

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of John Rains (Raines) W982

Letitia

fn40NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/10/09

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Tennessee Bledsoe County

On this 13th day of November 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the worshipful Justices of the court of pleas and quarter Sessions of the County of Bledsoe aforesaid, now sitting, John Raines, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy-three 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 June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated -- That he was drafted in the militia of Randolph County in the State of North Carolina, about the first day of December 1779, in a company commanded by Captain James Robertson -- William Arnett was his Lieutenant, -- William Rainey was his Ensign. He was in a skirmish, in a detachment commanded by Major William England with some British or Tories, or some of both, near the Cheraw Hills in South Carolina at the time of this skirmish they were under the command of Colonel John Littrill [sic, Colonel John Luttrell] who was in camp about 16 or 18 miles from where they had a skirmish. He was discharged by Captain Robertson about the first of March 1780, after having been in service 3 months. In June or July following he was taken a prisoner by the Tories, who carried him within 2 miles of Wilmington when he made his escape and returned to his father's with whom he then lived, after being in custody 3 or 4 weeks, -- In April 1781 he was commissioned by Colonel John Collier a Captain of a company of Rangers which he was authorized to raise. He was ordered to range through the counties of Randolph, Chatham Cumberland and Moore, and in the discharge of these services, he was in actual service 6 months with his company. William Aldridge was Lieutenant in his company. He was frequently in company with Captain John Knight who commanded a company of Rangers. He was acquainted with Captain William Smith, an officer in the regular service in the Maryland line, as well as he can now recollect.

He received a discharge as a private from Captain Robertson, which together with his commission has been lost or destroyed by age.

He was born the 2nd day of August 1759 near Fredericksburg in Caroline County in the State of Virginia, of which he has no record, but has frequently seen it in his father's Bible. From Virginia, while a boy he moved with his father to Randolph County in the State of North Carolina, where he continued during the revolutionary war, after which he returned to Virginia when he married and then moved to Sevier County, Tennessee, where he lived 21 or 22 years, from there, he moved to Overton County Tennessee, where he remained about 3 years and then moved to Bledsoe County, Tennessee where he now, and has ever since resided, being about 26 years.



name which his father called his wife. The family record referred to is presumably the portion of a Bible appearing on p. 7 of the Footnote.com digital images of this file, but the entries on that image are illegible except for the name "John Rains" and the word "mared 1787"]