

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Daniel Merritt W7441 Nancy Merritt NC [VA]
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 14 Nov 2014.

State of N. Carolina, Caswell County.

On this 10th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before His Honor James Martin judge of the Court of Caswell County, now sitting, Daniel Merritt a resident of said County, and State, aged 70 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 under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

He was born in the State of N. York, East Chester County [Eastchester in Westchester County?] on the 12th Day of December 1761.

In the year of '63 his father removed to North Carolina, into the immediate vicinity of the place which Milton now occupies, and which has been his principal residence until the present time. The register of my age in the parish is where I was born.

In the year of 1778 early in my 17th year of age my father sent me to the West under the care of a certain John Robertson, for the purpose of making a crop, expecting to remove to that country the ensuing fall. But unfortunately the times became troublesome, the Indians committed depredations on the Frontiers. I being a desolate* [footnote apparently reads "Dissolute."] youth, was ordered by the Capt. of the District to which I belonged, immediately to repair to Blackamore's Fort [sic: at present Fort Blackmore VA] on Clinch river, with guns, powder & balls at my own expense, and early in February with many other of the Inhabitants, we rallied at the Blockhouse on the north fork of Holston River [possibly Jeremiah Harrison's fort or Vance's Station near Saltville VA] where I was taken under the command of Capt. John Anderson [probably of Washington County VA Militia], who marched a company to the Fort where we were stationed, and we were occasionally Rangers and spies on the Frontiers. Sometime in the summer, I was ordered to Carter's valley, where I was continued as a spy, and building a fort until late in November. I was then ordered to prepare for a march to Kentucky, by what authority, I was not allowed to inquire, neither dared I refuse to obey. Fortunately there was a young man in that place, who was desirous to go to that country – I gave him a small sum, and he consented to take my place, and went on. — I then returned home to Caswell. — Exclusive of hiring Robt. Kidd [Robert Kidd] to go in my place to Kentucky, I served nine months.

In March 1779 it came to my number according to class. There was an immediate call for men to go to South Carolina. I volunteered myself for 4 months and marched on under the command of Capt. Berryman Turner, after being some time in the South State and in the vicinity of Augusta [GA], there was a call for volunteer Regiment of Infantry to be commanded by Colonel Malmada [sic: Marquis Francis de Malmedy] and Major Moore, Continental officers, in which I became one of the number, under the Command of Capt. James Carrington. I was in several scouting party engagements, and in the front and centre of the Stono Battle [Battle of Stono Ferry] on the 20th June 1779, where my file leaders right & left were shot down. I served under Col. Malmada until nearly the expiration of my time, then returned to my former Capt. from whom I received my discharge in the words following. — Stono encampment July 26th. this may certify that Daniel Merritt has faithfully served his Tour of duty agreeably to no. 2 and is at liberty to pass home to North Carolina, Caswell County. Benjamin Turner

In the year 1780, I was in the Western Country. Early in 1781 I volunteered for 2 months, which I served principally under the command of Capt. Samuel Johnson and Col. William Moore. – Was in the front and centre of the Guilford Battle [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]. – Some time in the month of May, I was called on to serve a three months tour according to my number, but being just in inoculation for the Small Pox I was excused – Shortly after another expedition was called for in which I served my 3 months under the command of Capt Adams Sanders, Col. William Moore, and Gen. [John]

Butler, in the neighbourhood of Fayetteville & Wilmington in which service, I was, at the time of the Eutaw Battle [Battle of Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781], and also the Capture of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781], & was subsequently discharged by Col. Moore. – making in all 9 months in the Frontier of Virginia, then Washington County, 4 mo. in S. Carolina 2 at Guilford & 3 at Wilmington [In a different hand]

The above has been drawn up by the applicant. It is necessary to supply some deficiencies in dates &c. – ~ – In the first place then in February of the year 1778. he commenced his first tour as stated by himself and was discharged at Hensons fort in Washington County Virginia in the month of November of the same year. His second tour of service commenced in March 1779 – and was discharged in the month of July following. He gives a copy of this discharge from recollection only having lost it some time ago. When he came back from the western country where he had lived during the year 1780 as he states above, He volunteered in Caswell County again for two months in January 1781.– He was discharged in the month of March following after the battle of Guilford – In the month of May of the same year (1781) he was called on according to his number as he states, but was excused for the reason assigned in his own statement. In July however following he was called on and served his three months this tour and was discharged in November 1781. He has no written discharge in his possession and says that the custom at that period was where he served to give no written discharge because the militia discharges took place in large numbers and there was no necessity for a written permission to go home. The reason why he happened as he states to get the written discharge a copy of which he has given from Capt Turner was that he was under the necessity of going alone to Augusta in Georgia on his own private business before he could return to Caswell county N.C. where he lived and he asked it of the Capt as a favour and received it as such.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not upon the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Interrogatories propounded by the Court to the applicant and his answers –

Question 1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer.– I was born in East Chester County in the State of New York on the 12th day of December 1761.

Ques'n. 2. Have you any record of your age, if so where is it?

Ans – There is a record of my age in the family Bible of my Father now in the possession of some of the children which I have not seen for some time.

Qust'n 3^d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary War & where do you now live?

Ans'r. I was in the western Country (in what is now Washington County State of Virginia), when I was first called into service I have lived in Caswell County & said state, since the revolutionary War; where I now live.

Ques'n. 4th. How were you called into service, were you Drafted Did you Volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute, for whom?

Ans'r. – The first Tour which I served I was drafted and the other Tours which I served, as I stated in my Declaration, I Volunteered –

Qustion 5th. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops where you served, such continental & militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Answer I knew Gen'l. [Benjamin] Lincoln, Gen'l. Butler, Colo. Henry Dixon, Colo. [Archibald] Lytle, Capt. William Lytle & Capt. [Thomas] Donoho & others of the Continental troops – Colo. [Robert] Mebane, Colo. Moore, Colo. Sanders. Capt. Adam Sanders Capt. Turner & others of the Militia. I well recollect their regements The Gen'l Circumstance of my service I have before detailed –

Qus'n. 6 Did you ever receive a Discharge from the service if so by whom was it given & what has

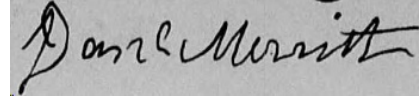
become of it – ?

Ans'r. I Rec'd but Two discharges, one from Captain Turner and the other from Colo. Moore; Both of which I have long since lost; for the other Tours I rec'd no written Discharges, it being unnecessary as we were generally disbanded & sent home.

Qus'n. 7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, who can testify as to your character for Veracity and good behaviour your services as a soldier in the revolution?

Ans'r. I am Generally Known in my County [Caswell] To any of whom I would refer for my character. I will name James Rainey the Chairman of our County Court, and Dr. John Waden & others both of whom also will prove my services in the revolution.

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid.



NOTE: On 8 June 1840 Nancy Merritt, 78, applied for a pension stating that she married Daniel Merritt on 27 Jan 1784, and he died 22 Dec 1833. With her application was a family register certified by Sidney S. Merritt as being in the handwriting of Daniel Merritt, transcribed below.

Dan'l. Merritt Born Dec'r. 12th 1761

Nancy His Wife Born Oct'r. 18 1769

Maried January 27th 1784

first Child Born Dec'r the 9th 1784

Saley D Merritt Born Dec'r 17th 178[?]

[?]oiney Born Oct'r 27th 1787

Laney Born Sept'r 23^d 23^d 1789

Poley[?] Born May 28th 1791

Nancy Born Oct'r 28th 1793

Dan'l G[?] Born Nov'r 19th 1795

Lucy M Born March 22nd 1798

[?]tney J Born January 4th 1800

Susanna Born July 8th 1802

Benj[?]on F[?] Born Sept'r 17th 1804

Sidney S Born Sept'r 25th 1807

[page torn] W merritt

[One reverse side]

One day after date I promise Thomas Phelps the sum of five cents full value of him received as Witness my hand and Seal the 18 of November 1826