 years in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing September 1, 1838, the date of his death.]