

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Emanuel Ford Fortner S32258

f16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/5/09 rev'd 6/12/15

[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.]

[p 6]

State of Indiana Owen County: SS

On this 19th day of April 1834 personally appeared before Delana R. Eckels a Justice of the peace in and for the said County Emanuel Ford Fortner a resident of said County aforesaid aged 73 years past, 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, 1834 [sic, June 7th, 1832].

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated; To wit: That he was drafted in the County of Bute (as well as he recollects the County with was during the war divided into what was afterwards called Warren and Franklin Counties) in the State of North Carolina for a tour of 3 months in the last of March or first of April 1779 in the Company Commanded by Captain Aaron Fuzzell and that Geter [Jeter], who shortly after they set out took sick and returned back home where he afterwards died was the Captain who first commanded, and who was succeeded by Geter, that one Buffort was either Lieutenant or Ensign in said Company, that said company was attached to the Regiment of Colonel Johnson, who also died on his returning homeward from the service, that they rendezvoused at Bute Court House, and from thence marched toward Wilmington crossed a water course called Tar River, till we got near to there, and thence changed our course to what is now called Fayetteville, then Cross Creek thence southwardly into South Carolina crossing the Savannah River at the White Bluffs in pursuit of a British Army thence near to Briar Creek thence down to Bacon's Bridge about a mile from which place a day or 2 after we had a skirmish with McGirt [Daniel McGirt] a Tory with 60 Indians, during which time the British Army laid in John Island [sc, John's Island] from thence to Stono old Fields, about 6 or 7 weeks after we arrived [p 7] at this place we had an engagement with the British at Stono ferry in which the Americans was victors, here Major Dixon was wounded, here also applicant received a light wound on the forehead, hand and shoulder, but from which you soon recovered, losing no time from the wounds although they have left scars which are shown to the Justice before whom this declaration is made, here about the 1st of August we were ordered to march towards home applicant got home on or about the 20th of August where they were discharged and he thinks from the time they left the Main Army till they got home was just 20 days -- during this tour General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln], General Butler [John Butler], and others whose names he has forgotten in this trip were commanders from the time we left home in the service, till we returned there, we were on duty 5 months applicant thinks it was just 5 months.

That after the time he was drafted at Bute as aforesaid, how long after applicant from loss of memory cannot now say for 2 weeks under Colonel Marlborough [Marbury?], that from loss

of memory he cannot say who was Captain or whether they had any that we were kept under arms nearly all the time day & night with very scanty provisions, that during the time they had a skirmish with the British near and in a corn field, that the British were driven, have lost considerable [indecipherable word, looks like 'rice'] along the road, here we took 21 horses and 2 Negroes which were sold and the money divided among the men, this applicant received his share or what was then said to be his share; that he served out his tour of 2 weeks, that as well as he recollects they were not in this trip detained over the term of service before last above spoken of, that it was in the year 1779.

That during the year 1781 the Tories being troublesome in the neighborhood of Cape Fear where this applicant then resided, they were frequently called out to scatter [p 4] bands of Tories, and restore peace and safety to the whig inhabitants under one Lieutenant Creah who had the command, he thinks the Captain never went along with them in the service, that during the year aforesaid they performed a number of Tories, sometimes they would be gone 1, 2 or [more?] days owing to the distance, they had to go, that during this time the Tories killed some of the settlers among whom was an old man by the name of Headly -- this old man was shot by them in his own house, they caught one of them and took him to trial before one Squire Sproles [sic, Sproul?]. That from loss of memory and lapse of time he cannot say how long he was actively and actually employed in this service, that he is now very frail and palsied owing to which he could not go before a court of record to make this his declaration and had to procure said Justice to come to his house to take this declaration. That for his militia service as above stated he received a discharge, which he retained until about the year 1819 when all his papers were burnt in the house of his son-in-law.

Question by the Justice -- Where and in what year were you born? Answer, I was born in Bute County North Carolina on the 20th day of September 1760.

Question by same -- Have you any record of your [age] and if so where is it? Answer I have no record of my age. I stated from my remembers of my fathers record --

Question by same. Where were you living when called into the Service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live. [sic]

Answer I was living in Bute County North Carolina, when called into service. I have since I left Carolina lived in Indiana White Water in Franklin County and from thence to Monroe County and from thence I moved to Owen County Indiana my present place of residence.

[p 5] That he was called into service as heretofore stated, in the two first tours named he was drafted, and the last he served in what is called the minute service.

That he has stated his services and the names of his officers as fully as he can recollect at this time.

That he served as herein before stated and all not less than six months as a private in the war of the revolution, and for which service he claims a pension. He knows of no person by whom he can prove his services --

He hereby relinquishes every claim except the present to a pension or annuity, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State in the union.

Sworn to & subscribed the 19th day of April 1834.

Test: S/ D. R. Eckels, JP

S/ Emmanuel Ford Fortner, Senior, X his mark

[p 5: Emmanuel Ford Fortner, Junior and Joel A. Dyer gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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