

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Idol ¹ W7859

Cloy Idol

f77

Transcribed by Will Graves

revised 11/09/09 & 1/22/16

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

[p 11]

State of North Carolina, County of Stokes

On this 14 day of March 1833 personally appeared in open court, before the justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions ~~now sitting~~ for the County of Stokes now sitting Jacob Idol a resident in the County of Stokes and State of North Carolina aged about 71 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 7 June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated --

He states first that as well as he can recollect he was born in the year 1761 in Bucks County State of Pennsylvania, that he has no record of his age, that when he was called into service, he lived in the County of Rowan (now Davidson) that shortly after his service he moved across the line to the County of Stokes where he has lived ever since, he states that he served several tours in the Militia each term as a volunteer, -- that he entered the service the first term in the year 1781 for three months, in a company of mounted Light Infantry, commanded by Captain James Billingsley, William Davis Lieutenant; that whilst in this service he never was drawn to the Main Army and was employed with his company in marching about through the County to keep the Tories in check and at the end of three months received a discharge, having acted this term as Corporal. About the time the British marched from South Carolina, toward the battleground of Guilford [he] was again called out as a private under Captain William Davis to keep the Tories in awe and to observe them, when he was taken prisoner by the Tories and handed over to the British and carried below Guilford Court House, and at time of the battle was marched with the guard and baggage towards Center Meeting House in said County, within sound of the cannon, where the news came that the British had gained the day they were turned again towards Guilford C. H. and whilst on the march in the night, he and several other prisoners broke ground and departed and went home which service & imprisonment lasted one month at least, in the year 1781 he volunteered again in a company of mounted light Infantry, commanded by Captain Lopp, Lieutenant Bodenhamer and marched towards Wilmington and on the march scattered the Tories at the Raft Swamp, that they marched to near the mouth of Cape Fear River, where they made an attack on the Brick House occupied by a British Garrison, then marched towards Georgetown S. C. and back to the Brick House, and lay in the neighborhood until the news arrived that Cornwallis was taken when he was marched home and was discharged from the service of each tour in writing which discharges he has lost, he states that in this last tour he acted as first Sergeant or Orderly.

He states in this last tour his company marched with a Regiment commanded by Col.

¹ BLWt26839-160-55

Smith, of the other companies along he recollects one from Guilford County composed of 30 or 40 dragoons under the command of Captain Gillespie, and recollects that a Captain Kennedy [could be Kernely] was along with his company – that the Regiment was composed of about 500 men, that no part of his service he was attached to any corps commanded by any regular officer, he states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and that he knows of no person in this Country whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services – except the testimony of Daniel Motsinger [?] whose affidavit is hereunto appended, & who cannot come to this Court on account of infirmity, and who testifies as to the first tour, and the testimony of Samuel Jackson hereunto appended who testifies to the last two tours.

He states that in his neighborhood he is known to John Henly and Robeson Stafford who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

That in all his tours he served seven months at least.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jno Hill, CCC

S/ Jacob Idol, I his mark

We John Henley & Robeson Stafford residing in the County of Stokes hereby testify that we are well acquainted with Jacob Idol who has subscribed and sworn to the above Declaration, and that we believe him to be 71 years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to in open court day & year aforesaid

S/ Jno Hill, CCC

S/ John Henley

S/ Robeson Stafford, X his mark

Samuel Jackson² came into open Court and made Oath that he is well acquainted with Jacob Idol – that he served with him during the revolutionary war – that he was with him on duty in the company when he and affiant were taken prisoners -- commanded by Captain Davis – which service lasted at least one month – that he was likewise with him in the last tour towards Wilmington in the company commanded by Captain Lopp, and was with him until he was discharged at the end of three months.

Test Sworn to day & year aforesaid

S/ Jno Hill, CCC

S/ Samuel Jackson, X his mark

[p 53]

State of North Carolina Stokes County

This 11 day of June 1833 came before me one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Stokes Samuel Jackson -- certified when heretofore called upon to testify as to the service of Jacob Idol his attention was called to no other fact than Idol's service -- being now called upon to state whether he recollects of any office he held in that service -- he now states that he recollects perfectly well that the said Idol served three months in a company commanded by Captain Lopp raised in Rowan County -- in the year 1781 as affiant served in said Company with him -- that he marched with him in the same company to Wilmington where they served out the three months -- the Regiment being under the command of Colonel Smith under the general command of General Rutherford -- that he knows very well that said Idol acted during the whole three months as a non-commissioned officer -- say as first Sergeant.

² [Samuel Jackson W5004](#)

[p 23]

State of North Carolina, Stokes County

Amended Declaration of Jacob Idol to his application for a pension under the act of 1832

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This 4 day of June A.D. 1833 came before me Henry Somerson [?] one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid Jacob Idol and made Oath, -- that in the year 1780 – some short time before the battle of King's Mountain took place, the precise month and day from old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot recollect he volunteered in the County of Rowan and State aforesaid, where he then resided – in a company of mounted Militia acting as Light Infantry which company was commanded by Captain James Billingsley-- William Davis being Lieutenant –Seaborn Tucker Ensign and William Bodenheimer first Sergeant, -- that he volunteered for a three months tour – that the Company was raised by order of General Rutherford at the time when it was expected that the British would March through and take the Country, -- that in order to check the British in their [illegible word, looks like “career”] – his Company was ordered to march towards South Carolina – but after being marched about a day they were met by an express bringing the news of the battle at King's Mountain-- upon which they were turned back, -- and by order of the General perform duty in the County of Rowan – and remained embodied for the purpose of being prepared to receive the British and to keep the Tories in subjection, and to prevent them from embodying in order to join the British for which purpose his company was ordered to scour the County of Rowan and occasionally made excursions to the Counties of Randolph and Guilford, during which three months his company was either on the march or lay in camp, -- that he then served out his three months – acting all the time as Corporal, in at [sic] which term he was engaged in no civil pursuit – that after having served out his three months, he was discharged in writing by his Captain which discharge he has lost.

He states that in his original declaration the term in which this service was performed is put down as performed in the year 1781 which is a mistake affiant is satisfied it was performed as herein stated.

Affiant further states that about the time the British marched through the Country and apparently subduing it if affiant recollects right in the month of February 1781, he again volunteered in a Company of militia in the County of Rowan commanded by Captain William Davis for an indefinite term, in order to keep the embers of liberty from being entirely extinguished – and to guard & to protect the persons as well as the property of the Whigs if possible against violence and aggression. That he does not know of what Florida he this guard was called out other than the authority with which Captain Davis was clothed, and such general orders given by General Rutherford to guard & protect the Whig party at that particular junction of affairs – affiant further states that he and his brother obtained a furlough to leave the rendezvous for a day for the purpose of going home & mending his shoes – during this temporary absence the rendezvous was taken upon by a detachment of Tories and taken prisoners – and affiant and his brother were pursued to their Father's House about six miles distance and there taken prisoners-- Affiant with the other prisoners was then conducted to British encampment located at the time in Guilford County – from this imprisonment he got all of as in his Original Declaration mentioned which service and imprisonment lasted one month – as a private.

In the summer of 1781, Affiant states he volunteered again or three months in the County of Rowan in a company of mounted Militia (acting as mounted Light Infantry – commanded by Captain Lopp, William Bodenheimer Lieutenant and attached to a Regiment commanded by Col.

Smith under the orders of General Rutherford they marched to Wilmington State of North Carolina – and served as in the Original Declaration mentioned & confined at Wilmington or neighborhood until Cornwallis was taken at York – after which his company was marched home – and discharged as well as affiant having served fully three months as first Sergeant – that he was discharged by his Captain in writing – which instrument he has lost.

That he served in all seven months three months as a Corporal three months as first Sergeant one month as a private during which tour he was engaged in no civil pursuit. That during the first three months in which he was engaged he served as herein mentioned – he rode his own horse-- and during the last tour he was provided with a public horse.

Sworn to & subscribed or me this 4 June 1833

S/ Jacob Idol, I his mark

S/ John Henry Simsman[?], JP

State of North Carolina, Stokes County

This seventh day of June 1833 Jacob Idol appeared before me Henry Sememan [?] one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Stokes, and stated that since the making of [the] foregoing affidavit – doubt has arisen in his mind whether he served as Corporal in his first three months tour under Captain Billingsley as on his Declaration mentioned, as a conscientious man he deems it his duty to disclaim his service as a Corporal in that tour and put in place of his service on the footing of a private as far as regards that tour, leaving his other services as heretofore stated – and leaving his claim for service as four months as a private & three months as first Sergeant.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 7 June 1833.

S/ John Henry Sendeman[?], JP

S/ Jacob Idol, I his mark

State of North Carolina, Davidson County

This day came Daniel Motsinger Senior personally before me John W. Lindsay one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County and made oath in due form of Law that Jacob Idol Senior of Stokes County served with him in the Revolutionary War a three months tour under the following officers Captain James Bilingsly, Lieutenant William Davis Ensign Seaborn Tacker, first Sergeant William Bodenhemer – Sworn and subscribed to before me this sixth day of March 1833.

S/ John W. Lindsay, JP

S/ Daniel Motsinger, J his mark

[p 5: on November 10, 1853 in Forsyth County North Carolina, Matthew Idol, he, a resident of Davidson County North Carolina made oath that he was well acquainted with Jacob Idol and his wife Cloy and their children one of whom was born on or about the fifth day of January 1784; that he knows of such birth because he lived as a close neighbor to Jacob and his wife and he dates their child's birth by the dates of birth of his own children.]

[Cloy Idol, widow, filed for a pension as the widow of Jacob Idol; maiden name Cloy Johnson; she states in an affidavit dated March 29, 1855 filed in Forsyth County North Carolina that she was then 93 years old, that she and her husband were married by Henry Davis a justice of the peace in Stokes County North Carolina in 1784 and that her husband died January 21, 1851] [Jacob died January 21, 1851, in Forsyth County, NC]

[p 55: William Raper, Sr., 83, of Guilford County North Carolina stated on March 18, 1854, that

he was acquainted with Jacob Idle and his wife Cloy; that they lived together as man and wife; that he, affiant, and his wife Keziah Davis were married in 1791 and that their son Solomon Raper was born October 24, 1791; their son William Raper born in August 1795 and that Jacob Idol and his wife had children older than his own.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]