

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of David Abernathy S1609

fn35NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 5/8/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber— besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Giles County: November Session of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for said County for the year 1832

On this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of said Court now sitting & holding said Court David Abernathy aged seventy three years the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July last – a resident of said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Statement or declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

Applicant first entered the service of the United States under the Command of Colonel McLain [could be McCain] in the County of Lincoln in the State of North Carolina and marched to the place of Rendezvous with the expectation of going on towards the North against the British, But employed a man by the name of James Newby to go in his place as a Substitute, and applicant returned home, -- He received a discharge from this service which he has lost.

Applicant, next volunteered & entered the service under the Command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], this expedition was undertaken for the purpose of defending the frontiers against the Cherokee Indians. He marched out of North Carolina & said Lincoln County over the mountains into the Cherokee nation as far as the old hill towns and Valley Towns in said nation –they had no battle or skirmish during this expedition the Indians having fled from the towns & left that part of the Country. He states, that they set out on this expedition sometime in the month of August & returned home again sometime in the month of October having been in service about three months, he does not believe that they received any regular discharges from this service. Applicant was not anymore in service until sometime in the year of 1781 after Cornwallis had marched through North Carolina, going on towards Little York in the State of Virginia, where he was captured in the fall of said year when Applicant was drafted for three months, he went under the command of Captain Jack in General Polk's [Thomas Polk's] brigade, the rendezvous in Charlottetown in Mecklenburg County & said State of North Carolina. He marched into South Carolina, to the neighborhood of Camden. He was joined to General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] forces about twelve miles from Camden at Rugeley's [?] old field shortly after Greene had had an engagement with the British in the suburbs of Camden – from thence, they marched on to Ninety Six where the British were then lying, and after the firing of some Cannon at a distance the British vacated Ninety Six, and went towards the Eutaw Springs where the celebrated battle was fought between Greene & British, after having served out his term of three months, he was discharged & went home, which completed his services during the war. He has no

documentary evidence of his said services and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure by whom he can prove any of the above facts.

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.

S/ David Abernathy

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court the day & year aforesaid.

S/ German Lester, Clk.

Questions required by the war department to be put to Applicant

1<sup>st</sup>: When and in what year were you born?

I was born in Dinwiddie County in the State of Virginia July 29, 1759.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

I had a record of my age in my family Bible but it was burned some time since but [several illegible words] out & lost.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

I was when called into service living in Lincoln, North Carolina from thence I moved to Tennessee Giles County where I now live & have lived three years last past.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

This question I have answered in my declaration.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

This question also has been answered in my declaration.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

This question is also answered in the declaration.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Ans. Francis Rose, Joseph Blair, Charles C. Abernathy, William Maguire [?], Isaac Wilcox, Daniel Culberth [?], dated why Roper, George Johnston and many others.

S/ David Abernathy

State of Tennessee, Giles County: the amended declaration of David Abernathy

In the case of the application of David Abernathy for a pension

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the Peace for said County, David Abernathy aged seventy four years the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July last, who is a resident in the said County of Giles, & who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service But according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, in the first service mentioned in said declaration, he served for the term, he thinks, of one month, before he employed a Substitute, as a private soldier in the militia under the Command of Colonel McLain [could be McCain]. The next term of service, mentioned in his declaration, lasted to the best of his recollection, three months, he was during said term, a private soldier & served as a Militia man under the Command of General Rutherford – he also served as a militia man & private soldier in the last term of service mentioned in said declaration and that he served therein for the term of three months as therein mentioned. In all of which term of service Applicant served in an embodied corps.

S/ David Abernathy

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833  
S/ Robt. Oliver, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]