

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Gross S30444

f33NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 5]

State of Kentucky, Clinton County: County Court January term 1838

On this the fifteenth day of January 1838 personally appeared in open court before the worshipful Justices of the County Court of Clinton aforesaid, David Gross, a Resident Citizen of the County of Clinton State of Kentucky aged ninety-three years from the best information and calculation in his power which he thinks is correct having no record of his age and after being duly sworn in open Court makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the Benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

He States that he entered the service of the United States in Surry County North Carolina a volunteer Soldier, under Captain Jacob Free against the Indians and accordingly marched off under said Captain he does not at this time Recollect the inferior or other officers recollects that there was two of his intimate acquaintance with him namely Frederick Long and Peter Myers, he recollects he entered said service in the latter part of the Summer does not Recollect to be certain the precise day nor month he has but little doubt that it was in August, and from calculation he thinks it was in the year 1778, he Ranged the frontiers to defend points and places through the mountains through Wilkes County including the fall season of the year and received a verbal discharge from said Captain sometime in the fall cannot recollect the precise day or month having served three months.

He again volunteered to serve a three months Tour and entered the service in the said County of Surry sometime in the Ensuing Summer to serve a tour against the British entered the service under Captain Sanders [James Sanders] his first name not now recollected he entered said service some time in the Summer Season the month nor year not Recollected marched to Sals Berry [sic, Salisbury], and thence to Charlotte and went on after the British and marched down into the South State and after having went to various points and places was again verbally discharged having served three months and not having joined the Main Army this Tour.

He again Volunteered under Captain William Null [William Nall] some time in the Early part of the next Summer he does not Recollect the precise time he thinks it was in the month of June cannot say certain as to the day and marched off and finally joined Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] Army and went on and was in the battle at the hanging Rock [August 6, 1780]¹ and received a smart wound in the Right arm near the Shoulder and went on to the hospital at Camden and was there under the care of a physician at that place about one week soon got well the Bullet not going deep enough in the arm to injure the arm seriously, continued at Camden for some time does not recollect how long and marched towards Charlotte after the British thence to Salisbury and afterward returned home and was verbally discharged by said Captain having served three months.

He again volunteered under Captain Speas [Henry Speer] his first name not Recollected entered

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

the service some time in the summer of 1781 went to Hozertown [?] and went to various other places and went to the Moravian town after ___ and finally marched [to] the Yadkin [River] and was again verbally discharged by his said Captain having served two months was discharged at a Town called Hauntsville [?] and returned home.

He was born in Lancaster County in the State of Pennsylvania, and from there he went to Surry County North Carolina at about fourteen years old and continued there until the Revolution he had a wife and Several Children when he first entered said Service, entered the Service at about thirty-four years of age, Continued in said County of Surry until about twenty years after the time of his quitting the service herein alluded to and moved to where he lives in Clinton County Kentucky where he has lived for the last thirty-six years that he has no doubt but he can prove by his neighbors generally that he is reputed as having been a Revolutionary Soldier and a man of Veracity he thinks that Doctor Ragland, George N Denton and Isaac Denton and Robert Cross would depose to his good character and reputation as a Revolutionary Soldier he states that he has until the establishment of Clinton lived very remote from the Court house in the old County Cumberland, and did for a long time and then to apply for a pension and from time to time did set times sent word to some men that he wanted some attorney or man of business to come and prepare his case, that owing to old age and living remote he did not go to have the business attended to and as he was therefore Dependent on others the same was wholly neglected until one time a gentleman who was a lawyer, a Mr. Cheek, prepared some papers from the great distance he lived off he does not know whether the papers were finished out and sent to the Department or not, he applicant knows of no person by whom he can prove his service by, that actually knows, and saw him served, but believes he can prove by a certain Meshac Green,² that lives in Tennessee a man that was acquainted with him and his officers, or some of them in Surry County where he entered service things completely convincing that he applicant served, and many other facts, Relative to the marches from that County during the Revolutionary war. Mr. Isaac Denton the only Clergyman in his neighborhood, being unwell he cannot procure his attendance.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ David Gross, X his mark

[Jesse Smith, Isaac Wright John Miller gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 14 is a handwritten attested letter written by Dr. Otey T. Ragland, in support of Gross' character.]

[p 17, affidavit of John Miller, a pensioner, of Clinton County Kentucky as to his belief that Gross was a soldier (even though Miller does not state that he served with Gross); Miller says he also knew Frederic Tanner, formerly of Surry County, who also claimed to be Revolutionary soldier, who told Miller he did serve with Gross.]

State of Tennessee, Morgan County

Be it known that on the day of January A.D. 1838, before me Thomas Jack a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Morgan personally appeared Mashac Green a very old man and an old Revolutionary pensioner being a resident Citizen of Morgan County and a man of undoubted veracity with whom I am personally acquainted – and after being duly sworn – for that purpose, according to law made the following affidavit that he was intimately acquainted with one David Gross in the County of Surry in the State of North Carolina knows that Gross volunteered in Surry County and started off under Captain William Null in the Summer of 1780 and was absent for the space of several months during which time he still understood from the family that Gross was in the Army after the return of Gross he saw and conversed with him on the Subject Gross informed him that their company was

² [Meshack Green W25658](#)

attached to Sumter's Army and that he was at the battle of hanging rock and exhibited a wound on the right arm stated that he received it from the enemy in the action that it did not penetrate the bone but was only a flesh wound so that it did not disable him only for a short time he then saw Gross passing about occasionally for some months perhaps the next spring he again volunteered under Captain Spears to march on to Moravian towns against Cornwallis was absent a considerable time and returned home again he never heard of no remarkable events of that Campaign but knows that Gross resided in Surry County several years after the close of the war does not know of any other service performed by said Gross of his own knowledge but have heard it said that he served one or 2 besides Witness never served directly in the company with Gross at any time Gross' Services being performed before his commenced but knows that Gross still remained in the County after the close of the war he states that he has not saw Gross for many years but from every description and circumstance believes that David Gross of Clinton County Kentucky who is now making application to have pension papers prepared is the Identical David Gross who served in the revolution as before described.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date first above mentioned.

S/ Thomas Jack, JP

S/ Mashac Green, X his mark

State of Kentucky, Clinton County

On this the 22nd day of August 1838 personally appeared before me Hiram L. Emerson a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Clinton aforesaid, David Gross a resident Citizen of the County and State aforesaid aged 94 years from his best information having no record of his age, and after being duly sworn for that purpose on his oath makes the following amendment, to his Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

He states that he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He volunteered to serve a 3 months tour in Surry County North Carolina under Captain Jacob Free, to go against the Indians, according to his best recollection in the fall season of the year but from his loss of memory cannot state with certainty the month nor day but believes it was in the fall of 1779, he served on the frontier of North Carolina Stationed at while about 1 ½ miles from Wilkes Court house; until some other companies came up and Ranged through the mountains and Served 3 months and was verbally discharged, by said Captain Free in Surry County at Captain Sanders' house about 12 miles from applicants own house having Served 3 months he cannot state with certainty the day nor date further than it was and the Expiration of the full Term of 3 months.

He again volunteered to serve a 3 months tour under Captain Sanders and entered service some time perhaps 2 months or 3 about after the Expiration of his said first Tour he cannot state the day nor month with certainty further than he thinks from his recollection of the weather being warm it was probably sometime March as he recollects that said tour included the warm season of the year or partly so, that went under said Captain to the Moravian towns after the British enemy towards the South State and reconnoitering and scouting about joined no other forces and was finally discharged near Charlotte having served 3 months was verbally discharged by said Captain Sanders in the warm season of the year 1780 as he believes from calculation.

He again volunteered, and perhaps 2 or 3 weeks or thereabout after the Expiration of his last mentioned tour under Captain Null he cannot state with certainty the day but it was a short time before the battle of the Hanging Rock, he went home and was Joined to Sumter's force and was in the said Battle and was shot in the Right arm in said engagement, was taken to the hospital at Camden and was there attended to by a Physician, his name he does not think he ever charged his memory with continued there a while not well of wounds Left a large ugly scar, and after he got better, went after the British to Charlotte and Salisbury, and was verbally discharged near home by said William Null Captain, having served 3 months.

He again volunteered to serve a tour and entered the service some time in the latter part of the

summer of 1781 as he believes from calculation and entered service under Captain Spears and went down to the Moravian towns and to Hoozertown after the British and returned home and went in a day or 2 down the same direction and to the same places again and was marched back and was verbally discharged by Captain Spears at the Little Town on the Yadkin, he states that according to his best recollection he served 2 months this tour. He states that he cannot state with further certainty the precise period of his entering each Tour of service and quitting the same, that he is no scholar and has no record of the dates or any document to refresh his memory as to dates and that his Declaration is made from his best Judgment and knowledge of the dates from calculation on reference to events, he was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania came to North Carolina Surry County at about 14 years of age, that he has been living in Surry County about 20 years before his first Tour of duty, and had been married about 10 years before said tour, he lived in Surry 20 years after the war and then removed to where he now lives in Clinton County Kentucky upward of 36 years past he prays that this may be considered as an amendment to his original Declaration. He states that Mr. Cheek took down his Statements that he did not nor does not know whether he sent them to the War office or not that he built remote from him many miles off was never at Burkesville where the Court house was in his life that he has been too infirm for traveling many years past that he has no written or documentary evidence of his service and is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 22nd day of August 1838.

S/ Hiram L. Emerson, JP

S/ David Gross, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]