

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Allen S17820

f25NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/28/07 rev'd 7/20/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 6: pages scrambled]

State of South Carolina, Chester District

On the 24th day of November 1832 Personally appeared before Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of Ordinary of said District John Allen of the District & State aforesaid (but formerly of the State of North Carolina) aged 80 years last Monday, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the Service of his Country as a volunteer in the State of North Carolina, Warren County where he then lived under Captain Edward Clanton, Colonel Benjamin Sorrel [Benjamin Seawell], in General Jethro Sumner's Brigade, about the month of July or August & received an Ensign or Second lieutenant commission in the Militia foot service. Of the date he is not positive, but remembers well that when they had marched as far as Cheraw Hill in South Carolina, they got the account of General Gates' defeat at Camden; which he finds from record to have been on the 16th of August 1780.

That they then turned & marched toward Charlotte in North Carolina, & had some skirmishes with the Tories & defeated & scattered them. And remained there until the British Army marched up from Camden; & then retreated to Salisbury, & back over the Yadkin River, & was discharged; this was a three months tour.

The next was when Cornwallis marched through N. C. after the Battle of Guilford. He again turned a volunteer in a company of Horse as a Dragoon (found his own Horse) under Captain John Powers, Colonel Joseph Hawkins (Brother of Colonel Benjamin Hawkins). This was in the spring of 1781, as I find the Battle of Guilford was on the 15th of March that year. And was commissioned a commissary by the said Colonel Joseph Hawkins, & acted in that capacity during the war Campaign. That we pursued the British on to near [p 5] Willmonton [Wilmington]. We had several skirmishes with both British & Tories. That he did both the duty of a commissary & common soldier & messed & spled [sic, slept] with the Colonel. That they had one deliberate Charge Sword in hand on a camp of British & Tories, gave them a complete defeat, killed & wounded a number, & completely scattered them, as they retreated into a swamp. And relieved Colonel Keanyen [probably Colonel James Kenan] as they were about to attack him with a superior number.

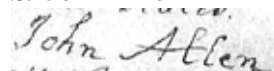
This was another full three months tour, & was dismissed & came home with the Colonel as the British left the Country & marched to the state of Virginia.

That he has lost or mislaid his Commissions so that he cannot tell what has become of them, not thinking that he would ever have any use for them.

And that he relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll or Agency of any State or the United States.

Sworn to in open court date above.

S/ John Allen



S/ Peter Wylie, Judge Court Ordinary

To the first interrogatory he Answers

I was Born in the year 1752, in Culpepper County in the State of Virginia, as informed by my parents.

2nd An. I once made a Record of my age, but cannot now tell what has become of it.

3rd An. I was living in Warren County in the State of North Carolina. I lived there after the war until the year 1799, when I removed to South Carolina Chester district where I now live.

4th An. I always volunteered my services.

5th An. I do not recollect of any regular troops or Officers that served with us. But I knew General Sumner very well both before and after the Service. I also knew Colonels Benjamin Sorrel, Joseph Hawkins & William Brickel, Major Enlow, Captain Richards, Capt. Powers, Capt. Carter & others.

6th An. I did received two commissions; one as an Ensign or Second Lieutenant But I am not positive by whom it was signed; but am rather of opinion it was by the Governor of North Carolina. The second as [p 3] I have stated was that of a Commissary, & was signed by Colonel Joseph Hawkins. And that both are lost or destroyed, so that I cannot tell what has become of them.

7th An. Having removed from my original State, I know of no person that can testify to my services except Joseph Perdue & perhaps Rubin Bennett. But as to my credibility & arrest of the war of character, I can mention the names of Joseph Gaston Esq., Daniel Green Stevenson Esq. Captain John Rodman, John McCreasy, Esqr., The Rev'd Samuel McCreasy & Mr. Wm. Heath with a number of others, that have been acquainted with me & us I came to this Country but you nothing of my Revolutionary Services.

Sworn to & Subscribed the 24 day of Nov. 1832 in open Court.

S/ John Allen

S/ Peter Wylie,(Judge of the court ordinary)

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South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared in open court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary of said District Joseph Purdue who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that he was acquainted with John Allen Applicant above named during the revolutionary And was in the Service of his country the United States with said Allen and a three months tour under the following officers Viz. Colonel Joseph Hawkins & Major Debarren in the State of North Carolina's Militia.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court 24th day Nov. 1832

S/ Joseph Purdue, X his mark

S/ Peter Wylie

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State of North Carolina, Warren County

On this fifth day of September 1833 personally appeared before me W. N. Edwards one of the Justices of the peace for this County of Warren aforesaid Frederick Shearin, Resident of said County, aged seventy-three years, who being first duly sworn, doth on his oath declare that he is well acquainted with John Allen, formerly and for many years a resident of the County of Warren aforesaid – and who as this affiant has understood, some years ago removed to the State of South Carolina where he now resides. That this affiant was in the summer of the year 1780 a private in the militia under the command of Colonel Benjamin Sewell and General Sumner – and that he well remembers that the said John Allen was attached to the same Regiment – with himself – in the company commanded by Captain Edward Clanton – and that the said Allen was either a Lieutenant or an Ensign in said Company – but which he does not now recollect. That the Regiment to which he and said Allen belonged marched from this County – through Bute County to Cheraw Hills in South Carolina and

while there they heard of Gates' Defeat –from thence they returned to North Carolina. In this Tour the militia was called out for three months – and he well remembers the service of said Allen & verily believes he served his full term of three months.

Sworn to before me the day & year aforesaid.
S/ W. N. Edwards, JP

S/ Fred. Shearin¹



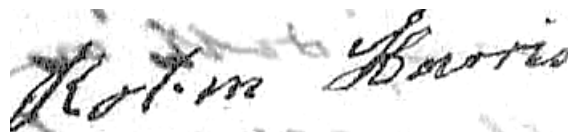
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State of North Carolina, Warren County

On this 4th day of October 1833 personally appeared before me W. N. Edwards one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid Robin Harris – Resident of said County – aged seventy-five years – who being first duly sworn, doth on his oath declare, that he is well acquainted with John Allen, formerly and for many years a Resident of the County aforesaid – and who as this affiant has understood moved some years ago to the State of South Carolina, where he now resides – That this affiant – in the latter part of the spring or the beginning of the summer of 1781 was a private in the militia under the command of Major Woodard and Colonel Linton – and that he well remembers meeting at Halifax in this State with the above named John Allen – who was a private in a Regiment of Horse commanded by Colonel Joseph Hawkins. That from Halifax the Troops were marched to Tarboro – thence to Towers Creek-- thence to Kingston [sic, Kinston] – and thence to Con's ferry – that in this Expedition the horse under the command of Colonel Hawkins accompanied them – That he remembers distinctly seeing the said Allin several times during the march – that he recollects having upon one occasion lent his gun to the said Allen who was ordered on a short expedition from the Main Body of the troops. That the company to which he belonged was called out for three months. He is not able to say expressly the Company of Horse to which said Allen was attached was called out for three months – but believes it was – as he heard several of his neighbors who were attached to the same company with Allen say on their return, that they were called out for that period. This affiant was detailed and left behind to take care of the sick and disabled – and did not continue with the Troops killed there discharged.

Sworn to before me the day & date above.
S/ W. N. Edwards, JP

S/ Robin Harris²



[p 11]

South Carolina Chester District: Personally appeared John Allin [sic] in open court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of Ordinary of Chester District in order to make an amendment to his declaration made on the 24th day of November 1832 to obtain a pension who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that his first Tour when he acted as Ensign commenced in July or August 1780 when he served at least three months, he further saith that in his second Tour where he acted as commissary, he entered the Service the last of April or first of May 1781 and served at least three months, he further saith upon oath that he has applied by letter to the Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina whose answer to his request he has given to be attached.

S/ John Allen

Sworn to & signed this 17th day of October 1833 in open Court
S/ Peter Wylie, J. C. O. C. D.

¹ [Frederick Shearin S7495](#)

² [Robin Harris R4672](#)

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Raleigh 2nd August 1833

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 23rd Ultimo, was received this morning. I am sorry to inform you that I have no rolls of the Militia who served in the revolutionary war in my Office; I have only those who were of the regular Continental line of the State. You will therefore have to prove your services, or fail and obtaining the reward so justly due to all who suffered in the glorious cause of freedom. Colonel Seawell and Major Brickle are both dead. I never knew anything of Captain Clanton, but I think it probable if you were in Franklin or Warren County you would be able to prove your services. I return you the money you enclosed me.

Very respectfully
your obedient servant
S/ Wm Hill

Mr. John Allen

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South Carolina, Lancaster District

Personally appeared Reuben Bennett senior of said District and made Oath that he was well acquainted with John Allen formerly of Warren County North Carolina but now of Chester District South Carolina – that during the Revolutionary War, he thinks in the year 1780 troops were called by draft & volunteering to go on to the South – he Recollects that the said John Allen was Second Lieutenant or Ensign of the Company that he served in under Captain Edward Clanton belonging to the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Benjamin Sewell – that the Regiment had marched as far as the Cheraws to Joined General Gates, -- when they received information of the total defeat of General Gates before or near Camden – Colonel Sewell immediately marched his Regiment to Drowning Creek & Coles Bridge where they stayed a few days recovering of those who were flying from the defeat – afterward they went to The River Ramsey's Mills where they stayed some time afterward to Salisbury and to Charlotte and proceeded as far as Sugar Creek, when they [were] forced to retreat – afterwards they were posted on the Adkin [sic, Yadkin River] where the A Regiment was discharged the men having served out the time for which they had been drafted three months – but he believes that it was near four months during all of the time the said John Allen acted as the Ensign of the Company before mentioned in which the deponent served.

Sworn to and Subscribed this 18th day of October 1833 Before me.

S/ Danl. G. Stinson,

S/ Reuben Bennet,³ X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private and Ensign for 6 months in the North Carolina service.]

³ [Reuben Bennett S18714](#)