

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Patton (Patten) W4758

Elizabeth Patton

f85NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/12/09: rev'd 11/3/17

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 6]

State of North Carolina Burke County } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions July Session 1841

On this 22nd day of July A.D. 1841 Personally appeared in open Court Elizabeth Patton a resident of the County of Burke and State of North Carolina aged Seventy-five years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled "An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows," That -- she is the widow of Robert Patton who served in the War of the Revolution as a Captain of Cavalry and also as a soldier in the Militia -- As to the particulars of the service rendered the United States during the War of the Revolution she has no personal knowledge and is unable to speak of it, only from what she subsequently understood from her Husband and other persons with whom she frequently heard him converse on the subject -- She has no recollection of hearing him say when or under whom he first entered the service but is satisfied from every thing she has heard him say (as well as many others) that he was one amongst the first man in North Carolina to take up arms in defense of his Country's Rights and is also satisfied from Evidence hereunto attached and from other sources that he continued in the service of his Country until near the Close of the War.

She is inclined to believe and does believe that the first tour of duty performed by him was in the character of "Indian Spy" that William Morrison had a Company who were engaged in search of the Indians in the Western part of North Carolina and that her husband performed at least one tour of three months under the said Captain Morrison -- she recollects to have heard her Husband frequently speak about his trip in the Western part of the State against the Indians -- a stream in Buncombe County called (now called Hominy) was so called from the fact that during his trip as above a large Indian was shot either by him or some of the men with him and on examining him it was discovered that a quantity of Hominy came out of the Bullet hole -- Her Husband may have performed, and she thinks did perform more than one tour against the Indians but as she cannot distinctly recollect with whom he served will content herself with stating that she has done the tour served under Captain Morrison.

This may or it may not have been the first tour ever performed by Robert Patton. The first time she ever heard him spoken of was by her Brother William Dysard [sic, William Dysart] who had left Mecklenburg where my Father James Dysard [sic, James Dysart] lived and came to work I think in the year 1779 or 1780 on his return I frequently heard him speak of Captain Robert Patton. My brother William [William Dysart] was killed at Cowan's Ford [February 1, 1781] by the British not more than 12 miles from my Fathers and I remember distinctly to have

heard the firing of Guns at the time.

As to the next tour performed by Robert Patton Deponent is unable to say where it was, but from his discharges and other papers relating to his service she is satisfied that as Captain he served two tours of three months each if not longer. That soon after the passage of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 she was advised that her Husband's pension could be obtained that, she then had a commission which he held as Captain of a Company [of] Cavalry during the War of the Revolution and several other written evidences of his services -- that after she had laid the him before a Grath [? great?] man of the Bar and was told that her Husband being then dead and having died before the passage of the law was not entitled to receive anything, she considered them of no value, and threw them carelessly away so that at this time she is unable to offer any other written evidence of his service other than the receipts hereunto attached -- One of the Tours during which he served as Captain I recollect to have heard him say that he was at Moncks Corner and also that after he left there he marched his Company to Cross Creek in North Carolina and before he retired joined General Rutherford's [Griffith Rutherford's] troops -- I remember to have heard him state that General McDowell [Charles McDowell] or Colonel McDowell [Joseph McDowell] was with him when he first set out but that a part of his company were left behind and that he either went back or remained on the way for a few days waiting for them -- I cannot pretend to say what other officers were with him although I have frequently heard him speak of them nor do I know any person by whom his services during this tour can be established except Samuel Patton<sup>1</sup> of Buncombe County.

The last tour that I recollect to have heard him say that he was engaged in was in the fall or summer of the year 1780 -- I have often heard him say that he was Captain of a Horse Company at the battle of "Kings Mountain" [October 7, 1780] on the line between North and South Carolina the officers under whom he served, and the men under his command and belonging to his Company I have frequently heard him name, but by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory I am unable to give anything like a satisfactory history of his service -- The whole period of his services which I have endeavored as well as I am able to speak of in this Declaration amounts to 3 tours of 3 months each and I am fully convinced has satisfied in my own mind that if the Services of Robert Patton during the War of the Revolution could be fully set forth as he could do, were he living, it would be considered equal to twelve months or more actual service in defense of his Country.

She further swears that she married the said Robert Patton in the year 1782 or 1783 (she thinks the former) but the month or day of the month she is unable to say that her Husband Captain Robert Patton died on the 18th day of March in the year 1813, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but that the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794 viz. at or near the time above stated.

Sworn to in open Court July 22nd 1841.

S/ Elizabeth Patten

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Patten". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

S/ J J Erwin, Clerk

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<sup>1</sup> [Samuel Patton S8934](#)

[Facts in file: Robert Patton died in Burke County North Carolina at the age of 65 years 4 months and 8 days; he is buried in the burying ground at Drucilla old church, McDowell County North Carolina; Elizabeth Patten, the widow, died June 9, 1844 aged 78 years, 4 months and 9 days and she is buried beside her husband; the veteran and his wife had the following children

Margaret born January 14, 1785

Robert born March 1, 1787

Mary born April 2, 1789

Elizabeth born July 11, 1791

James born February 20, 1795

Charity born May 24, 1796

Mary Ann born November 4, 1798

Cynthia born November 8, 1802

The following children survived their mother, James who was living in McDowell County North Carolina in 1853; Robert, Mary Jeffries or Jeffers; Margaret Conway; Elizabeth Pearson; Mary Ann Queen or Quinn; Cynthia Hall and Charity Moore, wife of John Moore; in 1845 John Moore was living in McDowell County North Carolina; Elizabeth Dysart Patton had brothers William (killed at Cowan's Ford), John who was at the battle of Kings mountain; and James Dysart who was born in 1768 and the living in 1841.]

[pp 4-5: original family record giving the birth dates of the children of Robert and Elizabeth Patton.

Margaret Patten was born the 14 day of January in the year of our Lord 1785	James Go. Patton born the 20 of February in the year of our Lord 1795
Robert Patten was born the 1 day of March in the year of our Lord 1787	Charity Patten was born the 24 day of May in the year of our Lord 1796
Mary Patten was born the 2 day of April in the year of our Lord 1789	Mary Ann was born the 4 day of November in the year of our Lord 1798
Elizabeth Patten was born the 11 day of July in the year of our Lord 1791	Cynthia Patten was born the 8 day of November in the year of our Lord 1802

[p 39: On April 27, 1844 in Burke County North Carolina, James Patton gave testimony that he is the son of Robert & Elizabeth Patton; that his father was known and reputed to have been a Captain in the Revolutionary War when he lived in Burke County North Carolina; that the family record is the authentic record of the births of the children of his parents; and that the said record is in the handwriting of his father, Robert Patton.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Patton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "James" is written in a larger, more decorative hand, while "Patton" is written in a slightly smaller, more practical hand. The signature is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

[p 37]

State of North Carolina Buncombe County SS }

Personally appeared Samuel Patton of the County and State aforesaid before me John Hawkins one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County and State and after being duly sworn upon the holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith he was well acquainted with Captain Robert Patton of the ancient revolutionary war, that said Robert Patton commanded this deponent and others of a light horse troop, formed in Burke County NC for three months during which time said troop were almost solely commanded by said Captain Patton through North & South Carolina, said troop with Captain Patton started for South Carolina under General Charles McDowell, who however soon returned home he not joining said troop during the tour or any higher officer being over said troop until near the close of the three months aforesaid when they were joined by General Rutherford's command shortly preceding Ramsour's<sup>2</sup> battle but General Rutherford's active command were unable to reach the place of the contest until the battle was over Captain Robert Patton's command was defeated during the 3 months above mentioned in a skirmish near Moncks Corner<sup>3</sup> SC from thence the troop under said Captain Patton marched to Cross Creek (Fayetteville) NC where he learned that General Rutherford was marching to join in fighting in Lincoln County NC and Captain Patton joined General Rutherford as above stated. Sworn to and subscribed before made the 28th November A.D. 1840.

S/ John Hawkins, JP

S/ Samuel Patton, P his mark

[p 59: affidavit dated September 24, 1841 given in Burke County North Carolina by James Dysard [sic, so spelled throughout the affidavit, but his signature appears to me to read "Dysart"], 73, stating that he is the brother of Elizabeth Dysart Patton, widow of Captain Robert Patton; he states that he was present at their marriage and that he was 14 or 15 years old at the time and that he was born in 1768; that affiant's brother John Dysard [sic]<sup>4</sup> was a private and was at the Battle of Kings Mountain at the same time that Captain Patton was there and he frequently heard them speaking of being together at the battle of Kings Mountain.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Dysard". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "James" is written in a larger, more decorative hand, while "Dysard" is written in a slightly smaller, more practical hand. The signature is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

<sup>2</sup> Ramsour's Mill June 20, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ramsours.htm>

<sup>3</sup> This MAY be a reference to the engagement at Biggin Bridge April 14, 1780.

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/bigginbr.htm>

<sup>4</sup> [John Dvsart S3315](#)

[p 16: On November 23, 1844 in Wake County North Carolina Sylvester Bettis testified that James Patton, son of Captain Robert Patton and Elizabeth his wife, died "a few months ago" (testimony given on November 23, 1844) having delivered to Bettis prior to his death a paper writing which read as follows:

"May 5th 1784 – Received £21 Specie from the David Vance part of William Young's wages for a tour served under Captain Robert Patton in South Carolina in the spring of 1780 –  
S/ Abraham Plumlee"]

[p 34: Certificate dated February 12, 1852 from William J. Clark, Comptroller of the state of North Carolina showing the payments made to Captain Robert Patton as reflected on the books in his office.]

[p 47: On May 28, 1853 in Burke County North Carolina, Elisha F Walker gave testimony that at the request of James Patton of McDowell County North Carolina and son of Robert and Elizabeth Patton, the affiant visited the Drucilla old Church yard in McDowell County for the purpose of copying the information on the tombstones of Robert and Elizabeth Patton and that the following is a true copy thereof.

In memory of Robert Patton who died 18 March, 1813, Age 65 Y. 4 M. 8d

In memory of Elizabeth Patton who died 9 June, 1844, Age 78 Y. 4 M 9d.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$195.83 per annum (increase from \$150 per annum) based on her husband service as a Captain of cavalry for 7 months and 25 days in the North Carolina militia.]