Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Wheatley W9886 Mary fn33 NC Transcribed by Will Graves 6/30/10

[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 North Carolina County of Wilkes: SS

On this 24th day of October personally appeared before me James Martin one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County, Mary Wheatley a resident of said County and State aforesaid, aged eighty-seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836: That she is the widow of George Wheatley who was a private soldier in the Militia of the Revolutionary War, in the Company of Captain Jesse Walton, as she believes, but owing to old age and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot swear positive to the Officers, nor length of service he rendered, but to the best of her recollection he was called into service as a volunteer in Wilkes County NC under Captain Walton in 1775, and marched across the Blue Ridge to New River against the Tories, and believes he served not less than two months. He was called into the service again in March 1776, and was marched to Salisbury NC under Captain Jesse Walton and served not less than twenty days, at that time. He was also in the service against the Cherokee Indians in 1777, under Lieutenant William Gray and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland and served not less than three months at that time; he was called into the service several other times after the Tories but does not recollect what places he went to, but believes it would amount to a term of not less than four months. He was called into the service again under Captain Benjamin Herndon and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland in September 1780, and was marched against the British & Tories at King's Mountain and was one of the guard that guarded the prisoners from there to Salisbury NC; from there he returned home making a tour of not less than two and a half months at that time, the above service was all as a volunteer and a private in the Militia of the United States; and making in all a term of not less than twelve in a half months: -- She further declares that she has no documentary evidence to establish the service of her husband nor her marriage, but that she well recollects that she was married to the said George Wheatley on the day of May in the year 1774: that her husband the aforesaid George Wheatley died on the 24th day of December 1828: and that she has remained a widow ever since that period; as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed:

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¹ At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year above written.

S/ James Martin, JP

S/ Mary Wheatley, X her mark

[fn p. 79: on October 28, 1839 in Wilkes County North Carolina, Susannah Mathis, about 76 years old, gave testimony that she was present at the marriage of Mary Wheatley to her husband George Wheatley by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland at Cleveland's own house; she believes they were married in the spring, she knows the weather was warm and she believes 2 years before the Declaration of Independence.]

[fn. 79]

State of North Carolina Wilkes County: SS: -- Personally appeared before me James Martin one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County, Sterling Rose² a resident of said County aged eighty-two years, and after being duly sworn according to law, saith upon his oath that he was well acquainted with the above applicant Mary Wheatley and her husband George Wheatley in the time of the revolutionary War, and as well as he recollects, said George Wheatley served a tour as a volunteer under Captain Jesse Walton across the Blue Ridge to New River after the Tories as his widow has stated; -- And further that he the said Rose and Wheatley volunteered into the service of the United States in March 1776, in Wilkes County under Captain Jesse Walton and was marched to Salisbury to learn the exercises from there they returned home making a term of not less than twenty days; they remained at home a short time and volunteered again under Captain Walton and was marched to the head of the Yadkin River against the Cherokee Indians and built Fort Isaacs, Colonel Isaacs commanded; the Fort was named after him, they were then marched home, making a tour of not less than two months. This was in the summer of 1776: -- He and the aforesaid Wheatley volunteered into the service again in August 1777, under Lieutenant William Gray and commanded by Major Hargroves and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland and was marched to the Cherokee nation, had some fighting, killed some Indians and took some prisoners, the Main body fled, we were then marched back to Wilkes County making a term of not less than three months, he and said Wheatley served at that time: He and the said Wheatley volunteered into the service of the United States again in Wilkes County in February 1778 as well as he recollects, under Lieutenant William Gray & commanded by Major Jesse Walton and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland and was marched to little River near Fayetteville NC; after the Scotch, from there they returned home making a tour of not less than 2 months at that time, -- Remained at home a short time and was then under the same officers marched to drowning Creek near South Carolina after the Tories, they fled to British, they was from there marched home making a term of not less than 3 months at that time. Shortly after this he believes in July 1778, he and Wheatley was called out again in Wilkes County under Captain Benjamin Herndon and Colonel Cleveland and was marched up the Yadkin to the Bent, then across the Brushy Mountain, and down Hunting Creek to the old trading Ford on the Yadkin River after the Tories, from there returned home making a term of not less than half a month at that time. -- He and said Wheatley volunteered again in the service in the last of August or first of September 1780 in Wilkes County, under Captain Benjamin Herndon, under the command of Major Hargroves and Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, and was marched to King's Mountain against the British and Tories at the time of the battle in October 1780, and was a part of the guard, that guarded the prisoners from there to Salem North Carolina, from there they were relieved and returned home making a term of not less than 3 months at that time. --

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² Sterling Rose S4132

He and said Wheatley volunteered again in February 1781 under Captain Benjamin Herndon and Colonel Cleveland and went after the British under Cornwallis, they marched to Salem NC, and down as low as the high rock Ford on the Haw River, from there returned home making a term of not less than three weeks at that time, the above service was in the militia of the United States, and making in all a term of not less than fourteen and a half months and 11 days, besides the tour to New River.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 29th day of October 1839 S/ James Martin, JP S/ Sterling Rose

[fn p. 113]

State of North Carolina Wilkes County: -- Personally appeared before me James Martin one of the acting Justices of said [County], William Spicer³ a resident of said County aged about ninety years, who being first duly sworn according to law: saith on his oath that in consequence of old age and the loss of memory he cannot recollect all the tours he and George Wheatley, the husband of Mary Wheatley the above applicant, served together in the Revolutionary War, but that he well recollects he and said Wheatley was volunteers in the service from Wilkes County North Carolina about the year 1777, they were commanded by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, Major Hargroves, Major or Captain Jesse Walton, Lieutenant William Gray was also with them, they were marched to the Indian nation after the Cherokee Indians, there was some fighting; some Indians killed; some of the Americans was killed and some wounded; and after driving the Indians, they were marched back to Wilkes County making a term of not less than 3 months as privates in the Militia service of the United States; He also recollects that the aforesaid Wheatley was with him in the service several other times but cannot recollect the length they served at those times.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this first day of November 1839 S/ James Martin JP S/ William Spicer, X his mark

Also on this first day of November 1839, personally appeared before me James Martin one of the acting Justices of said County, John Sparks Esquire (aged eighty-six years) a resident of said County and made oath in due form of law, that he and George Wheatley, the above named served a tour together in the Revolutionary War, under Captain Benjamin Cleveland (afterwards Colonel) and Major Hargroves, Major Jesse Walton, Lieutenant William Gray and Colonel Martin Armstrong in the year 1776 or 1777, and was marched to the Indian nation after the Cherokee Indians, they had some fighting, killed some Indians, took some prisoners, some of the whites was killed and some wounded, they drove the Indians, and was then marched back to Wilkes County making a term of not less than 3 months in the Militia of the United States. He recollects they served other tours but cannot recollect so as to state them.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ James Martin, JP

S/ John Sparks

[fn p. 160: family record]

Sally Whitley [sic] a Daughter of George Wheatley was born the 12 of May 1775 Moses Wheatley son of George Wheatley was born March the 30th 1777 George Wheatley some of George Wheatley born June the 16th 1779

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³ FPA S3962

⁴ FPA S7580

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[fn p. 221: on March 28, 1852 in Wilkes County North Carolina, George Wheatley and William Wheatley residence of said County filed an affidavit stating that they are the children and only surviving heirs of Mary Wheatley deceased who was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of about \$30 per annum; that they believe she was entitled to a pension more than she was given.]

[fn p. 536] State of Kentucky, Breathitt County

This 17th day of September 1839, Roger Turner⁵ who is about seventy-nine years old and personally known to me made oath before me a Justice of the peace that, he was acquainted with George Wheatley (who he is informed is dead and whose widow is now applying for a pension) for many years before the Revolutionary War: That early in the Revolutionary war this affiant and said Wheatley enlisted as volunteers in Wilkes County North Carolina for a six months tour under Captain Jesse Walton & Benjamin Cleveland Lieutenant from Wilkes County. We were marched to Salisbury where this affiant & said Wheatley continued twenty days learning the exercise, at which time we all returned home and was held in readiness to march anywhere, when called on: in a few days we were marched down to Cross Creek (now Fayette [sic, Fayetteville]) after the Scotch, and arrived there only a few days after the Battle, which was fought with the Scotch, in which battle several prisoners were taken by the Americans; this affiant & said Wheatley was then commanded to guard the prisoners in which service we were engaged some time in town or near it, we then started them on to Wilmington and on the way to Wilmington was relieved by the light horse; we were then admitted [sic, permitted] to return home and on the way was engaged in catching or trying to catch Tories, the Tories that were called were all sworn to not fight against the United States this service finished a six months tour -- The fall afterwards this affiant and the said Wheatley volunteered to go a three months tour against the Cherokee Indians under Major Jesse Walton & Captain Benjamin Cleveland who was the officers under whom this affiant volunteered, he does not know under what officers Wheatley volunteered, but after we had got together on that tour, we were all under the aforesaid officers, after marching into the wilderness this affiant took sick & was sent back, and said Wheatley well-known and served out his three months tour against the Indians -- some time after his return from the three months tour aforesaid he was marched under Colonel Cleveland to New River, and their said Wheatley & Miram Allen caught a Tory as he was called by the name of Zack Goss, who was hung next day, Wheatley & Allen were sent in front as spies by the Colonel -- this service continued about twenty days --

Some time afterwards we were marched to King's Mountain under said Colonel Cleveland, but did not arrive there in time to anticipate in the Battle, But met the prisoners about ten miles from the Battle ground, we then were commanded to guard the prisoners back to Salem, this service was a three months tour, Wheatley was in the same company all the tour --

This affiant was present at the marriage of said Wheatley and is now (widow) her maiden name was Mary Poor, they were married some years before the war, -- Benjamin Cleveland married said Wheatley and Mrs. Mary Wheatley the now applicant for a pension, whose name was Mary Poor as aforesaid, he knew them both well -- the marriage was in Surry (then called) Surry County North Carolina.

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⁵ Roger Turner S14737

S/ Roger Turner, X his mark

[Widow was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for the 8 months service by her husband in the revolution.]