

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Stephens W6189 Jane fn16NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/10/11

[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. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 22nd day of February 1839, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace and one of the Justices of the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the aforesaid County (the same being a Court of Record) as her own residence, she being from bodily infirmity, unable to attend Court to make this Declaration – Jane Stephens of the aforesaid County of Orange aged 72 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 made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows."

This Declarant states that she is the widow of Henry Stephens Deceased who in the War of the revolution Served the United States Eighteen months as hereinafter stated. To wit:

1st The Declarant, the said Jane Stephens Stateth further upon her said oath, that she has reason to believe and does believe that in the year of 1780, as a Substitute for his father John Stephens, her deceased husband, Henry Stephens, aforesaid did serve a three months tour of duty in the militia in the United States Service in Captain Farmer's Company and was under General Gates at his defeat in August 1780, has heard her deceased husband frequently in his life time speak of this tour.

That in this tour her deceased husband has she has ever understood was in said tour in a legally organized Corps and called into Service by Competent authority, and served all of said Tour, as Substitute as aforesaid for his father, John Stephens. See affidavit "A"

2. This Declarant further states upon her said oath, that she has reason to believe and does believe, that her Deceased husband the said Henry Stephens, did in the Summer of 1781 enlist for Twelve months in the United States Service and was in Captain Donoho's [Thomas Donoho's] Company, during said enlistment was under General Greene, and was in the battle at Eutaws [sic, Eutaw Springs] for which and the previous Service, this Declarant thinks she has heard her deceased husband say he got discharges – but does not know what has become of them. Has heard him in his lifetime frequently speak of being in the Eutaw Battle and of the hardships he suffered in said twelve months service.

In proof of this period of twelve months Service, the declarant has procured the affidavit of Samuel Scott and has also procured from the Secretary of State, the annexed Certificate, marked "B".

3. The said Declarant, Jane Stephens, has reason to believe & does believe, that in the fall of 1782, her husband as a private of Militia, did serve the United States as Volunteer (she thinks) in Captain Guinn's Company Colonel William O'Neal & General Butler [John Butler] were the Superior Officers – was in this tour she thinks to the South and was a while on the Pedee [River] & Sandy Creek and served all of said tour as private under Colonel O'Neal.

This Declarant is under the impression that her husband received a discharge for this tour also, but that it is lost.

That in this tour, as in the former, her husband was in a legally organized Corps and called into service by Competent Authority, This tour she proved by the affidavit [of] John Dolly, said affidavit is marked "C."

That she has repeatedly heard her Deceased husband say that as a private Soldier, he served the United States in the war of the Revolution eighteen months and for which service this Declarant claims a pension.

She further declares that she was married to the said Henry Stephens, by William Lytle Esquire on the second Thursday in August 1787. She has no record of the time she was married, but nevertheless remembers the date very well by the birth of her first child, Elizabeth, and that Elizabeth was born in the August of the next year after she was married, say a year and three weeks after her marriage.

This Declarant has a memorandum of the births of her eldest children, which is in the handwriting of the late Colonel Charles Christmas, and is as follows, to wit:

"Elizabeth Stephens, daughter of Henry Stephens and Jane his wife, was born the 30th day of August 1788."

"Benjamin Stephens Son of the above parents was born July 3 A.D. 1790."

"Milly Stephens, daughter of the above parents was born September 28 A.D. 1792."

"Nancy Stephens daughter of the above parents was born March 8th day, A.D. 1795."

The above memorandum, taken from the original, this Declarant states is a true and just record of the births of her for first children, and was written as above stated by Colonel Christmas about forty years ago – and is hereto annexed.

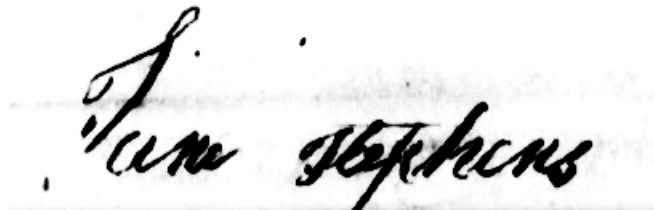
This Declarant states, as above mentioned, she was married to the said Henry Stephens on the 9th day of August 1787. That her husband the aforesaid Henry Stephens, died on the last day of February 1814.

That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but that the marriage took place previous to the first of January, 1794, viz. at the time above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed, on the day & year above written.

Test: S/ Thomas Jones, JP

S/ Jane Stephens

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Stephens". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first letter "J" is large and loops around the "a". The name "Stephens" is written in a similar cursive style.

"Elizabeth Stephens daughter of Henry Stephens & Jean [sic] his wife was born the 30th day of August 1788

Benjamin Stephens son of the above Parents was born July the 3rd A.D. 1790

Mille Stephens daughter of the above Parents was born September the 28th A.D. 1792

Nancy Stephens daughter of the above Parents was born March the 8th A.D. 1795"

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 10th day of November 1838, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, Samuel Scott a resident of the aforesaid County aged 72 years, who being first duly qualified according to law maketh oath that he was acquainted with Henry Stephens Deceased of the aforesaid County who was a soldier during the war of the Revolution in the Service of the United States. This Deponent remembers that said Stephens during said war of the Revolution enlisted or was drafted into the United States service for a period of 12 or 18 months, this deponent does not now distinctly remember which – nor the date of said Stephens's joining the Service – that this Deponent remembers that it was but a short time before the battle of the Eutaw Springs and was always understood that said Stephens was in that engagement and did serve out the period of his enlistment or draft –

This Declarant is acquainted with Mrs. Jane Stephens the widow of the said Henry Stephens aforesaid, that the said Jane is now applying for a pension, as the widow of the aforesaid Soldier Henry Stephens – that he is well acquainted with said Jane Stephens – that her husband died several years ago – that she will was his widow on the 4th day of July 1836, and still remains his widow. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Samuel Scott, X his mark

State of North Carolina Orange County: SS

On this the 21st day of February 1839, personally appeared before the Undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Dolley,¹ a resident of said County aged 85 years, who being first duly sworn according to law maketh oath that, he was well acquainted with the late Henry Stephens of said County (whose widow Jane Stephens is now applying for a pension)

This affiant remembers that in the war of the Revolution and in the year 1780, said Henry Stephens as a Substitute for his father John Stephens, did serve a three months tour of duty in the Militia and was in Gates defeat, as he has often heard said Stephens say. This Deponent does not remember of seeing said Henry Stephens in the service in said tour – but it was so said, and understood at the time and this Deponent has never heard it contradicted or disputed.

This Deponent remembers that in the fall of 1782, he saw said Henry Stephens as a private Soldier in Captain Quinn's Company that they were under Colonel O'Neal, and were marched to the South and at the end of their Service were discharged in Hillsboro having been out three months as this Deponent has always understood & believed – This Deponent further states that he was married in 1781 and that said Henry Stephens and Jane Holloway (the present widow Stephens) were married to the best of this Deponent's belief about six years after this Deponent was married. Sworn and subscribed the day & date first above written before me.

S/ Richard Nichols, JP

S/ John Dolley, X his mark

¹ [John Dolley S6802](#)

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war that Henry Stephens a private Soldier in Captain Donoho's Company of the 10th Regiment was mustered on the 14th day of June 1781 for 12 months and that he left the service on the 14th day of June 1782.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of November 1838

S/ Wm Hill

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843 for his service as a private in the North Carolina line.]