

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Solomon Geren (Gearen, Geron)W80

Eleanor Geren

f113NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/7/08 rev'd 8/11/15

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

[p 8]

State of Tennessee, Roane County: Circuit September Term 1832

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit now sitting for the County of Roane it being a Court of Record, Solomon Geren aged about 71 years who being first duly sworn according to law makes upon oath the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 that in the year 1777 he took the State Oath in North Carolina Randolph County he was then 16 and volunteered into the service of his country in Captain Clark's [Thomas Clark's] Company, Reuben Wood, Lieutenant, Simeon Geren [sic] Ensign and was attached to a Regiment of N. C. Militia, Colonel's name forgotten, marched from Randolph to Charleston South Carolina, no particular circumstance occurred during this term of service, applicant served five months and was discharged at Charleston S. C. by Lieutenant Wood the Captain being sick this discharge has been destroyed many years since. Returned back home to Randolph N. C. he again volunteered in the service of his country in the year 1778 under Captain McLane [Robert McLane], Lieutenant Crabtree, and was attached to a Regiment of N. C. militia Colonel's name forgotten marched from Randolph N. C. to South Carolina to Rugeley's mill before we arrived at that place applicant was transferred to Captain Bladsaw's [sic, probably Capt. Lewis Bledsoe's] Company who was from Wake County N. C. marched from Rugeley's mill to attack the enemy at Camden [August 15-16, 1780] commenced our line of march in the night we met the Enemy about half way between the Rugeley's & Camden, who was commanded by Lord Rawdon<sup>1</sup> General Gates [Horatio Gates] commander of our troops we engaged them and was defeated, in this engagement General Williams was wounded on the next morning General DeKalb a Frenchman was badly wounded, seen General Marion [Francis Marion] there he (Marion)<sup>2</sup> was not in the engagement as applicant was informed but was sent by General Gates to Cooper River to destroy the water crafts to prevent the Enemy's escape, but we were defeated and the American Army dispersed in every direction and this applicant returned home to Randolph County N. C. after serving three months this was in the year 1778<sup>3</sup> applicant received no discharge this time, immediately after his return home he again volunteered in the service of his country under Captain Hinds [John Hinds] in the Regiment of N. C. Militia under Colonel Luttrell [sic, John Luttrell] and marched to the Yadkin River in pursuit of the Enemy under Lord Cornwallis, we had a little skirmish with the enemy under the aforesaid Cornwallis, Colonel Luttrell was the only commanding officer, we retreated east of the Yadkin where we made a halt – in order to prevent the Enemy from crossing & succeeding the enemy marched up the River to a place called the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin where they crossed the River, we marched back into

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<sup>1</sup> Sic, Lord Cornwallis, not Rawdon, commanded the British at Camden.

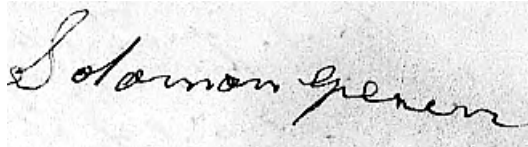
<sup>2</sup> Francis Marion was not with Gates at Camden. From the description given by the veteran, I believe he intended to refer to Thomas Sumter who had indeed been ordered by Gates to prevent the British from reinforcing Cornwallis at Camden

<sup>3</sup> Sic, the Battle of Camden described by applicant occurred on August 15-16, 1780.

Randolph N. C. where this applicant obtained a furlough to go home where he staid 10 days and again joined his company, it was during his stay at home the battle was fought at Guilford [March 15, 1781] Applicant stood up in his Father's yard and heard the cannon war in the battle, applicant was then transferred from his own Company to Captain York's company, he served under the aforesaid Captain Hinds 12 months before he was transferred to Captain York's [William York's] company, shortly after he was transferred he was taken prisoner by the Tories and taken to a place called to Lindley's Mill in Chatham County N. C. and from there he was taken on by the Tories to O'Neal's race paths on the waters of Haw River where he was retaken from the Tories by Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] of Virginia who commanded a company of Light-horse He served with Colonel Lee 11 days and was sent home by Colonel Lee in consequence of a wound he had received when he was retaken from the Tories, he again rejoined his company under Captain York in Randolph N. C., where we reconnoitered through the Country in pursuit of the Tories & served in that Station about three months this last service was in 1778 and was discharged by Captain York, this discharge has also been lost. Applicant was acquainted with the following regular officers, to wit Captain Sharp [probably Anthony Sharpe], General Morgan [Daniel Morgan], Colonel Washington [William Washington] & Colonel Lee, that he has no documentary evidence of his services but that he can prove his service by Isaac Wilburn<sup>4</sup> & Ezekiel Craft<sup>5</sup> of Madison County Alabama, applicant removed from Randolph County N. C. to what was then called Hawkins County N. C. but now Roane County Tennessee where he has resided ever since the close of the revolutionary war, 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 the agency of any State.

Sworn to in open Ct. September 15, 1832.

S/ Solomon Geren

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Solomon Geren". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

S/ H. S. Purvis, D. C.

[Memthe ? Smith & Thomas Brown gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 84]

United States –in the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Alabama sitting in Huntsville in Madison County – October 11, 1832

The Rev'd Ezekiel Craft, of the said County, aged Seventy years, personally appeared in Court, and being duly sworn on his Oath declares – That Solomon Geron, who resides in Rowan County, in the State of Tennessee, was well-known to affiant in the year 1778 & subsequent years & is still well known to him – that said Geron was affiant's mess-mate in the tour of three months from Randolph County, North Carolina, under Captain Robert McLain, in General Richard Caswell's brigade commencing about May 1780 – marched with him to the Pedee [River] in South Carolina where they joined the General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], Major General Gates & the Count De Kalb – was with affiant at Gates defeat at Camden – was with offices in another tour of six months from the same County beginning in August 1780 in Captain John Hinds' Company of Colonel John Luttrell's Regiment – in which he said Geron was badly wounded & taken prisoner by the Tories – that said Geron afterwards served with affiant in what was called the Randolph Regiment under Captain Hinds & Colonel Thomas Dugan for three months -- & from information from various persons engaged in the revolutionary struggle affiant believes that said Geron performed our low services -- & evinced

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<sup>4</sup> sic, [Isaac Wellborn W6464](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Ezekiel Croft \(Craft\) S16739](#)

throughout the order the perseverance the bravery & sacrifices which few surpassed in their efforts for liberty.

S/ Ezekiel Croft

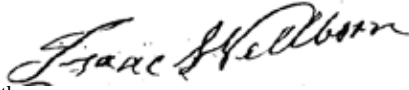


Sworn to in open Court & subscribed the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 1832  
S/ C. R. Clifton, Clk

[p 85]

Major Isaac Wellborn Senior of Madison County aforesaid, aged 74, & now in court & duly sworn, on oath declares, that the above named Solomon Geron entered the service of the United Colonies, in the County of Randolph North Carolina, in the above named tour in Captain Hinds' Company & Luttrell's Regiment with affiant – saw him after he was wounded -- & knows that he afterward was mustered in to the Randolph Regiment above referred to – That from affiant's own knowledge & information of many of his at & shortly after the period he believes said Geron served about five years in different tours during the revolution -- & rendered for the Country a continuous, arduous & valuable service --

S/ Isaac Wellborn



Sworn to in open Court & subscribed the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 1832  
S/ C. R. Clifton, Clk

[p 73]

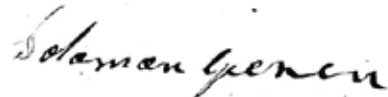
State of Tennessee Roane County: October Term of the County Court 1834

This day Solomon Geron appeared in open [Court] & made Oath that he requested Major Joseph Byrd to sign his name to his Certificate & Power of attorney for the purpose of drawing his Pension from the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1831 to the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1833 and the reason that he requested said Byrd to sign his name to said certificate & said Power of attorney was affiant had not his spectacles and could not see well enough to sign his name.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1834

S/ H. S. Purris, D. C.

S/ Solomon Geron



[p 13: On March 4, 1842, Eleanor Geron [sic], 81, filed in Roane County Tennessee for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of Solomon Geron, a revolutionary soldier who fought at the battle of Camden and served under Captain William York at the time of the battle of Guilford; that she married Solomon on December 26, 1785: and that her husband died January 3, 1841.]

[pp 4-5: Bible record:

Solomon Gearen was born December 28<sup>th</sup> 1761

Solomon Gearen and Elender Gearen was married December 26 1785

Sarah Gearen, daughter of Solomon Gearen and Elender Gearen, was born December 26, 1786

Samuel ...born March 28<sup>th</sup> 1788

Solomon...born March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1790

Simeon ... born January 10<sup>th</sup>, 1792

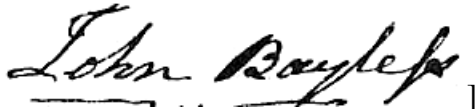
Silas ... born November 14<sup>th</sup> 1793  
Andrew C.... born 2<sup>nd</sup> January  
Jehu W.... born November  
Hiram born November 1<sup>st</sup> 1801  
Lydia ...born January 17<sup>th</sup> 1805  
Claiborn .C...born June 25<sup>th</sup> 1807  
Hiram was born November 15<sup>th</sup> ]

[p 16 marriage bond given by Solomon Geren and Samuel Owens for the marriage of Geren to Eleanor Owens, bond dated December 15, 1782, issued in Burke County, NC]

[p 45: On January 24, 1844 in Roane County Tennessee, Edward Owings [sic] gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Mrs. "Elender Geren" who resides in said County; that she is the widow of Solomon Geren who died January 3, 1841; that he, affiant, was present at the wedding of Solomon Geren and Elender Owings who were joined together in wedlock on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 1784 by William Sumter Esquire in Burke County North Carolina; and that Mrs. Elender Geren remains a widow.

Handwritten signature of Edward Owings in cursive script, followed by a closing bracket.]

[p 47: On January 13, 1845 in Knox County Tennessee, John Bayless a resident of said County, aged 72, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with the veteran and his wife, now a resident of Roane County Tennessee; that when he, affiant emigrated to the waters of Beaver Creek in now what is Knox County between Christmas and New Year's of the year 1781 the said Eleanor and her husband Solomon were living together as man and wife and recognized as such.

Handwritten signature of John Bayless in cursive script, followed by a closing bracket.]

[p 55: On May 28, 1844 in Knox County Tennessee, Mrs. Sarah Julian, 62, gave testimony that she was well acquainted with the veteran and his widow at the time they were residents of Roane County Tennessee; that they were living together as man and wife in the year 1793 when a family of people living in Knox County by the name of Cavetts were murdered by the Indians. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 57: On May 28, 1844 in Knox County Tennessee, Elliott Grills, 84, gave testimony substantially identical to that given by Sarah Julian above but he adds that the Cavetts were stationed in Knox County Tennessee 8 miles from Knoxville at the time they were murdered by the Indians. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 18: On June 18, 1857 in Madison County Alabama, Jehu W. Geren, 50, and Clairborne C. Geren, 46, resident of said County made application for the arrears of pension due their late father Solomon Geren and their late mother Eleanor Geren as their fathers widow; that their father died in Tennessee June 3, 1841 leaving Eleanor his widow; that Eleanor died in the state of Tennessee February 5, 1851; that affiant's and Samuel Geren of Madison County Alabama or the only surviving children of their parents.

John W. Geren  
Clerk of the Court.

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State of North Carolina  
Comptroller's Department.

I, C. H. Brogden, Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of Record in my Office, among the payments made by said State to sundry persons for Military Service in the Revolutionary War as follows.

Solomon Gerow.

Indent No. 4546 L. 6 - 16 - Specie  
Book No. 4. Page 40, L. 17 - 10 - Specie  
Hillsboro District, Sep. 9th 1783.

Indent No. 2477 L. 20 - 5 - Specie  
Book No. 1 Page 30. L. 20 - 5 - Specie

In testimony whereof, I  
have hereunto set my hand and  
affixed my Seal of Office at  
the City of Raleigh this 11th  
day of June A. D. 1857.

C. H. Brogden,  
Comptroller  
N. C.

Here follows  
Seal of Office

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]