

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Fitts W9439  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Mary D. Fitts  
12/27/08 rev'd 4/24/12 & 2/19/21

f65NC<sup>1</sup>

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

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Know all men by these presents that I John Fitts of Person County North Carolina an Old Revolutionary Soldier & whose declaration<sup>2</sup> has long been sent to the war Department of the United States, in order to be placed on the pension list for life, do hereby Appoint William Faulkner of Halifax County Virginia my lawful Attorney, if I am placed on the pension list, to receive from James Barbour Esquire Secretary of War my pension Certificate & he is hereby Authorized by me to send the same to the said William Faulkner by mail & for so doing this shall be his sufficient Authority

Witness my hand & seal this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1826

S/ John Fitts



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### Original Claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the pension list under the act of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818.

Virginia Halifax County to wit

On this 26th day of March 1827 personally appeared in open Court (being a court of record for the County of Halifax aforesaid) John Fitts Senior a resident in said County aged sixty-three years the 10th day of August last, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions of the act of Congress of the 18 March 1818 and the first of May 1820, that he the said John Fitts Senior enlisted in the revolutionary war for the term of 12 or 18 months the precise time which he enlisted he does not now recollect on or about the 10th day of September 1780 in the State of North Carolina in a company of Cavalry commanded by Captain Fauntleroy (in my former declaration I said it was John Fauntleroy, But on seeing a letter from the Secretary of War and finding there was a Captain Griffin Fauntleroy attached to the Cavalry in which I was placed I immediately believed and have not a doubt he was the Captain by whom I was commanded

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt75039-160-55

<sup>2</sup> This file does not contain an earlier application for a pension filed by this veteran.

having forgotten his Christian name). That he was afterwards placed under the command of Colonel William Washington in the Continental establishment. That he continued to serve in the said Corps under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] until sometime in the month of December 1781 when he was discharged from the said Service in South Carolina at the high hills of Santee. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on any pension roll of this or any other State whatever and that the following are the reasons he has not made earlier application for a pension which is, that for four or five years back he has endeavored to be placed on the pension list, but the writings which had been sent to the war department being always wrong he has failed being allowed a pension, which are all the reasons he has and all he can give. That he was in several battles (to wit) The Cowpens [January 17, 1781], Guilford Courthouse [March 15, 1781], Camden [April 25, 1781], the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] and many skirmishes and that he has no other evidence in his power to produce to substantiate his said services except the enclosed affidavits of Hampton White<sup>3</sup> & Robert W. Fitts and in pursuance of the act of Congress of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or otherwise disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed I have no person but myself to depend on for support and no property whatever that I have neither bought or sold any property since the 18th of March 1818 and that from my old age and infirmities together with extreme poverty and having no occupation I can follow to advantage I need the assistance of my Country for Support –

S/ John Fitts<sup>4</sup>

[Attested] S/ Samuel Williams, Clerk

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Virginia Halifax County to wit -- Hampton White a respectable Citizen, who was an old revolutionary soldier & who is now drawing a pension from the United States, this day came before me William Faulkner a Justice of the peace, and for the said County and made Oath that he was well acquainted with John Fitts Senior, before, & when he was in the revolutionary war That he has several times seen him when in the Army and knows he was in the Cavalry commanded by Colonel William Washington & that he was enlisted, as he was told, by Captain John Fauntleroy But whether it was John or Griffin Fauntleroy or that he possessed any other Christian name he cannot possibly assert, but he positively to the best of his knowledge, swears that he was under the command of Captain Fauntleroy -- But whether Captain Fauntleroy was with John Fitts Senior went under the command of Colonel William Washington he is not certain and well remembers that Colonel Washington was under the command of General Greene in the southern states & further that the said Fitts, was enlisted, (as he was told & has no doubt) for 12 or 18 months, as he knows he was a considerable time in the Army, being often with him. He further swears, that he has seen him in battle, that said Fitts was a valiant & as brave a soldier as any perhaps in the revolutionary war -- Given under my hand this 26th day of February 1827.

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<sup>3</sup> [Hampton White S38467](#)

<sup>4</sup> The application is a copy made by the clerk. Consequently the signature attached is not that of the veteran himself.

S/ William Faulkner

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State of North Carolina Person County

December 13th, 1826 This day came John Chatham Senior<sup>5</sup> (a pensioner) before me William Dickens one of the acting justices of the peace for said County and made oath that there was a man in Colonel Washington's Regiment by the name of John Fautley Roye [sic, John Fauntleroy?] in the old revolutionary war who served as Captain in said Regiment.

Sworn to & acknowledged before me the day & date above written.

S/ Wm Dickins, JP

S/ John Chatham, X his mark

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Virginia Halifax County to wit -- This day Hampton White a respectable Citizen came before me William Faulkner a Justice of the peace in and for the said County and made oath that John Fitts Senior sometime in the year 1780 he enlisted in the United States service in the revolutionary war under Captain John Fauntleroy in his Company of Dragoons attached to Colonel William Washington's Corps. The said Hampton White further make oath that he has frequently seen the said John Fitts Senior when in the service of the United States he was in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs & saw the said Fitts engaged in that Battle & he well remembers that he was more than a year in the service of the United States in the revolutionary war

Given under my hand this 22nd day of May 1826

S/ William Faulkner

NB The said Hampton White further make oath That the dragoons commanded by the said Colonel William Washington, was under the Command of General Greene.

S/ William Faulkner

Virginia Halifax County to wit – Robert Walker Fitts<sup>6</sup> a Respectable Citizen this day came before me Thomas Howerton a Justice of the Peace in & for the County aforesaid and made Oath that he well remembers that John Fitts Senior was a Soldier in the Revolutionary War for 12 or 18 months & that he was in the Core of horse commanded by Colonel William Washington as he was in the Army at the same time & saw him in the Army & in the Service of the United States attached to the Corps of horse commanded by the said Colonel William Washington. Given under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> May 1826

S/ Thos Howerton, JP

[p 5 & 15]

[On August 27, 1857, in Halifax County Virginia, Mary D. Fitts, 75, declare that she is the widow of John Fitts, a pensioner during his lifetime at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she married him July 25, 1825; that they were married by John Smith, JP; that her name prior to her marriage was Mary D. Fulks [Fowlkes? Fawlkes]; that her husband died in Halifax County Virginia on June 27, 1843; that she is making this declaration under the 1855 act for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she is entitled.

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<sup>5</sup> [John Chatham S41475](#)

<sup>6</sup> Probably the same man as [Robert W. Fitz S8475](#) him

*Mary D. Fitts* ]

[Facts in file: Mary D. and John Fitts were married in Granville County, NC]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1827 for service for 18 months in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$96 per annum.]