

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John E. Nelmes S1864

Transcribed by Will Graves

f18NC¹

rev'd 12/16/17

[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.]

[p 3, file 1]

State of Tennessee, Hardeman County} Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions October term 1832

Be it remembered that on this 2nd day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Hardeman County Tennessee the same being a court of record now sitting John E. Nelmes of said County & State aged Seventy-eight 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 State of North Carolina Northampton County on the 25th of July 1754 agreeable to the best information he has of that fact; he has no record of his age, he was living in Nash County North Carolina when he volunteered & on the 8th day of June 1778 he took the Oath of Allegiance and obtained a certificate thereof which is hereto attached from Captain Edward Clinch. The term he volunteered for was five months, he did not enter the service then but stood ready to act when called on. In the winter following he believes in the month of December he entered the service under Captain Clinch and started to go to Wilmington but before he reached there the news came that the British had taken Savannah in Georgia, we turned our course and marched towards Georgia to join General Ash [John Ashe] & continued our march to Pedee River in South Carolina where we halted for a short time. While there we heard that General Ashe had been defeated at Briar Creek [March 3, 1779], he then returned home after serving four months. Major Joseph Clinch & Col. Thomas Eaton was [sic] his field officers, he was not in any service afterwards except in some scouting excursions after the Tories, until the latter part of the year 1780 when he was drafted in Nash County for five months under Captain William Williams and after being in service for some time during which time I was employed in keeping the Tories in check, he was marched by Colonel Guilford Dudley² to Camden³ and was in the battle near Camden under General Greene [Nathanael Greene] he continued in service until he served out his time, when he was discharged which discharge he still has signed by Lieutenant Colonel Guilford Dudley, which he attaches to this declaration to accompany it.

He remained in Nash County until the year of 1789 or 90 when he removed to Georgia where he remained until the year 1815 when he moved to Tennessee and have resided in

1 For some reason there are two files, both numbers S1864, one (5 pages) for John Nelmes and the other (13 pages) for John E. Nelmes. The application is in the second file.

2 [Guilford Dudley W8681](#)

3 Applicant appears to be referring to the Battle of Hobkirk Hill (also known as the second Battle of Camden) which occurred on April 25, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/hobkirk.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hobkirks_hill.html

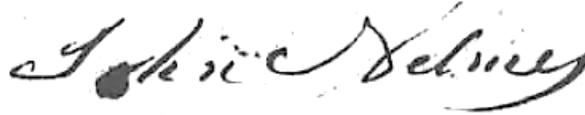
Hardeman County Tennessee since 1824. He knows of no person living by whom he can prove his services. Colonel William L. Duncan and Abner Rosson are well acquainted with him & can testify as to his veracity and their belief that he has performed the above services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the second day of October 1832.

S/ Thos. J. Hardeman, Clerk

S/ John Nelmes



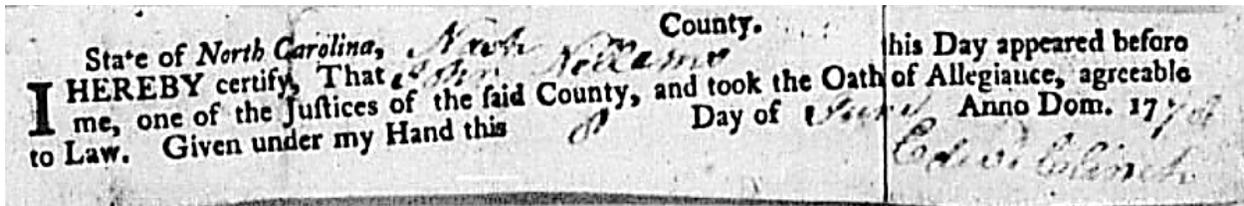
[William L. Duncan and Abner Rosson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9, file 1]

“State of North Carolina, Nash County

I hereby certify, That John Nellams [sic] this Day appeared before me, one of the Justices of the said County, and took the Oath of Allegiance agreeable to Law. Given under my hand this 8th Day of June Anno Dom. 1778 [last digit is unclear].

S/ Edwd Clinch”



“State S. Carolina May 18th 1781

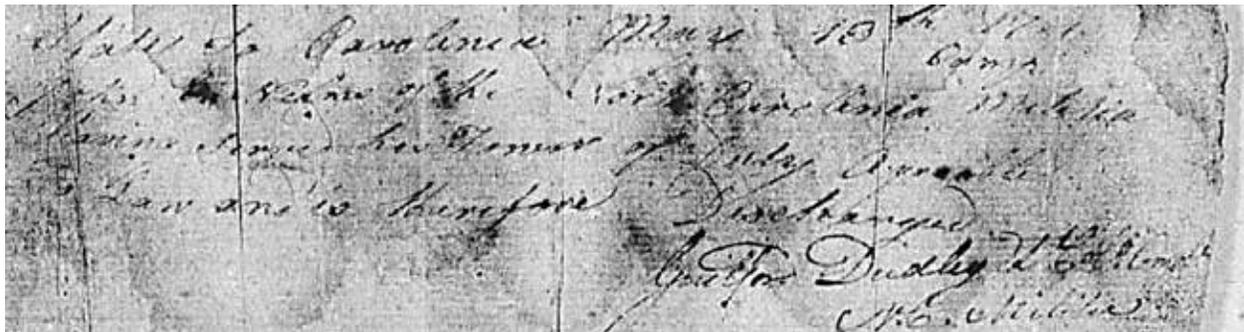
John E. Nelms [sic] North Carolina Militia

Having served his Tower [sic, Tour] of Duty Agreeable

To Law and is therefore Discharged.

S/ Guilford Dudley, Lt. Col. Comdg.

N. C. Militia”



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]