

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Anthony Foster S2561

f29NC[&Va]

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/5/09 rev'd 6/13/15

[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' 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.]

State of North Carolina County of Wilkes

On this 7th day of February 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of the County & State aforesaid now sitting, Anthony Foster, a resident of the County of Wilkes & State of North Carolina, aged Seventy-four 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 7th, 1832

That he was born in the County of Orange & State of Virginia, on the 23rd day of December 1758, the record of which was entered in his father's family Bible, but which he believes has been lost or destroyed for many years so that it is not now within his reach. He continued to reside in the said County of Orange until he entered the service of the United States in the month of July 1777 as a volunteer in a company of minute men commanded by Captain Joseph Spencer, who had volunteered for twelve months, and held themselves in readiness at a minute's notice -- As soon as the company was organized they rendezvoused at Culpepper Court House in the said State, where they joined the Regiment commanded by Colonels Stevens [Edward Stevens] & Toliver or (Taliaferro) and soon after marched to Williamsburg where they were stationed a considerable time to defend that place against Lord Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia], who at that time was committing great depredations on the Easton Coast of Virginia. After Lord Dunmore had evacuated Virginia it was deemed unnecessary to detain the troops at Williamsburg any longer in service -- they were accordingly discharged and returned home. In this tour this deponent believes he served at least four months -- After remaining in Orange County until the spring of the year 1780, this deponent removed to & settled in Wilkes County North Carolina, in the month of March of that year. Soon after his settlement in North Carolina, the Tories became very troublesome, when orders were issued by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland for the Whig militia to turn out and suppress them -- this deponent accordingly turned out and joined the company commanded by Lieutenant Barnet Owens, the (Captain being then absent) and rendezvoused at Wilkes C. H. [courthouse] where they joined the other troops that had been ordered out -- the whole being under the command of Colonel Cleveland -- they set out in a short time in pursuit of the Tories, having understood that they were embodying themselves in various places through the Country, and after traversing the Country for some time, and putting the Tories to flight in various places, until they finally collected together in one body and took protection in Kriders [Crider's] Fort in Burke County, under the command of one Captain John Roberts (a celebrated Tory Captain). After the Tories fortified themselves, Colonel Cleveland took the precaution to ascertain if possible their

number, which he learned to be about seven hundred and considering that his own force was entirely too small to attack them (it not amounting to half that number) he concluded to discharge his men, and wait for more favorable auspices to subdue them -- his men were accordingly discharged, and this deponent returned home -- having served during this tour at least two weeks this deponent also performed several other short tours during the summer of 1780 against the Tories, but the precise length of each, nor the particular circumstances under which they were performed, cannot now be recollected -- he must therefore decline an attempt to specify them, and also to set up any claim to compensation for them -- about the latter part of August or first of September 1780, Colonel Benjamin Cleveland received information of the approach of Colonel Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] with a large troop of British & Tories from South Carolina, and immediately issued orders for all the Whig militia in the County of Wilkes to turn out and march to oppose him -- this deponent accordingly turned out and rendezvoused at Wilkes C. H. where he joined the company of militia commanded by Captain John Robbins [John Robins], and marched forthwith to oppose the advance of Colonel Ferguson, the Main Army under Colonels Cleveland & Campbell [William Campbell], having proceeded a little the company to which this deponent belonged, they pursued the route of the Main Army however with all possible speed until they approached near to Kings Mountain, when that portion of the Army who had horses or could procure them, had advanced and attacked Ferguson on Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780], defeated him, and took a large number of prisoners, and had proceeded a short distance on their return, before the company to which this deponent belonged was able to join them. After joining the Main Army, this deponent continued with it, and assisted in guarding the prisoners until they proceeded on their march to the old Sawry [Surry ?] Towns in the County of Stokes, a distance of near two hundred miles, where they were stationed guarding the said prisoners for a considerable time, and until they were relieved by the militia from Surry County -- when all the militia from Wilkes, was discharged and returned home. In this expedition this deponent served at least six weeks.

Shortly after this time, this deponent removed back to the County of Orange & State of Virginia, and was very soon thereafter enrolled in the company of militia commanded by Captain George Waugh, which was attached to the 8th Regiment of Virginia militia. The troops in that section of Country being at that time arranged in classes for serving given periods it soon fell to the lot of the class or company to which this deponent belonged to turn out for a tour of 4 months -- they accordingly set out upon their march toward Little York, and when within a short distance of that place, they joined the balance of their Regiment under the command of Major Thomas Carey (the Colonel being sick) and was soon thereafter attached to the troops under the command of General Weedon [George Weedon] -- After joining General Weedon they were employed principally in scouting and foraging parties until the siege of York commenced -- during which time however nothing material or important occurred. After the siege of York commenced, the troops to which this deponent belonged, were stationed near the River, and were under the immediate command of Count de Rochambeau (the whole being under the command of General Washington) until after the capture of Lord Cornwallis on the 19th day of October 1781. After the capture of Lord Cornwallis, and the necessary & proper disposition of the prisoners taken, was made this deponent was discharged by Captain Waugh and returned home with others of his company. In this tour this deponent acted as an Orderly Sergeant, and served the full period of his engagement, to wit, four months -- this deponent continued to reside in Orange County for about five years after the close of the war, when he again removed to Wilkes County North Carolina where he has resided ever since. He further states that he has no

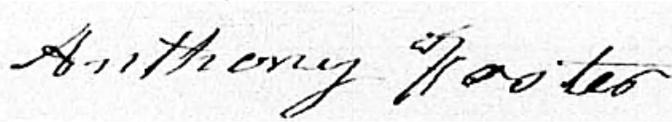
recollection of ever having received a written discharge from the service nor has he any documentary evidence of any kind to prove it -- nor does he know of any person living who served with him, by whom he could prove it except for Morton Jones<sup>1</sup> of West Tennessee, but who resides at so great a distance that he conceives it would be impossible for him to procure his testimony as he is old and infirm and poor. He refers however to the Reverend Thomas Fletcher & General Edmund Jones as persons to whom he is well-known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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 & Subscribed, the day & year aforesaid

S/ R. Martin, Clk

S/ Anthony Foster

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony Foster". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Thomas Fletcher, a clergyman, and Edmund Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: p 28: In 1852, veteran was living in Carroll County, Va, where he executed a power of attorney in favor of John T. Bryant to pursue any sums due him for his services in the Revolution; he died August 31, 1854 (his residence at the time of his death is not shown in the file).]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$39.56 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private & Sergeant or 9 months and 26 days in the Virginia and North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Morton Jones W7903](#) The file contains no supporting affidavit given by this veteran.