

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Painter (Panter)¹ W8507 Rebecca H. f102VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 8/24/12

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

State of North Carolina Rutherford County:

On this 14 day of July 1834 personally appeared George Painter before the Justices of the Court of pleas & quarter Sessions for the County and State aforesaid aged seventy-eight 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the War of the Revolution in the year 1776 and served under the following named Officers and served as herein stated from the best of his Memory but from old age and the loss of memory and also the loss of all papers Relative to his Services he cannot Swear positively to the precise dates or length of his Service and further there being no person within his knowledge that he can prove his Service by only his own Oath and his Standing in the place where he resides and his neighbors where he resides he calls for his General Character as to their belief as to his being a Soldier of the Revolution.

In the year 1776 I was then living in Rockingham County State of Virginia was Drafted and served a Tower [tour] of three months under Captain Cravan [probably Captain Robert Craven] we was marched on the Tygers Valley [Tygarts or Tygart Valley] on the frontier of Virginia to relieve a Fort I have not any Recollection that there was any Officer at the Fort higher than the Captain. I do not Recollect the name of the Fort but I served on that Tower 3 months was discharged and returned home to Rockingham County State of Virginia. I think this was in the year 1777. My next was a Draft under the same Captain for a Southern Tower of 3 months we was marched on to Hillsborough North Carolina to Charlotte North Carolina to Cheraws Down the Pedee [River] through the Swamps when my 3 months was out. I was so far from home I volunteered and served 3 months more we was under the command of General Stevens [Edward Stevens] we was several times in company with General Marion [Francis Marion] on our Return we was one day too late for the battle of Guilford North Carolina [March 15, 1781]. We was halted at that and in the neighborhood we stayed several days from there we was marched to Amherst court house Virginia was Discharged and went home. Soon after I was drafted and served a Tower of 3 months under the same Captain we was in the taking of Corn Wallis [Cornwallis] at little York [October 19, 1781]. I was in the whole of that Battle. We was under the command of General Stevens there I saw General Washington for the first time. I was in the lines not far off when Cornwallis surrendered his Sword. I was one of the Guard that took charge of the prisoners that was marched to Winchester in Virginia where I was Discharged and returned home. Colonel Darke [William Darke] was our commander on that Tower. Soon after my Return I was a volunteer and served 3 months under Captain Coker [probably Captain

¹ BLWt26768-160-55

Michael Coger] as an Indian spy. We was on as far as the South Branch of the Potomac [River]. We ranged the ledge of mountains. We was frequently at the Different [forts?] in that Range of Country. I do not Recollect their names. On this Tower we had no Officer over a Captain that I recollect of on this Tower my being entirely illiterate and having nothing but my memory to govern me I have made a statement of the facts as they have occurred to me. I hereby Relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State or Territory whatsoever.

Question 1st by the Court: Where and in what year were you born

Answer: from information I was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania in the year 1756.

Question 2nd: have you any record of your age and if so where is it? Answer: I have none only from circumstance of the time a [sic, I?] became free and the circumstances of the Revolutionary War – Question 3rd: Where were you living when called into Service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live. Answer: I was living in Rockingham County State of Virginia where I continued until after the Revolutionary War was over I then moved to Rutherford County North Carolina where I have Resided ever since.

Question 4th: How were you called into service, were you Drafted, did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for home

Answer: my 1st Tower I was drafted and served 3 months under Captain Cravans

my 2nd I was drafted and served 3 months under the same

my 3rd I was a volunteer and served 3 months under the same

My 4th I was drafted and served 3 months under the same

my 5th I was a volunteer and served 3 months under Captain Coker

This makes my Service in the Revolutionary War 15 months and for which Service I claim a pension. Question 5th: State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the Troops where you served such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Service. Answer: I have in the foregoing Statement given as much in detail as my memory will Justify.

Question 6: Did you ever receive a Discharge from the Service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Answer: I have no Recollection that I ever received a written Discharge for I generally returned home with the same Officers that I served under

Question 7th: State the names of some persons in your present neighborhood and who can Testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your Services as a Soldier of the Revolution? Answer: I do not know of any person that is now living that I can prove my service by but I will name the following persons that will vouch for my veracity and standing and their belief as to the Record of my being a Soldier of the Revolution – the Reverend Alfred Webb and Joseph Taylor.

S/ George Painter, X his mark

[Alfred Webb, a clergyman, and Joseph Taylor gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 35]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: March 22nd 1838

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid George Painter aged about eighty-two years and a resident of Rutherford County & state aforesaid who being duly sworn as the law directs made the following declaration. That he was born in the State of Pennsylvania. That his father removed from thence to the State of Maryland when he was quite young and after residing there for the period of 12 or 13 years his

father himself removed from thence to the State of Virginia Rockingham County. That as soon as he arrived at the proper age he was placed on the muster roll of the militia of said County as well as he now recollects and sometime after the commencement of the revolutionary war [indecipherable word] broke out in the frontier of Virginia with the Indians and he was either drafted or volunteered his services or has [indecipherable word or words] ways he does not now remember but he went a tour of three months in that service and a company of militia commanded by Captain Robert Craven and as a private soldier in said company, and served his country faithfully in said service for the term of three months. The said company marched to a place called at that time Tiger Valley [Tygart Valley] where the Indians had committed some depredations upon the lives & property of the white people in that section of country. There was no battle fought, as the Indians fled when they had information of the approach of the Army. The said George Painter further states that from his great age & consequent lapse of memory he cannot recollect the particular year when he entered said service, but he well remembers it was during some period of the said war. The said George Painter further states at the termination of said service he did not receive a written discharge from his said Captain, nor did he know that it was necessary & proper to have 1. The said George Painter further states that some short time after his return home from the above mentioned but how long afterwards he cannot at this day remember, he was called out again he believes by draft a tour of another 3 months under the same Captain Craven to go against the British & Tories to the South. Accordingly he marched with the company and was a private in the company commanded by the said Robert Craven and 1st Lieutenant William Smith took place in South Carolina now called Cheraw, formerly called the high Hills of Santee. He cannot now remember distinctly the names of the field officers under whom he then served, but thinks the General's name was Stevens and the Colonel's name was Darke, nor can he use for the reasons before mentioned remember the date of the year or month he entered said service. He further states that he was stationed at the Cheraw for some considerable time. The precise time he cannot now recollect but believes it was there at least 5 months. And the said George Painter further states that after he returned home from said service & very much exhausted & broken down by many privations of the comforts of life And that as soon as he regained his strength he was called out again into the Service under the same Captain Craven & the same Lieutenant William Smith & believes the above the same General Stevens & Colonel Darke but of the names of the field officers for the reasons before mentioned The Army marched into North Carolina and arrived at Guilford court house the day after the battle at that place and continued in that service for at least 3 months. That some short time after his return home he was drafted again & went to Little York in Virginia and was at the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis and was on that service 2 months [indecipherable word or words] under the same Captain & believes the same commanding General's name was Green & the Colonel's name was Darke But cannot remember from the great age & consequent loss of memory distinctly their names. He further states that he got no written discharge from any of his Officers. He does hereby relinquish any and all claim to any other pension except of that under the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832. He further states that while he was in the public service as above stated he was employed in no civil pursuits. He further states that he is too old & infirm in his health & some of his witnesses so too that he & they are unable to attend his County Court to be examined & to obtain the opinion of the court as to his claim for a pension. He further states that there is at this time no regular clergyman in his neighborhood that could testify as to his age & what is the general impression of the neighborhood as to his services in the revolutionary war. His father & himself removed to North Carolina Rutherford County & he has resided in said County ever

since a period of between 40 & 50 years. He has obtained all the testimony of his services in the region of his power, and knows he has served his country faithfully and throws himself upon the Justice & magnanimity of his Government.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & year above mentioned.

S/ Wms Fortune, JP

S/ George Painter, X his mark

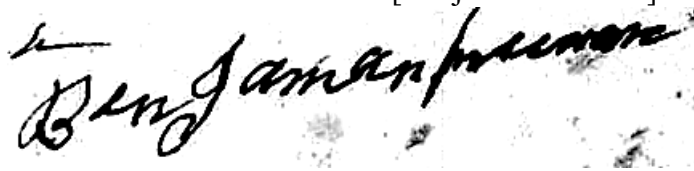
[f p. 38]

North Carolina Rutherford County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in & for said County & made oath in due form of law that he was in the service of his country in the revolutionary war and was stationed at Sevans point [?] in Virginia & saw the Army of the United States on their way to Little York & sold George Painter as he now well believes in that Army and from many conversations which he had with the said Painter long before the passage of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832, relative to his revolutionary services and from the known character of the said George Painter as a man of undoubted truth he well believes he is justly entitled to a pension & further states that he believes the said George is about 80 years of age and believes the said George is too old & infirm to go to the courthouse a distance of 20 miles.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 22nd of March 1838

S/ Wms Fortune, JP

S/ BenJaman freeman [Benjamin Freeman]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin Freeman". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[f p. 11: On April 5, 1854 in Rutherford County North Carolina, Rebecca H Panter [sic], 57, filed for a widow's pension as the widow of George Panter [sic] a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him August 8, 1824; that he died in Rutherford County May 15, 1841. Chief signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 32: On November 23, 1854 in Rutherford County, the widow filed an affidavit stating that her husband died in May 1839.]

[f p. 15: On March 10, 1855 in Rutherford County North Carolina, Rebecca Painter filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of George Painter.]

[f p. 9: Copy of a marriage bond issued in Rutherford County North Carolina August 8, 1824 2 George Painter and Merrit [?] Melton, bondsman, conditioned on the marriage of George Painter and Rebecca Freeman.]

[f p. 80: On March 9, 1866 in Rutherford County North Carolina, the widow applied for the reinstatement of her pension benefit stating that she has earned her subsistence from the toll of acorn mill which has been burned some months ago by the work of and incendiary; that during the late rebellion she did not encourage the rebels will manifest any sympathy with their cause.]

[f p. 84: April 21, 1879 [last digit unclear] there is a document referring to a Mrs. Jane Panther as the daughter-in-law of Rebecca Panther who has granted various powers of attorney to John

Anderson to conduct her pension business.]

[f p. 54: On March 19, 1870 in Rutherford County North Carolina George W Painter and Minerva Grayson gave testimony that Rebecca Painter, the widow of George Painter has never remarried.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.67 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the Virginia service. His widow was originally pensioned at the rate of \$26.67 per annum commencing February 3, 1853 ; subsequently she was pensioned in the amount of \$96 per annum commencing July 27, 1868 deducting the pavements made previously.]