

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Christopher Strong W9315

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } SS

Dickson County } Circuit Court September Term 1832

On this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before me James Coffield Mitchell one of the Judges of the circuit court for the State of Tennessee now sitting for the County of Dickson in said State, Christopher Strong a resident of Dickson County and State of Tennessee, aged seventy two 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 in order to obtain passed June 7 1832. That in the first place he was pressed into the public service in the City of Charleston and State of South Carolina, to which place he had gone with his waggon, but does not recollect the day, month or year - that he was loaded with public stores and ordered to proceed from Charleston to Purisburg [sic: Purysburg, camp of Gen. Benjamin Lincoln in spring 1779], where the Regular Continental Army was then stationed under the command of General Linkhorn, who was commander in chief of the Continental forces in these parts — that from purisburg he went initially to Place not far from Stono Point where Stono battle was fought [Battle of Stono Ferry, 20 Jun 1779] — that he did not himself personally engage in this conflict, but that he was ordered to remain with the waggons and public stores which lay within hearing and almost within sight of the engagement. He does not know how long he served this campaign, but he thinks near six months, nor has he any documentary evidence now in his possession by which to prove his service.

This applicant further states that he belonged regularly to a regiment of Chester County State of South Carolina, where he resided, of which Edward Lacy [sic: Edward Lacey] was Col., Patrick McGriff Lieutenant Col. and John Adair, now of the State of Kentucky, was Major — that sometime early in the summer of 1778 (does not recollect the precise time) he was drafted along with Robert Cooper his Lieutenant out of his said Regiment into a Regiment of Fairfield County of [which] [John] Winn was Col., Robert Elison was Major and John Milan Captain - that he was marched from Fairfield County to Augusta in the State of Georgia, where Gen'l. William [sic: Andrew Williamson] was commander in chief — from thence he was marched to Florida where they caught some straggling parties of Indians and Tories and then returned home by the same rout they went — that he was out in this campaign as near as he can recollect, about three months — that he has no documentary evidence, nor does he know of any person living who served with him in this campaign. This applicant further declares that he remained at home until some time in the summer of 1780 when he again joined the army in the Town of Charlotte Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina under the command of General Sumpter [sic: Thomas Sumter] — from thence he was marched under the command of Col. Neel [sic: Lt. Col. Thomas Neal] to Rocky Mount in Chester County South Carolina against a body of British and Tories whom they fought and Col Neel was killed [30 Jul 1780] — that here he obtained leave to return home, where he remained but a few days and then again joined the army, but does not recollect the time or place [see note below] — that he was marched through Winnborough [sic: Winnsboro] in Fairfield County South Carolina — from thence to a British Fort called Congaree Fort [possibly Fort Granby, 2 - 15 May 1781] on Congaree River at that time occupied by a British party whom he had expected to have fought, but the enemy surrendered at the sight of a flag. From thence he was marched to a place called Biggins Church two miles from Monks Corner [sic: Biggin Church 2 mi from Moncks Corner] against a body of British who were lying there but who evacuated the place before the Americans arrived and burned the Church [16 Jul 1781] — that he was then [sic: see note below] marched towards Camden, on the road to which place they took a number of waggons, stores, baggage &c belonging to the enemy — that Camden was then occupied by the British, a party of whom called Tarlton's dragoons [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion] companded by Tarlton in person immediately pursued and overtook us three miles from Rocky Creek in Chester County where we were defeated and Captain [James] Pagan my immediate Captain was killed [Skirmish at Fishing Creek, 18 Aug 1780] — that he returned

home and was again called out in the fall of the same year, when he was marched to Fishdam Ford in the County of Chester, where he and his party were attacked in the night by the British [9 Nov 1780]; they, however, stood their ground, and the enemy drew off — From thence he was marched to a place called Blackstocks farm on the waters of Tiger River [Blackstock's Plantation on Tyger River] to which place they were pursued by the British and attacked [20 Nov]. in this engagement Gen'l Sumpter was wounded the Americans however again stood their ground and the enemy retired

These are the principal expeditions in which this applicant to the best of his recollection at this distance of time was engaged. he declares that he rendered other useful services to his country at different periods & places but his recollection is so impaired by old age and the long interval since they transpired that he cannot charge his mind with the particulars or give an explicit or satisfactory account of them that he has no documentary evidence in his power whereby to prove his services, that as he never expected to have any use for them they have all been lost or mislaid that he knows of no person living with whom he served or who can testify as to that fact except his Major now Gen'l John Adair who as he is informed has since been Elected Governor of the State of Kentucky and is still as he is informed resident in that State, now a member of Congress.

He declares that he was born in Ireland on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 1760 as appears from his father's record now in his possession that in the year 1771 he came over to the United States and settled in the County of Chester in the State of South Carolina where he lived as near as he can recollect until the year 1793 when he removed to the County of Pendleton where he lived some years and then removed to the county of Dickson in the State of Tennessee where he has lived for the last twenty six years and where he still lives. He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State of the Union

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[signed] Christopher Strong

NOTES:

The events at Congaree Fort and Biggin Church are described out of sequence.

Tarleton left Camden with Cornwallis in early Sep 1780, and the British burned and abandoned Camden 9 May 1781.

On 2 May 1853 Rosannah Strong, 66, applied for a pension stating that she married Christopher Strong on 10 Jul 1828, and he died 22 Nov 1850. Her application for bounty land dated 25 Apr 1855 gives her age as 67 and states that she was married as Rosannah McColloch in Chester District SC about 20 Jul 1829.