

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension Application of Nathan (Nathaniel) Slade W6071 Elizabeth P. fn56NC
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 5/14/09

[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.]

State of North Carolina, County of Caswell

The Declaration of Nathan Slade of Caswell County in the State of North Carolina a revolutionary war soldier drawn up to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress relative to revolutionary soldiers passed in the month of June 1832.

I was born in the county of Baltimore in the state of Maryland on the 21st day of August 1761 as is evidenced by a register of my birth which I now have in my possession. My parents removed from Maryland to North Carolina when I was quite a child. I was as I have learned from them four years old when they set out from Maryland to Carolina settled themselves with their family in that portion of Orange County which is now called Caswell. My parents spent the remainder of their lives here in this county and died leaving five sons and four daughters surviving them. I was the third son of my parents and was nearly fifteen years of age when Independence was declared.

I first entered the service of my country as a volunteer under a Captain whose name was Adam Sanders. This according to the best of my failing memory was in the year immediately preceding the battle of Guilford Court House. The circumstances under which I was induced to volunteer were these: The British army under Cornwallis had entered Hillsboro and were committing many deprivations upon the country and one Col. William Moore anxious to increase the American forces and resist the operation of the enemy proposed to raise one or more companies of mounted men and accordingly he proposed to all who would volunteer that if they would do so and furnish themselves with their own horses they should be discharged at the expiration of two months and be entitled to the pay and all the other advantages of those who had served a complete three months tour. I became a volunteer upon these conditions and furnished my own horse and served under Captain Adam Sanders as I have before stated. I am unable to remember now the names of any of the officers under whom I served at this time excepting that of Jeremiah Samuel late of Caswell County who was our adjutant.

Just before the close of the period of time which I was to have served—but not more than some one or perhaps two weeks—my Col. was under the necessity of leaving his command for a short time and returning home—and in doing so he thought proper to take home with him some three or four privates and among the rest myself who at the time was suffering greatly with toothache. He told me that seeing my jaw swelled from the pain and inflammation occasioned by my tooth he thought I had probably better go home with him and that for doing so I should not be molested. I never received any regular written discharge from the service at the period alluded to.

I am unable to say with certainty how long I remained at home before I entered the service again but one thing I do know and can state without hesitation I did again volunteer and entered the service under one Captain Oldham and was at the battle of Guilford under Capt. Oldham.

At the battle of Guilford I was one of the North Carolina militia. We were in that battle stationed by Genl. Greene behind a fence that being a position which he thought most advantageous for raw troops who were unaccustomed to stand the shock of battle. We were ordered to stand firm and to do what we could. The Genl. who had the immediate command of that portion of the troops to which I belonged was Butler—an officer in whose courage and skill I had then no confidence and have now but little if any respect for his character.

The enemy approached us and were according to the best of my belief within eighty to an hundred yards of us when they made their first fire—my recollection is that most of us stood firm until after the second fire. On the third fire there were but few if any of us left to receive it—all or nearly all had broke and retreated in great disorder. After the battle of Guilford, the company to which I belonged was divided into classes for from fifteen to eighteen or twenty and out of that number one was to be required to enlist in the number of the Continental troops or regular army of North Carolina. No man could be induced to enlist voluntarily and we were required to draw lots for the purpose of determining who should enlist. My brother Thomas Slade was at the head of the class to which I belonged and had to make the first draw and it so happened that it fell his lot to enlist or join the Continental Army. He was so situated that it was very inconvenient for him to do so—so he hired one Roper as a substitute. Roper was tendered to the proper authority as his substitute but Major Thomas Donoho refused to receive him because he had seduced a girl and gotten her with child and refused to marry her. I was then employed by Roper to take his place which I did and accordingly enlisted for eighteen months as a soldier in the Continental line of North Carolina. I served in the Continental Line of North Carolina from the month of August in the year 1782 until the month of July 1783 and was then discharged formerly but received no written discharge.

I enlisted at Hillsboro in No Carolina and within a short time we marched first to Salisbury in North Carolina and then to Camden and then to the high hills of Santee—From the high hills of Santee we were ordered to James Island near Charleston in S. C. where we continued until we were finally dismissed and permitted to go home at the close of the war.

When we left Hillsboro my opinion is that we were under the Command of Capt. Elijah Moore and according to the best of my recollection at Salisbury Moore ceased to command us and we were transferred to the command of Capt. Rhodes and one Holmes was our lieutenant. The whole body of troops to which I belonged was under the command of Genl. Guess and Archibald Lytle was our Colonel.

I omitted to declare in the proper place the particular incidents which I recollect in connection with the first campaign in which I served under Capt. Adam Sanders, Genl. Butler and Col. William Moore.

We marched first to Cross Creek where we heard much of the British and Tories. We proceeded without delay in the direction of Wilmington which place we discovered in the possession of the British and Tories. When we approached near Wilmington our vanguard was attacked by what he took to be a mixed force of Tories and British—we

scarcely had time however to prepare for the reception and repulsion of the enemy before to our surprise and deep mortification our Commanding General Butler ordered retreat. During this expedition—which was in its character very irregular and as it seemed to me without any defined purpose or object—I was in the engagement at a place called "Brown Marsh" in the lower part of this state not very far I believe from the town of Wilmington—we had pitched our camp for the night near the above named marsh, after a fatiguing march—at the dead hour of the night when we are all asleep our repose was disturbed and were called to action by the firing of the guard. We were ordered to make ready hastily which we did. The enemy came upon in full force as we supposed and one fire only was exchanged between us—when they retreated. Our officers, Genl. Butler and Col. William Moore showing a great want of courage and that presence of mind so Essential to military men in such a sudden emergency—after the first fire the enemy as stated before retreated and some of our men fell into their possession but the enemy returned again after the lapse of a short time and a second exchange of fire took place but no damage was done to my knowledge except that one man of the enemy was found after the enemy retreated the second time lying on the ground groaning and this man called himself a loyalist (or Tory).

The narrative which has thus been given states every incident or circumstance in connection with my history as a revolutionary soldier which I can recollect with sufficient certainty to justify me in swearing to them.

All that I have stated is within the recollection of living witnesses and among these I can mention the names of Elisha Evans, ~~John Davis, Francis Ray~~, citizens of Caswell County, companions in arms who knew me in ancient times and who know me now and can attest the truth of what I have herein declared.

I perhaps ought to have presented my claim to government long ago but being in circumstances of comfortable independence though old and infirm I have heretofore hesitated to ask at the hand of my country a pension for services rendered in my youth, which she had a right to demand.

I am now not only old, but having been born at a period when the means of education were not so great as they have been since I am also illiterate and the hand of a friend has been solicited to inscribe this Declaration which my own want of learning prevented me from doing myself.

And I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Nathan Slade (X) (His Mark)

Sworn to and subscribed this the 3rd day of July 1845 before me.

S/Henry Badgett, JP

I Henry Badgett the Said Justice of the peace do hereby certify that Nathan Slade who hath this day sworn to and Subscribed to the foregoing declaration before me is an aged and respectable man. I also certify that I have been long acquainted with him and that he has for many years borne the reputation of a revolutionary Soldier and I further certify that from old age and rheumatism and infirmity of Body he is unable to attend court to make his Said declaration that Ford near two years past he has from infirmity of body and

disease and confined principally to his house and a yard – given under my hand the day and date last above mentioned.

S/ Henry Badgett, JP

[fn pp. 15-20: Bible record]

Wrot by me Benj. Slade

Peter was born the 8th of October 1801

Sarrah was born the 1st of January 1802

Darcey was born 22nd of June 1803

Samuel was born 17th of April 1806

Eliza was born the 12th March 1808

Edmund was born May the 10th 1811

Arnold Elrey was born December the 26th 1811

B Bedford Brown was february 26th 1812

Cilvy was born July 24th 1815

Ader was Born April th 2nd 1817

Hulda was Born May the 26th Day 1817

Meriah was born 2nd March 1819

Fanny was born 23rd June 1819

Daniel was born 30th July 1820

Crisa was born Sept 7th day 1820

Peter was born March 8 day 1821

Leah was born June the 2th day 1821

Margaret was born September the 9th 1822

Rubin was born the 5th December 1822

Jany was born the 9 of June 1823

Raliegh [sic, Raleigh] Born August

Nancy Graves Slade was born March the 23rd 1801

Elizabeth ?pery Slade was born September the [?] 1803

Bartlett Yancy Slade was born April the 16th 1806

Hannah Miles Slade was born October the 20th 1808

Nathan Slade was born August the 21st 1761

Elizabeth Perry Slade was born February the 5th 1770

Polley Slade was born November the 7th 1794

William Slade was born April the 7th 1796

Thomas Lewis Slade was born November 10th 1798

William Saunders Slade

Thomas Lewis Slade

[fn p. 22: Widow, Elizabeth P. Slade, aged 83, filed for her pension on July 18, 1853 in Caswell. In her application, she states (1) that she married her husband on 24th August 1792 in Caswell County, was married by one Azariah Graves, JP, that there is no record of their marriage except 'that left by the family', and (2) that her husband died on August 18th 1846 in Caswell County. She declares they lived together as husband and wife until his death and that she is a widow still 'never having married since the death of her husband.'

S/ Elizabeth P. Slade, X her mark]

[fn p. 23: On July 19, 1853, Abner Miles, 61, testifies that he is well acquainted with the widow; that he knew her and her husband lived together as husband and wife; that her husband was reputed and believed in the neighborhood to have been a soldier in the Revolution.

Attested by S/ Thomas W. Graves, JP]

[fn p. 24: Elijah Graves gave an affidavit in support of the widow's claim.]

[fn p. 26: Marriage bond dated June 16th 1792 signed by Nathan Slade and John Graves in favor of Governor Alexander Martin to be discharged upon the marriage of Nathan Slade to Elizabeth Yancy.]

[fn p. 29]

State of North Carolina, office of Secretary of State

I William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War, that Nathaniel Slade a private Soldier in Captain Brevard's Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service on the ___ day of ___ 1782 for the term of eighteen months.

Given under my hand this 26th day of May 1845.

S/ Wm Hill, Secy of State

[fn p. 42]

State of North Carolina, Guilford County

On this the 16th day of June 1845 before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Guilford personally appeared Holloway Pass¹ a United States pensioner and a resident of the said County and State Aged 84 years & made oath in due form of Law that in the year of 1781 he served a three months Tour in the North Carolina Militia in the Revolutionary war and in said tour he well remembers of seeing Nathan Slade of Caswell County of North Carolina in the Service he is not certain whether the said Slade served the whole of the said three months tour or not but is of opinion that he did, that in the said three months tour he was under the Command of Captain Adam Saunders and Colonel Moore that this deponent has always understood and frequently heard the said Nathan Slade say that he served sometime in the Continental Service in the war of the Revolution that he has lived near the said Nathan Slade nearly all the time since the Revolutionary war and he has been well acquainted with the said Nathan Slade ever since the Revolutionary War.

Sworn to and Subscribed on the day and date first above written before me.

S/ A. E. D. Tatum, JP

S/ Holloway Pass

Dr. Allen Gunn gives testimony that Nathan Slade died on 18th August 1846.

S/ Allen Gunn

Attested: S/ Thomas W. Graves, Clerk

¹ [Holloway Pass S7289](#)

[fn p. 47: John H. Pichard, minister of the Gospel, pastor of Churches of Bethesda and Stony Creek of the Presbyterian Church certified that Nathan Slade enjoys a good reputation for veracity. S/ John H. Pichard]

[fn p. 47]

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

December 5th, 1845. Before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Personally appeared Nathan Slade a Revolutionary Soldier, and an applicant for a Pension for the services which he Rendered in the War of the Revolution and made Oath in due form of Law, and saith that the reason why he did not apply earlier for a Pension is that he was in Comfortable Circumstances, and being raised at a Point of time when the means of Education were quite ill convenient and in fact he never even learned to write his own name, therefore not knowing how to Proceed in the matter did neglect it till lately which negligence he hopes will not deprive him of his rights.

Sworn to and subscribed the fifth day of December 1845 before me.

S/ Philip Hodnett, JP

S/ Nathan Slade, X his name

[H. A. Burton and Nancy G. Burton gave supporting affidavits as to the reputation in the neighborhood that Slade was a soldier of the revolution.]

[fn p. 51]

Caswell County, State of North Carolina, to wit: In this day before me Andrew Haddoch and Richard Haddoch, both of said State and County, formerly Soldiers in the Continental Army of the United States and Maketh Oath that Nathan Slade served as a Soldier in said Line in the year 1782 & 1783 and was honorably discharged in the year 1783.

Sworn before me one of the Justices of the Peace for said State and County this 27th day of August 1792. S/ Thos. Rice, JP

[fn p. 54]

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

On this the 4th day of July 1845 personally appeared before me Stephen Neal one of the acting Justices for this County Elisha Evans² a United States pensioner & a resident of Caswell County aged 84 years & made oath in due form of law that in the year in which the Guilford Battle was fought & Cornwallis surrendered at York he served a tour of duty with Nathan Slade in the revolutionary War under Captain Coleman in Colonel Moore's Regiment. The condition on which he served the said Tour was that they were to furnish their on arms & horses & Serve a tour of two months & be dismissed for a complete three months Tour. And further saith that he has always understood, both during the war & ever since that the said Nathan Slade after serving the above named tour enlisted for Eighteen months & Served in the North Carolina Continental service until the close of the War .That this deponent & the said Nathan Slade were then Citizens of Caswell County North Carolina & have been ever since.

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

S/ Stephen Neal, JP

S/ Elisha Evans, X his mark

² [Elisha Evans S6830](#)