

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Allison S6491

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this first day of September 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County & State aforesaid, now sitting, James Allison, Senior, of the County & State aforesaid, aged 71 years, 15th May 1832, 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He volunteered, in the County of Orange & State aforesaid without limit of time, to fight the Indians in the Western part of the State. He was attached to the Company of Captain William Williams, Lieutenant John Taylor & Ensign Samuel Thompson: Field Officers Colonel Ramsey and Lieutenant Colonel Moore – and General Thomas Person. The year in which he volunteered, the declarant does not remember. He marched from Hillsboro North Carolina to Silver Creek in Burke County, by way of Salisbury – for the purpose of joining General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. When he arrived at Silver Creek, it was ascertained that the Indians had been suppressed & the declarant was marched back to Hillsboro & there dismissed, after a service of two or three months, at the least, the precise time, the declarant doth not recollect – Some thing more than a year, as well as he recollects, after his return from the expedition against the Indians – the declarant volunteered in the said County of Orange, for two months, in the Light Horse, commanded by Captain Atkinson, and during that period, ranged over the Counties of Orange, Chatham, Moore & Randolph in North Carolina, in pursuit of the Tories. He had several small skirmishes with the Tories in this service – but no battles. At the expiration of this term of service, he was discharged at Hillsboro. Some short time after his discharge by Captain Atkinson, he thinks in February 1781, he volunteered in Orange aforesaid for two months in a company of Light Horse, commanded by Captain Douglass & Colonel Demarcus. His Company ranged nearly the same section of Country as aforesaid in pursuit of the Tories – and at the end of the service, he was discharged by Captain W. Douglas as will appear by his written discharge, dated 15th of April 1781, hereunto appended. Shortly after, he volunteered again in Orange aforesaid in the light Horse commanded by the said Captain Douglas – under the command of General Butler – for a term of two months – and served against the Tories, & was discharged 10th of June 1781 – as will appear by a written discharge of Captain Douglas of that date, hereunto appended. Shortly afterwards, he again volunteered in Orange in the light Horse, commanded by Colonel James Mebane; for what Term of service he does not recollect – and after making an expedition against the Tories, he was discharged, 28th of July 1781 – as will appear from the written discharge, given by Captain Mebane on that date – hereunto annexed.

The day after the Tories took Hillsboro, he thinks in September 1781 – he volunteered again in the County of Orange, in the Light Horse, commanded by Captain Thompson, without limit of time, and pursued the Tories to the neighborhood of Wilmington in North Carolina. In the vicinity of Wilmington, at a place called the “Raft Swamp” the British & Tories, who had sallied out of Wilmington, we attacked the

Americans under General Butler & Col. Mebane & routed them. The declarant was in that Battle. After a tour of two months in this service, the declarant was discharged. --

In the year 1778 or 1779 he – or thereabouts, the declarant enlisted in the Continental establishment of the term of nine months. He enlisted in the County of Orange aforesaid. John Griffin was the Captain of his Company; -- Field Officers were Colonel Thaxton, Lieutenant Colonel Arch Lytle and Major Graves. In May of that year, he was marched to Halifax old Court House, in the State of Virginia – with a view of going northward, but did not go any further: while in Halifax old Court House, he remembers that there was a total eclipse of the sun. From Halifax aforesaid, his Regiment was marched back to North Carolina, to Caswell County – where declarant remained in the Army until the last of September, or the first of October of the same year, when he was permitted to come home on a furlough: the balance of the term of nine months, for which he enlisted, was served by declarant's Brother John Allison, as his substitute. The declarant performed other services than are herein mentioned – but his memory does not enable him to give an accurate account of them. He does not pretend to remember distinctly the time he entered for nine months as aforesaid, but he hath mentioned the fact of the eclipse of the sun, to identify the time. He was born the 15th May 1761, and the County of Orange & State of North Carolina where he hath always resided. He hath a record of his age at home. He is known to Major John Taylor, Dr. James S. Smith; Dr. James Webb & Priestley H. Mangum in his County. He hath no other documentary evidence of his service than herein set forth. He has lost his other discharges. Andrew M. Broom, Esq. of the County & State aforesaid can testify as to part of his service. It is not convenient for him to procure his testimony at this time.

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

Sworn to in open Court.

S/ James Allison

S/ John Taylor, Clerk

In Additional Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 27th day of May A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for Orange aforesaid, now sitting, James Allison, Senior, of the County and State aforesaid, aged 72 years the 15 May 1833, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, by way of amendment, addition & explanation, to the declaration made by him before the Court aforesaid, at the August Sessions 1832, which is hereunto annexed, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That in the first tour stated in declarant's said former declaration, as having been served by him in the revolutionary war, he volunteered as a private in the Militia of North Carolina; & marched in what was called the “Indian expedition” as set forth in said declaration. The precise year the declarant cannot pretend to swear to. He thinks however, that it was in 1777 or 1779. The declarant cannot pretend to swear to the precise time he was in service in the said expedition against the Indians – when he made his said former declaration he was morally certain, he thought, that it was at the least two

or three months since the making of said declaration, he has consulted with old people of his acquaintance with the view of ascertaining, if practicable, the length of time that the troops sent on that expedition were absent from home, and he now thinks that he can safely declare, as he now does that he was engaged in that service three months at the least. In his former declaration it be stated something more than a year after his return from the Indian expedition aforesaid he volunteered for two months in a light Horse under Captain Atkinson: he here declares that he volunteered & served on that occasion as a private & that it was in the Militia or Light Horse attached or forming part of the Militia of the State: and he declares the same thing as to the tours of two months each, under Captain Douglas & Captain Demarcus in the one instance; & under Captain Douglas and General Butler, in the other, as set forth in his said former declaration. As to the time of service performed by him when he volunteered under Captain James Mebane, in the light Horse, declarant states that he was mounted & engaged in service five weeks, but he does not recollect whether he volunteered for two months on that occasion or not, but he thinks he did, and that the commanding officer discharged him & the balance of his troop at the expiration of five weeks, because the expedition made by the troop to the South Eastern part of N. C. against the Tories, had shown that further service of the troop would not be required. In September 1781, when the declarant volunteered again in the Light Horse to retake the Governor Burke from the Tories – as set forth substantially in his former declaration, it was as a private in the militia.

The declarant states that under his enlistment on the Continental establishment for nine months, as set forth in his said former declaration, he served as a private five months, when the substitution of his brother took place. A summary of his services as above stated & set forth in his former declaration, here follows Viz.:

He served as a private in the Militia of N.C. against the Indians	3 months
He served as a private in the L. Horse under Capt. Atkinson	2 months
“ under Capt. Douglas & Col. Demarcus	2 months
“ under Capt. Douglas & Genl. Butler	2 months
“ under Capt. Mebane	5 weeks
“ on the Continental Establishment	5 months

Which amount to fifteen months & five days. As he stated in his former declaration, he served the United States, on devers [sic] other occasions & times, in the War of the revolution – which he does not here enumerate on account of the frailty of his memory.

The only evidence touching declarant's enlistment for nine months, to be found in the office of the Secretary of State of North Carolina, as he is informed is the accompanying certificate of William Hill, the Secretary of State for North Carolina: and that is of a settlement of the account of this declarant's brother John, who was substituted

in the place of declarant after the declarant had served five months of the term of enlistment – as set forth in the former declaration of declarant.

Declarant begs leave to refer to the accompanying affidavit of Andrew McBroom as proof of part of his service. He hath no other proof of service.

The declarant is known to the Reverend Samuel Paisley, John Taylor & James Mebane, of his County.

Subscribed & sworn to
S/ John Taylor, CC

S/ James Allison

This May certify[sic, certify] that Jas Allison has served this tower [sic, tour] of Duty or In the Comand [sic, command] of Col. Demarcus this 1st Day April 1781.

S/ W. Douglass, Capt.

This May Certify that James Ellison has Served his tower[sic, tour] of Duty under the Comand [sic, Command] of General Butler. Given under My hand this 10 Day of June 1781.

S/ W. Douglass Capt.

This is to Sertify[sic, certify] that Jas Allison Has Served a tower[sic, tour] of Duty under Col. Gilford Dudley. Given Under My Hand this 28 Day of July 1781.

S/ Jas Mebane, Capt.

State of North Carolina: Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from a book of settlements of the accounts of the Officers and Soldiers of the line of this State in the revolutionary war that John Allison was allowed the sum of 40 pounds, 10 shillings and 10 pence (£40.10.10) certificate No. 926, which claim appears to have been received for by Archibald Lytle. Given under my hand this sixth day of May 1833

S/ Wm Hill

State of North Carolina, Orange County: Court of Pleas & Order Sessions May Term 1833

On this 27th day of May A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court, now sitting, Andrew McBroom Esq. and after having first been duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, say, that he served two tours of duty in the War of the revolution with James Alison Senior of the County & State aforesaid of three months each, Viz., one in the year 1781, in the militia of North Carolina; that this affiant and the said James Alison were privates in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Moore but belonged to different Companies – this affiant being commanded by Captain Samuel Johnston, and the said Allison being in the Company of Captain Douglas: and that the other tour in which this Affiant served with the said James Alison was on an expedition against the Indians in the

Western part of North Carolina, at an early period of the War – but the precise year the Affiant cannot remember: and that the said James Allison & this affiant served the last above mentioned tour in the Militia of N. C. in the same Company commanded by Captain Williams.

Sworn to in open Court.

S/ J. Taylor, CO

S/ Andw McBroom