

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Scrivner W6000

Mary

fn39PA/NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/28/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[fn p. 11]

State of Tennessee, Smith County

On this 5th day of September 1832, personally appeared before me John Tubb one of the Justices of the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County in said State (the said court being a court of record) Benjamin Scrivner a citizen of said County aged 75 years on the 20th day of June last past, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832.

That he volunteered in the service of the United States some time during the revolutionary war, but at what particular date he cannot presently state; he entered service in the state of Pennsylvania. Northampton County, under General \_\_ Woodford, & John Oakley Quarter master General, the names of the other officers he cannot now recollect; that part of the Army under the command of General Woodford was, at the time his applicant joined it, lying near Germantown in said State. Immediately after he entered the service he was employed in carrying expresses from General Woodford to a place called Little York & then back to General Woodford again, when he was not thus engaged he was employed as a common soldier, such as standing guard &c for General Woodford remained stationary nearly the whole of the time that this applicant was with him, which was about eight months the length of time for which this applicant had volunteered – he cannot recollect the names of any other officers, nor was he in any battle or engagement during the said 8 months. When his term of service expired, he received a regular discharge signed by John Oakley Quarter master General, as aforesaid, which discharge will be accounted for hereafter,

After this applicant received his discharge as aforesaid he went to the State of North Carolina, Rowan County, when & where the Tories were doing a great deal of mischief. When he arrived in North Carolina, he volunteered again <sup>for 6 months</sup> (the date he cannot recollect but expects to prove the date of this service by a disinterested witness then and there living) & entered the

service of the United States under General Rutherford, Cols. Isaacs, Captain. Jacob Nichols, Lieutenant \_\_ Chapman, James Beaty (orderly Sergeant) he does not recollect the names of any other officers under General. Rutherford. After he had remained with General Rutherford until his time of service had expired during which time they had many skirmishes with the Tories, he received a written discharge from General Rutherford, signed by his Captain Jacob Nichols, which discharge will also be accounted for, hereafter.

A short time after he was discharged as last above named, he Volunteered, (a third time) in the said State of North Carolina, Rowan County, and entered the service again under the same General Rutherford, Cols. Lopp [John Lopp], Major Frederick Smith, Captain. Peter Headrick & Lieutenant Wagle. The Tories were now very troublesome -- shortly after he entered the service this last time Cols. Childs came up from neighborhood of Deep River a distance of about 50 or 60 miles and brought news that the Tories were doing great damage there, where upon General Rutherford ordered the troops under his command to march immediately to Deep River to subdue the Tories, the troops to which this applicant belonged did march to that place & had a very severe skirmish with the Tories, many of whom were killed, some hung, in this skirmish Colonel Childs was shot through the arm & his arm was broke by the ball. After we had dispersed the Tories and [sic, on] Deep River the troops returned to Rowan and we continued to pursue & annoy the Tories whenever we could hear of them, we were thus engaged until the six months for which this applicant had volunteered had expired, when he together with many others in the same service were dismissed without any written discharge. Not long after this last campaign to Deep River & his discharge as aforesaid, he was drafted to go a campaign into South Carolina to Purillsburgh [sic, Purrysburg] under the same General Rutherford & Captain Peter Headrick, the names of the other officers he has forgotten; the troops marched to Purillsburgh in South Carolina & shortly after our arrival there, we received intelligence that peace was made and we were discharged by General Rutherford & our discharges were signed by our Captain Peter Headrick. This applicant is wholly unable to state the dates when he entered into or was discharged from the service, but expects he can prove by disinterested persons, what will be satisfactory ot the war department upon this subject -- He was in no battle or engagement except the skirmishes with the Tories as aforesaid, which were very frequent. This applicant has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his service as aforesaid -- but expects to prove by the accompanying certificates & affidavits several particulars in relation to dates & other circumstances relative to his said service, which from old age and great length of time has entirely faded from his recollection. He had carefully preserved the three discharges spoken of above, though not with the view of their ever profiting him anything, until the fall of the year 1825, when his dwelling house together with what little property he had therein and the three discharges above spoken of were consumed by fire, by which this applicant is deprived, not only of the best means of proving the services above described, but is also, thereby, reduced to the most abject & hapless poverty.

(Here the interrogatories prescribed by the war department were propounded to the applicant)

1 Where and in what year was you born?

Ans -- I was born in the state of Pennsylvania & County of Plumstead & on the 20th day of June 1757.

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

Answer I had and it was burned when my house was burnt as above stated.

3 Where were you living when called into service; and where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live?

[Answer] The foregoing declaration contains a full answer to this Question.

4 State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where your served, such continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service?

[Answer] I am unable to give any better answer to this question that has been detailed in the foregoing declaration.

5 How were your called into the service was your drafted, did you volunteer, or was you a substitute & if so for whom?

[Answer] The answer to this question is also to be found in the foregoing declaration.

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

[Answer] I rec'd 3 different discharges signed by the persons as stated in the above declaration & the same were burned together with my house in the fall of 1825 as above stated

7 State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, & who can testify as to character for veracity, & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer -- I refer you to Levi A. Durham, Samuel Walker , James Jones, and many others of my neighbors who have known me for many years.

This applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is no on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ Benjamin Scrivner, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & year above

S/ John Tubb, JP

[Levi a Durham, a clergyman, and Samuel Walker gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 20]

State of Tennessee Smith County: Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the peace for said County, Benjamin Scrivner who being duly sworn deposed & saith, that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades: For eight months in the State of Pennsylvania under General Woodford as bearer of expresses for a part of the time (how long he cannot state) the balance of the time as a common soldier – he only claims pay as a common soldier for this 8 months – I served my second tour of service as a common soldier under General Rutherford in North Carolina for six months; I served my third tour of service for six months under the same General Rutherford in North Carolina as a common soldier – I also served my 4th tour of service as a common soldier on a campaign to Purvillsburgh South Carolina under the same General Rutherford for a term of Five months all of which terms of service except the last above mentioned, are set forth in the foregoing declaration; and for such service I claim a pension. That I was in actual service during all the above periods of time & was not during the time of any of the above periods named periods [sic] engaged in any civil pursuit.

S/ Benjamin Scrivner, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 27th day of April A.D. 1833

S/ John Tubb, JP

[fn p. 34: in an application for a new certificate dated January 22, 1835 filed in Smith County Tennessee, the veteran describes himself as the same man who formerly belonged to the company of Captains Jacob Nichols and Peter Headrick in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Francis Lock [Francis Locke].]

[fn p. 18: James Jones gave testimony on September 5, 1832 in Smith County Tennessee that he has known the veteran for 20 years; first knew him in Roan [Rowan] County North Carolina; frequently heard his father (not named) say that he was a 5-month messmate with the veteran in the revolutionary war .]

[fn p. 18: Mary Briggs gave testimony on September 6, 1832 in Smith County Tennessee that she has been acquainted with the veteran for 71 years; first knew him in Pennsylvania in Northampton County then in Rowan County North Carolina; well knows he was drafted for 6 months in North Carolina under Colonel Lop [Lopp], Major Smith, Captain Peter Headrick; she well recollects the draft was in the year 1779.]

[fn p. 4: On September 23rd, 1837, in Smith County Tennessee, Mary Scrivner, 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Benjamin Scrivner; that she was married to him December 28, 1778; recollects that when the battle of Guilford was fought her oldest child good standalone and walk a little; that her husband died March 16, 1835; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 6: Mary Briggs, 76, gave testimony in Smith County Tennessee on October 4, 1837, that she knew Benjamin Scrivner and his wife Mary Cox before they were married and after their marriage when they lived in Rowan County North Carolina about 12 miles from Salisbury; that they were married by a justice of the peace named Matthew Troy [could be Froy] called Squire Troy; that they were married to the best of her recollection in the last days of December say 28 or 29th of December 1778.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$56.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, full one-year and 5 months service and that Pennsylvania and North Carolina militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the same rate commencing March 16, 1835.]