

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Solomon Collins R2183

fn13NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/28/10

[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. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia Lincoln County: On this 23rd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before William H Crawford presiding Judge thereof, It being the Superior Court of the said County now sitting Solomon Collins a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged seventy-two years on the 22nd of October Instant, of the year before stated who being first duly sworn according to law in order to obtain the Benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th day of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, deponent was born in the County of Wayne [?¹] & State of North Carolina, as he has always understood & believes and was living in the County of Caswell in that State when he entered the service of his Country. His father Family record of their ages by which he was informed of his age that is long since lost or destroyed.

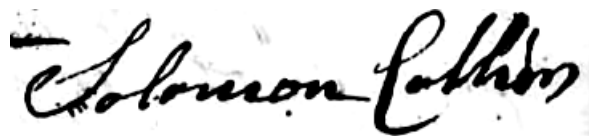
It was about as well as deponent can now recollect in the month of October 1778 a draft was made of the Militia in the County which deponent resided, to wit, Caswell County North Carolina for a Quota of men to aid South Carolina on a six months tour in which deponent was drafted and was attached to Captain Moore's company in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Saunders, the detachment was under the command of General Rutherford and rendezvoused at Hillsboro, the various recruits having collected at Salisbury marched immediately to Charleston South Carolina to draw arms, ammunition etc. which was effected and the Troops marched to Purrysburg in South Carolina when they United with General Lincoln: the detachment and Troops were moved and marched as dangers and emergencies required up & down the Savannah River from Purrysburg to Augusta, in this Campaign deponent nor the Regiment in which he was engaged had no Battle although they were on the eve of being in the memorable defeat of General Ash [John Ashe] we having been forced on a march for two days or more & arrived at the river and some Boat loads had crossed when the defeated army began to arrive at the River under General Ashe, a part of the militia under Rutherford, our Regiment was taken over to aid General Ashe and was there at the time of the defeat, though deponent was not one of the Levy taken over Ashe was defeated on Brier Creek on the Georgia side some 25 or 30 miles below Augusta, they continued in the same section of Country watching the movements of the enemy

¹ The name of the County is written over in part and unclear but it looks to me as if it is most likely a reference to Wayne County.

until the expiration of their time of service, the North Carolina drafts were then marched to Black Swamp, where they delivered up their arms, and were marched to Hillsboro in North Carolina and were there discharged by Major William Moore who had been promoted from Captain to Major during the Campaign, which discharge deponent has long since lost.

About seven or eight months after being discharged deponent was on a visit to his relations on Broad River in South Carolina about the time Charleston fell into the hands of the British and the South Carolinians were making new levies, and threatened putting deponent on the roll which he was not willing having served one tour but being more pressed Volunteered in Colonel Thomas Brannum's [sic, Thomas Brandon's?] detachment who was engaged in watching the maneuvers of the Tories & disaffected of South Carolina. His Troops were mounted men and in this detachment deponent remained in actual service, as it were for about two years his mode of warfare being that of rallying and passing [?] to and from the American Army, dispersing the Tories and giving checks to disaffected sections of Country until the engagement of Blackstock's in South Carolina, in which engagement deponent was severely wounded on the head by the sword of the enemy, which was so severe that he was rendered unable to perform duty after the wound remained uncured for a great length of time shedding part of his skull bone, and placed deponent for some time on the Charity of the World, he being himself in very needy circumstances, deponent believes that he entered into the service of Colonel Brannum in 1780, but can't distinctly recollect as to dates there were us paid promised to the soldiers and on the return of the militia did receive some few dollars [indecipherable word], but the last tour under Brannum he entered as a volunteer what pay or emoluments they were to receive he can't say, though he never received anything during his servitude. He was on a private excursion with the Colonel on a visit to the relations of Colonel Brannum, and separated and deponent was taken as prisoner and carried by the British to the ten mile house above Charleston, where they pressed deponent hard to Enlist, which he refused & during the night he remained there he deserted, and was enabled to unite in a few days with his Colonel again, when the North Carolina militia marched to aid South Carolina, a Colonel Lightner [?, perhaps a reference to Colonel Archibald Lytle] of the regular Army who had been recruiting in that Section of Country marched his troops also with them and also joined with General Lincoln's Army.

Deponent further swears that he has lived in Lincoln and that part of Wilkes which is now Lincoln County about fifty years that there is no living witness within the knowledge of deponent by which he can prove his services, nor has he any documentary testimony to offer as proof of his Services. He will be enabled to prove his Character and Standing as a revolutionary Character and the Reasonableness of his claims full pay by John Winn, Thomas Lyon & Humphrey Evans & the Reverend John H Walker deponent has never received a pension nor has his name been placed on any pension roll of any Agency of any State: and he hereby relinquishes all claim to pensions but the present.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Solomon Lathrop". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Sworn to this day above written in open Court before me
S/ Peter Lamar, Clerk

[Reverend John H Walker, Thomas Lyon & Humphrey Evans & John Winn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Georgia Lincoln County} Before me Henry Evans a Justice of the peace in said County and State personally appeared Solomon Collins a resident of the same County and State and who being by me duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that he was an applicant to the war Department for the benefit of the pension act of Congress of the United States passed the 7th of June 1832 and at October term of Lincoln Superior Court 1832 made his proofs, which were sent to the War Department, and the claims of deponent examined and rejected for informality in a defect in setting forth with precision the length of service of deponent together with some defect in the Certifying Officers Certificate, this deponent at the time of the return of the Claim papers understanding the result of his claim together with that of many others, who applied at the same time and the great number of Applicants for pensions, became disheartened, and determined to make no further effort yet he has been often recommended to do so, and having understood many who were rejected have since applied and succeeded, who in point of merit of claim, as well as pecuniary wants, tho differently situated to deponent as he conceives with this feeling deponent again places before the authorities of his Country this his declaration amendatory to the first application made in order to explain.

That he was drafted in the County of Caswell & State of North Carolina, at the time he set forth in his first application for a six months tour as a private Soldier, in the Militia Service, was attached to Captain William Moore's Company, in Colonel Saunders Regiment: and did serve that tour as specified in his first declaration.

Some months after that tour as well as deponent now recollects of the circumstances, and seasons – he visited some relations in South Carolina, on Broad River where, [he] remained but a short time, a call was made for a quota of men, in that section of country, and he [was] threatened to be placed on the muster roll for a draft, as he before stated, which he considered unjust as he had served a tour, and was on a visit to his friends, his home still being Caswell County North Carolina, and so earnest were the officers, and inhabitants of that Section, that he determined not to stand a draft and Volunteered in Colonel Brannuns Regiment of mounted men, was attached to Captain Brannuns Company a half brother of the Colonel, and at the time the Regiment was stationed not far distant from Smith's ferry, near the fork of Thicketty, Where it empties into Broad River that deponent served with Colonel Brannun as he has before stated, his troops were composed of volunteers, he was a favorite officer, and induced many to unite with him: on that account rather than stand a draft without knowing to what command they would be attached, and so deponent was induced to unite as he was a young man, and considered himself more safe in the service than out of it about that time; that deponent served with his Horse faithfully as well as he now can remember two years or more including the time he was a prisoner to the enemy as he before stated, and he would here state, that he was urged to enlist during his confinement as prisoner, which deponent declined, he was threatened of being sent to a prison ship, and other threats and more rigidly watched he believes, and worse treated on account of the detachment to which he belonged as Colonel Brannun was a scourge to the Tories and disaffected of South Carolina and his character known well to the British and during the continuance of imprisonment Captain Brannun was killed by a party of Tarleton's Troops, which was omitted to be stated by the deponent in the first declaration.

That he deponent after escaping from the British as stated in his first declaration immediately returned to the House of Colonel Brannun, where he understood what had occurred in his absence & where he would find the Regiment and immediately followed in united with the Colonel and found him near the mountains and was by him furnished with a horse, and continued in service, as before stated; until wounded, as therein mentioned, at Blackstock's, deponent was

unfit for service, was left at the Battle ground and vicinity thereof some few days and a traveling family passing on to the South offered to deponent an opportunity of getting from his then perilous situation which was accepted of and he traveled to Pace's ferry on Savannah River with them, there all were forbid to cross the River and this deponent who was in a wretched situation with his wound and other [indecipherable word], was directed by Colonel Middleton & Samuel Scott being below a few miles and men of wealth & standing [indecipherable word or words] from whom he received great attention & assistance & soon recovered, And after doing so, he was induced to undertake with some family of Ware's & others engaged in furnishing corn to Clark's stationed from Beach Island on Savannah River to take part and very soon understood that his relations had removed from Caswell County to the west in Country he did not return to them in his house, as he considered it when he entered the service, but continued engaged in business of one kind or another until the war ceased, he married and has lived in the same section of Country ever since then Wilkes County now Lincoln, which is over fifty years.

Deponent further declares that the Reverend John H Walker, John Winn, Humphrey Evans & Thomas Lyon who had long known him testify to his standing & claims as reported, And believed in the Community in which he resides in addition there too William Linville a Revolutionary Soldier will unite of whom deponent also realize for proof, his standing, and character as a Soldier of the Revolution for more than fifty years, with the reasonableness of his opponents claim, which deponent trust may also be examined and trust also that the clerk will correct and explain the defect in the former Certificate, that this claim may be fully & fairly set before the Department for examination.

S/ Solomon Collins

[William Linville² a revolutionary pensioner gave a supporting affidavit as to the character and reputation of the veteran and Linville's belief in the honesty and truth of his claim. Linville does not claim to have served with the veteran.]

² [William Linville \(Linville\) W5321](#)