Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Fielder R3533 Transcribed by Will Graves

f21VA 11/25/07 rev'd 2/6/15

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia, Grayson County: SS

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Grayson now sitting John Fielder a resident of Grayson County and State of Virginia aged 80 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. This applicant says that he entered the service of the United States in the year 1775 or '76, that he was drafted into the Militia & went out under the command of Cat. John Clark, __ McNeil was the lieutenant—He marched under the referenced officers to the Town of Petersburgh [Petersburg] in Virginia when a Mr. Green procured a man to serve in his place, & then this declarant went home after being out about two weeks. His Captain did not wish him to go, because he had made this declarant his orderly Sergeant, but at last agreed to the exchange and this declarant went home. This declarant very shortly afterwards went out again, as a volunteer, under the Command of Capt. Thos. Moore, [Thomas Moore] and served three months at Petersburgh, Va. Col. John Holcome & Col. Mead had the command at that time of the troops at Petersburgh. Major Spencer from Charlotte County Va. was also there during the time this Declarant was in that Service. This declarant had a discharge from Capt. Moore at the expiration of his three months tour which is now lost or mislaid. The declarant from the time that Capt. Moore discharged him was continually in the service, sometimes at one place and then at another, until he was ordered by Col. Walker [probably George Walker] to take charge of 18 Waggons loaded with provision and take them to Genl. Green [Nathanael Greene] whose head quarters was then at Col. Ramsey on deep River, in North Carolina. This declarant had to press men to go with him and the waggons, and after encountering many difficulties from the Tories, he arrived at last with the aforesaid provisions at Genl. Green's head quarters and delivered the same to Genl. Robert Lawson. This declarant was then directed by Genl. Lawson to raise a company and take the command of the same, and this declarant in a very short time raised a Company of 33 men and remained with Genl. Green until he and his men were discharged together with the whole of Genl. Lawson's brigade. This declarant then came on with Genl. Lawson to Dan River and was there discharged by Genl. Lawson and went home. This declarant does not recollect the precise time he was absent in North Carolina, but he does recollect that Genl. Lawson told him he should be allowed for a three months tour. Genl. Lawson signed the declarant's last discharge which is now also lost. He can safely say that he served at least 12 months. This declarant was born in Goochland County Virginia in the year 1752. He had a record of his age in a large bible which was sold by the Sheriff for debt, and he is now unable to produce it. This declarant lived in Prince Edward County Va. at the different times when he went into the service, where he continued to reside until the year 1791 when he removed to the County of Grayson, then Wythe County, where he has resided ever since. This Declarant is known to Dennis Fielder¹ & Stephen Clark² contemporary

¹ Dennis Fielder S8476

² Stephen Clarke (Clark) S9180

survivors and also to James Cox in his present neighborhood who will testify to his character of veracity and their belief of his service in the War 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 of roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Fielder

John Tielder

We Stephen Clark, residing in the County of Grayson and Dennis Fielder residing in the same County hereby Certify that we are well acquainted with John Fielder who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be 80 years of age; that he is respected and believed in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion the fact being known to us personally.

Sworn, and subscribed, the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Dennis Fielder, X his mark

S/Stephen Clarke

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On this 24th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Grayson County now sitting, John Fielder an applicant for a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, and, being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Amendment to his Original declaration made in this Court on the 24th day of September 1832 in order to obtain the benefit of the said act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the United States Service as a drafted militia man in the year 1776 and was in actual service 15 days under Capt. John Clark & served as is stated in his declaration made on the 24th day of September 1832: He served a tour of three months as a volunteer under Capt. Thomas Moore in the latter part of the same year, 1776, as is set forth in his original declaration; and in 1781 he again served a term of 3 months and 15 days as a Volunteer in a Brigade commanded by General Lawson, as well as he remembers, who belonged to the division of the American Army commanded by General Greene in Carolina, & this service was performed by the declarant exclusive of the time he had charge of the 18 wagons loaded with provisions for General Greene's Army of the time he was Captain.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Fielder

[Isaac Garrison, a clergyman, and Stephen Clark gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Virginia, Grayson County, SS

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for the County of Grayson, aforesaid, John Fielder who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age and the Consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but

according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades; For 15 days I served as a drafted militia man; for 6 months & 15 days I served as a volunteer; and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ John Fielder

[Note: Notes in the file indicate that the Commissioner of Pensions rejected this claim because the veteran failed to prove six months actual military service as required under the 1832 act. The Commissioner excluded the time the veteran claimed to have been in the wagon service.]