

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Joseph Armstrong R255

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 23rd day of April 1845, personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of said County, Joseph Armstrong, 81 years of age, who being first duly Sworn, according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832:

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

The Declarant the said Joseph Armstrong states upon his said oath that some time in the winter of 1780, there was a draft for three months militia man, when this Declarant volunteered for said tour, Thomas Thompson was Captain of the Company to which this Declarant was attached, Whitsett Lieutenant Former [sic, Farmer?] Colonel and Butler was Brigadier General, Rendezvoused in Hillsboro in the aforesaid County and after remaining some weeks – at the rendezvous, was marched into Granville County, thence to Harrisburg (the old Granville Court House) where we were some time stationed: thence to High Rock in Guilford County where our troops joined General Greene, and after remaining in Greene's Army but a short time, this declarant's tour expired and he received a discharge from Colonel Farmer & returned home. That in the above tour he Declarant was in a regularly organized Corps and Called into Service by the Competent authority. That his discharge for said tour is lost or mislaid so that he cannot lay his hand on it.

The Declarant, the said Joseph Armstrong, further states upon his said oath, That some time in the month of June 1781, there was a draft for three months militia to Serve the United States in said war of the Revolution.

That in this tour as and the former the Declarant Served as private of Infantry, rendezvoused in Hillsboro.

Douglass was Captain, Tinnin Colonel, Butler Brigadier General-- about this time of the Revolutionary war, those opposed to the Revolution, in the Counties of Randolph, Moore, Chatham & Richmond were embodying on Deep River & Pee Dee [River]. Troops were therefore ordered to the South to awe the rising of those unfriendly to the Cause of Independence.

In this tour we cooperated with Dragoons and mounted militia man, who had been also ordered out to suppress the rising of the Tories – our troops in this tour had an engagement with the Tories killed some and made a few prisoners – a part of my Company was detailed to take the prisoners to the town of Halifax for safe keeping, the Declarant was one of the number detached and were under Command of Ensign Dickie: after returning from Halifax to Hillsborough, we were discharged by Colonel William O'Neal. But that said discharge is now lost.

That in the foregoing tour the Declarant was in a regularly organized Corps, and called into Service by Competent Authority, and served three months.

That some time in the fall of the year 1781, the Declarant again volunteered in the Service of the United States, Richards was Captain, Abishai Thomas Colonel – after being in this service for short period was engaged to Carry expresses from Hillsboro to different points of the State, in this Capacity I served as well as I now can now remember, about four months.

The Declarant, the said Joseph Armstrong further states upon his said oath that in the Spring following (1782) there was again a draft for three months men to Served the United States, in said War of the Revolution, the object of sending out these troops was to quell to [sic, the] Tories who were still threatening mischief in the Deep River Settlement – in this tour, as well as this Declarant now remembers, Douglass was Captain, O'Neal Colonel and Butler Brigadier General were marched to Randolph, Chatham and Moore Counties and were stationed some time on Deep River and at the

expiration of our term of Service, were discharged by Colonel O'Neal and returned home.

In this tour this Declarant was in a regularly organized Corps and Called into Service by Competent authority – the Declarant had a discharge for the aforesaid tour, but does not now know any thing of it.

The Declarant further says forth upon his said oath, that, sometime in the Summer & fall of the Same year, to wit, 1782, there was a call for troops to suppress a threatened outbreak of the Tories in the disaffected Counties south of this – the “State Troops” were sent out and some Volunteer Companies –this declarant was again in the Service as Volunteer under Captain Quinn he thinks, Colonel Tinnin & General Butler, after marching towards the Pee Dee Settlements, we were Stationed some time on Deep River & returned home and were discharged after their term of Service expired, which he Declarant thinks was not exceeding two months. And this was the last tour he Declarant remembers of being in the Service of the United States – from this long lapse of time since he was in the Army, and from an impaired memory, he Declarant is unable to give a more minute account of his Revolutionary Services than he has set forth in the foregoing Declaration.

The Declarant would more over State, that he believes that he served other tours in early part of the Revolutionary war, but having forgot to State them in the first of his Declaration, and not having a distinct recollection of said Service, will not urge his having Compensation therefore.

That the Declarant made an effort to procure proof of his Revolutionary Services, a few years past, but could then find but one person living who could Testify only in part to his Revolutionary Services, and that that person (James Clarke Sr.) has since died.

The Declarant upon being recently informed that there was in the City of Raleigh “Record evidence” of the Service of the North Carolina militia, in the war of the United States, again has resumed his effort to obtain a pension, for his Revolutionary Services.

That he was born in the County of Orange & State of North Carolina.

That he was born 22 day of April 1764.

That he has a record of his age.

That he was living in the aforesaid County of Orange during the war of the Revolution and has always lived there.

That he Volunteered and was drafted.

That the regular officers where he served was General Greene, Colonel Thomas, Col. Mebane, General Butler, Colonel Tinnin, Col. Farmer, Colonel O'Neal & others:

That he invariably received discharges for his Services, but that they are now lost.

That he is acquainted with General Joseph Allison, and others --

That from old age and bodily infirmity, the Declarant is unable to attend Court to make this Declaration.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the day & date first above written.

S/ John Tate, J. Peace

S/ Joseph Armstrong

Comptrollers office Raleigh N. C.

I, William F. Collins, Comptroller of Public Counts, do hereby certify that it appears of record in my office that Joseph Armstrong has the following Certificates issued in his favor [for] military service in the Revolutionary War; that is to say, one for 17 pounds four shillings (£17.4) found in Book number 26 on page 7: another for 28 pounds 12 shillings and six pence (£28.12.6) found in same Book, page 10; another for 9 pounds (£9) same Book, same page: another for 11 pounds, two shillings (£11.2s) issued April 1784, and found in Book number 6, page 27; another for 6 pounds (£6), found in Book A.M. No. 15 page 85. All species certificates.

Given under my hand and seal this 17 day March 1843 [could be 1845]

S/ Wm F. Collins, Comptr.