

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Lawrence (Laurence)W5020 Angelina Mary fn60NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/7/10

[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 Chatham County

On this \_\_ day of November John Laurence personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting John Lawrence a resident of the County of Chatham and State of North Carolina aged seventy-one 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 as a volunteer in April in the year 1777 [could be 1779] as well as he now can recollect in the County of Granville and State of North Carolina under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was placed under Captain Abraham Potter. That he marched under Captain Abraham Potter to Hillsboro where General Butler [John Butler] took command from there he marched to Salisbury from thence to Charlotte from thence he marched to South Carolina where he was placed under the command of General Lincoln and then was marched through South Carolina to Augusta in Georgia and was marched down the Savannah River eight days, then recrossed the Savannah into South Carolina and marched to Stono there he remained until after the Battle at Stono. That his Term of service expired shortly after the Battle at Stono and that he was there discharged. That he has lost or mislaid the discharge. That he has no documentary Evidence whereby he can prove his services and that he knows of no person by whom he can prove it that if there are any of his Comrades yet living he is so infirm that he is unable to travel in search of them. That he has been removed from Granville County for 25 years and has not seen any one of them since the nor does he know that any of them are now alive. And he further upon his oath states That he entered the service again the 3rd day of May in the year 1780 as a substitute for and in the place of one John Kittrell for a three months tour which Tour was to commence after he got out of the State. That there was two companies started from Granville County and that he was placed under Captain Samuel Harris that some time afterwards the Company got broke and he was put under the command of Captain Peter Bennett. That he was marched to Hillsboro which was called head quarters. That he was there again put under the command of General Butler and marched down Haw River to the Island Ford there they crossed, marched to Ramsey's Mills on Deep River from thence he was marched to Fayetteville. There he was marched to the East side of Cape Fear or Clarendon River and marched down into Bladen County there they recrossed the River and marched to South Carolina. There they joined headquarters under General Gates. That he remained a short time under General Gates and he further states that a few days before Gates Defeat he was marched off with a detachment to reinforce General Sumter who was marching up the Wateree [River], and he further states that

after he joined General Sumter they marched three or four days and nights without rest. That they marched to the Catawba River and there they halted to draw rations and take some refreshment when they were taken by surprise by the British and he was taken prisoner with a number of others. He was then taken to Camden. And from there to Charleston and put on board of a prison ship and there remained until the smallpox got amongst them he was then removed to Hospital and remained there for a considerable time how long he does not recollect. And he further states that as well as he now Recollects he was taken prisoner in the month of August 1780 and remained a prisoner until sometime in July 1781 that he was sent round to what is called old James Town in the State of Virginia where he was exchanged and returned home sometime in August 1781 making a Tour of 15 months and he further states that when he was exchanged he got a pass to return home from a Captain John Loss but that pass is lost. That he has no documentary evidence that he can show and that he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure to testify to his services. And he further states that there was eleven prisoners taken with him that went from Granville and Franklin counties with whom he was acquainted. And that they all died of disease on board the prison ship and in the Hospital except himself. That he was the only one who returned home and that he was in such a weakly state of health that it was with difficulty he got home.

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 any agency or State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Lawrence, X his mark

[Richard Drake, a clergyman, and Daniel McLane gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

#### Question By the Court

Where and in were year were you Born

Answer I was Born in Granville County North Carolina on the 12th day of May 1761.

Have you any Record of your age and if so where is it

Answer I have seen the record of my age in a large family Bible which belonged to my Grandfather and one of my aunts has carried it to South Carolina as I am informed and believe

Where were you living when called into service and where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live

Answer I lived in Granville County NC when I entered the service and continued there until the close of the war. I then went to Virginia and lived there one year I then returned to Granville and lived there 6 or 7 years from there I removed to Wake County NC from there I removed to Chatham County where I have lived for the last 16 years.

How were you called into the service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a Substitute

Answer I volunteered for the first Term of service for the 2nd I was a substitute of one John Kittrill.

State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the Troops where you served such Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect and the General circumstances of

your service

Answer I have given the names of all of the officers that I can recollect in the body of the foregoing declaration that I can swear to safely the nature of the services were such that I was shifted from one place to another and changed officers so often that at this great lapse of time when my memory has become so treacherous I cannot recollect more than I have related with certainty

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

Answer I did receive a discharge from the first Term of my service and I think I got it from Captain Abraham Potter But whose name was signed to it I do not recollect. I kept it for several years until I concluded it would never be of any more service to me and I Expt [sic, expect?] It was destroyed as a useless paper

[fn p. 49]

The amended Declaration of John Laurence further to explain his former Declaration He John Laurence upon his oath states that he entered the service of the United States as a private in a volunteer Company commanded by Captain Abraham Potter in the County of Granville and State of North Carolina in the month of April 1779 for a three months tour of service to be performed in South Carolina. That he marched as stated in his Declaration and he further saith That he served three months from the time he got into South Carolina before he was discharged after the Battle at Stono. And this applicant further upon his oath saith That he again in the Revolutionary War as a private and a substitute for John Kittrell in the County of Granville and State of North Carolina for a three months Tour to be performed in South Carolina and he further [says] that he entered the service on the 3rd day of May 1780. That he marched under the officers set forth in his declaration and he further saith that from some arrangements that were [indecipherable word] he was bound to perform three months service in South Carolina or his term would have expired on the 3rd day of August 1780 a short time before Sumter was Defeated and this applicant taken prisoner. That he does not recollect the day of the month he was taken up his Impression is that it was about the 26 day of August 1780 and he further saith That he can positively and safely say that in the last tour of service he served three and one half months before he was taken a prisoner. And he further saith that he was in actual service six and one half months and he further saith That he is positive that he remained a prisoner of war eleven months before he was exchanged as he states in his Declaration. That he distinctly recollects he returned to his friends in the latter part of August 1781 and he further saith that after he was exchanged he made all possible speed to get home that his health and strength would permit him to do. And he further saith that he would much rather be under the time than state over. That he thinks could safely have stated the whole at eleven months but can positively say it was seventeen and one half months that he served and was a prisoner put together. And he further upon his oath states that for his last term of service in the Army and for the term he remained a prisoner of war he has never received one farthing of pay. And he further saith that when he entered the service of the United States he enjoyed uninterrupted good health that at the time he was made prisoner he was Rode down by a British Dragoon and severely injured which caused a Rupture which has added much to his other bodily affliction. And he further upon his oath saith that from the Savage and Brute like treatment he with the other prisoners received on their Marched to Charleston and from foul air and disease that was on board the prison ship and the unwholesome food they had to subsist

upon That out of eleven who were made prisoner with whom he was acquainted he was the only one that survived. And he further saith that he returned home to his friends and entire invalid and that he had remained so ever since. And he further saith that he was not apprised at the time of filing his Declaration that any provision for invalids of any description or he should so stated his case for the consideration of the War Department. And he further saith that he was not apprised at that time of any proof that he could make relative to his services from his proscribed situation from old age and bodily infirmity and he further saith that he has since faut [sic, found] out that Stephen Rodgers and James Huckabee with whom he was raised and who knew him from his youth until the Revolutionary War and during the war and for a long time afterward, were both yet living and he further saith that he procured their depositions and amended his Declaration. And that they were deposited with his attorney J. S. Guthrie last August. That he thought his attorney had transmitted them to the War Department that he has lately found he had not. That he has found out that the depositions are lost. That he has been able to procure the deposition of Stephen Rodgers in ad [sic?] of his claim But the Deposition of James Huckabee which he thinks very important he cannot procure again (he Huckabee having removed to the Alabama or Louisiana) and further he saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of February 1834  
S/ Geo. Luther, JP S/ John Laurence, X his mark

[fn p. 26: long affidavit given by Stephen Rogers [also spelled Stephen Rodgers] stating his life-long friendship with John Laurence, living in his neighborhood at the time of Laurence's entering the service both times, of Laurence's long absence from home following his second service; of Laurence coming home after his long imprisonment broken in body.]

[fn p. 12: on April 8, 1841 in Chatham County North Carolina, Angelina Mary Laurence gave testimony at her own house that she is 75 years old as of the 20th of March last past; that she is the widow of John Laurence; that she married him February 317 86 in Granville County North Carolina; that her husband died October 25, 1834. This testimony was given in connection with an application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act.]

[fn p. 14 family record]

Henry Lawrence the sone [sic] of John Lawrence was bornd December 20<sup>th</sup> 1786

Avereler Lawrence was born march 3th [sic] 1789

ELezebeth [sic] Lawrence was born Fabuary [sic] 26<sup>th</sup> 1791

Lucy Lawrence was born may 17<sup>th</sup> 1793

John Lawrence the sone of John Lawrence was born Febuary 20<sup>th</sup> 1796

William Lawrence was born 26<sup>th</sup> of march 1799

thompson Lawrence was born 15<sup>th</sup> of November 1801

Theophilus lawrence sone of John lawrence and angelina was [born] April 11, 1806

[fn p. 18]

State of North Carolina Chatham County: This day Angelina Mary Laurence widow of John Laurence personally appeared before me George Luther one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid who after being sworn in due form of law on her oath declares that the annexed Register is the original family Register of her and her husband's family and Register that was kept by them and she further upon her oath saith that her Husband John Laurence was

and unlearned man that he could neither read nor write and she further saith that the ages of her seven first born children is set down in the hand writing of Jonas fuller of Granville County North Carolina and she further saith that her last son was born in Wake County North Carolina and that his age is in handwriting of Titus J. Turner and she further upon her oath declares that this family [sic?] here unt [sic] attached has been in the Sourt [sic, sole?] possession of herself and husband from the times it was made to his death and that it has been in her possession from the death of her said husband John Laurence up to the present day. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of June 1841

S/ George Luther, JP

S/ Angelina Mary Lawrence, X her mark

[Lucy Lawrence, 48, gave an affidavit supporting her mother's statement above.]

[fn p. 59: Henry Laurence, 54, also gave an affidavit in support of his mother's application.]

[fn p. 59: Theophilus Laurence, 35, also gave an affidavit in support of his mother's application.]

[fn p. 60: on April 9, 1841, in Chatham County North Carolina, Lucy Utley, 73, gave an affidavit stating is the sister of Angelina Mary Lawrence; that she was seventeen years of age when her sister married John Lawrence; that she was present at her father's house when the marriage took place; that she is confident the marriage took place on February 3, 1786 in Granville County North Carolina.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$58.33 per annum commencing on March 4, 1831 for 17 1/2 months service in the revolution.]