

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Walter Greer S3415

f21NC [sic, VA]

Transcribed and annotated by his GGG grandson, Donald R. Raney 24 Jul 2007

Rev'd in italics by Will Graves

10/27/15

[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 Tennessee, Overton County Circuit Court: September Term 1832

On this 28 day of September A. D. 1832 personally appeared in open court, it being a court of record, before the honorable Nathaniel W. Williams, Circuit Judge in and for this judicial district in said state now sitting, Walter Greer, a resident citizen of Overton County in the state of Tennessee, age seventy three years [born 1759 in PA], who having been just duly sworn according to the law of the land, does on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

On October 1776 [age 17] he volunteered in Botetourt County Virginia for a three months tour and marched to Cherokee Nation against the Cherokee Indians, went to the Chota town, Teskego [Tuskegee] town & Dragon Canoe [Dragging Canoe was a Cherokee war chief], all which towns were destroyed when he was at them. Had no battles, some few Indians were killed.

His officers were, in the company to which he belonged, Captain William McClannahan [William McClenahan], Lieutenant James McDaniel, Ensign John McRoberts, Col. Christy or Christian [William Christian] commanded the regiment, Lieutenant Col. Russel [William Russell] commanded the line to which he belonged. Major name not recollected. Returned home after his time of service had expired did not receive a discharge. While on this campaign he was at a place called Fort [Patrick] Henry on the bank of the Holston River.

He further states that in the spring of 1777 he volunteered for a tour of three months and marched to Potts Fort on Cray's Creek in Botetourt County Virginia. The company to which he belonged consisted of twenty two men. They took possession of the fort until his term of service expired. One half of his time he acted as a spy [scout patrol to look for Indians]. The distance they had to go from the fort was thirty miles. The highest in command was a Lieutenant by the name of Andrew Armstrong. During this tour he was in no engagements. The Indians stole some horses belonging to persons in the fort. He with fifteen more men went in pursuit and got two of the horses, but never overtook the Indians. He states he served out his full term of three months, received no discharge.

He moved to Washington County North Carolina [now Tennessee]. He there volunteered and went out as a ranger & served eight months as such. This was by the order of Col. John Sevier. During this time he was under the command of three Captains. First Capt. John Patterson,

second Capt. [James] Gibson, third Capt. Ewan Ellerson [*Ewan Ellison*]. The company consisted of some upwards of seventy men, received no discharge.

Soon after this time he moved to Sullivan County in the same state [now Tennessee] and in the spring of 1780 again volunteered and joined a ranger company commanded by Capt. John Wood & states he was a Lieutenant and served as a ranger on the frontier for seven months. His company consisted of upwards of forty men, there were no engagements. Soon after his return, he went on a campaign of twenty days to Powell Valley under Capt. John Long.

In the month of October 1781, he volunteered and marched to South Carolina under the command of Capt. Isaac Shelby, Lieutenant Col. Anthony Blocher or Bledsoe [Anthony Bledsoe] & Capt. Thomas Wallace & was placed under General [Francis] Marion. They went to Hiedrah Point [Haddrell's Point near Charleston] and at that place took ninety prisoners without firing a gun. This was a tour of three months, he served a few days over the time and was discharged.

He states this concluded his service as a soldier in the Revolution. He further states he has no documentary evidence of his service except one eight month tour as a ranger, which he could prove by Col. Stephen Copeland, but he is a very old man and he has tried in vain to get him to come to court and must therefore rely on other testimony.

He hereby relinquishes all claims to any pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn and subscribed in open court. George W. Sevier clerk [signed] Walter Greer.

[Questions by George W. Sevier, County Clerk]

[1] Where were and what year were you born? Ans. I was born in the State of Pennsylvania and I now recollect was born in the year 1759.

[2] Have you any record of your age & if so where is it? Ans. I have not.

[3] Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? Ans. I moved to our state to the Counties of Washington and Sullivan as stated before and went thence to Overton County & have continued to reside in the same county ever since.

[4] How were you called into the service, were drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? Ans. I was never drafted nor a substitute, but always went out as volunteer.

[5] State the name of some of the regular officers who [were] with the troops when you served, such continental & militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service? Ans. Col. Mayhan [*sic, probably Hezekiah Maham*] of the light horse, Col. Horee [*probably Daniel Horry, but possibly Peter or Hugh Horry*] of the light horse, Captain Smith of Col. Magums troop of horse. I saw General Green [*Nathanael Greene*] at the high hills of St. Tea [Santee], there was Col. Sevier & Col. Shelby's regiments.

[6] Did you receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Ans. I never received any discharge.

[7] State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution. Ans. John McDonald Exq., Col. Stephen Copeland, James Landers, Abraham Sevier and Joseph Bates Esq.

Sworn to in open court 28 Sep 1832

Geo. W. Sevier clk, by E. R. Cullum do [signed] Walter Greer



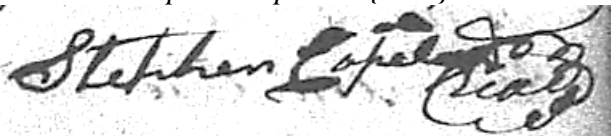
[Lewis Stover, a clergyman, & Hugh C. Armstrong gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 14]

State of Tennessee Overton County

On this 15th day of May in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared before me Isaac West a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Overton aforesaid Stephen Copeland Senior aged Seventy Seven years old a resident of said County who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is well acquainted with Walter Greer a citizen of Overton County Tennessee and who has made application for a pension under the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832 and that he knew him in the year 1780 in the County of Sulavan [Sullivan] and State of North Carolina and that he knew the said Greer to volunteer in the spring of 1780 for the term of Seven months under Captain John Wood as Rangers by order of Colonel Shelby and that the said Walter Greer was Commissioned and Qualified as Lieutenant of said Company he does not recollect seeing his commission but was a private soldier in said Company and voted in the election when the said Greer was elected and that he acted as Lieutenant during said term of seven months and he has no doubt but what he was commissioned for that was clearly his understanding and never heard his authority questioned as an officer, was always obeyed as such by all the Company. Given under his hand and seal this day and date above written.

S/ Stephen Copeland {Seal}



[Note: part of the following document is missing from both the Fold3.com and Ancestry.com versions of this file:

[p 17]

... [Indecipherable word]¹ it is I did act as a Lieutenant the time stated in my Declaration but as I have not as yet been able to make satisfactory proof of the fact you will allow my claim as a private soldier.

Given under my hand and seal this first day of May 1834

S/ Walter Greer {Seal}

[Facts in file: the veteran died February 13, 1835, place not stated: there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in both the Virginia and North Carolina Militia.]

