

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Jacob Grider W3980 Elizabeth
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn54NC
9/1/08

State of North Carolina, Burke County

On this 24th day of September 1836 personally appeared before me Redick Freeman one of the Justices of the County Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Burke Jacob Grider Senior a resident in said County of Burke & State aforesaid – aged 76 years past – who being first duly sworn as the law directs – doth on his oath make the following declaration – in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 day 1832 – Deposeth: that he entered the Service of the United States the following named officers and served as follows – or hereafter stated – my first tour was against the Indians in 1778 the Indians broke out in the frontier part of Burke County in which Settlement my father was living at that time we were thinly Settled and men and Soldiers Scarce – they committed Several murders and robberies – there were a general call for men a Fort was immediately built and the people of all ages and classes were called into it for their Safety – with Captain Davenport at their head – news came that the Cherokees was daily Expected to attack a small Settlement on the North fork a branch of the catauber [sic, Catawba] River our Captain took as many of his men as could be Spared from the Fort and marched to the relief of the Exposed I was one with him we collected all the families that were there and on our way to the Fort we were attacked by the Indians and a warm engagement ensued the Indians fled we know not what they Suffered we lost a few of our men and our Captain got badly wounded but he recovered – as soon as our fight was over we hurried on with our little charge and got them Safe into our Fort we continued to defend our Fort for six months we had a hard and trying time through a cold and fatiguing winter in the Spring the Indians left them parts and the people returned to their homes and we received our discharge our Captain Martin Davenport – I have enclosed the original discharge for this my tour but it being old rubbed and broke to pieces one Small piece is lost or so mislaid that I can't find it – I have inserted a Supplement containing the words of the last piece – you must handle them as well as the nature of the case will admit of that is all the proof of that tour there is but one person now living as I know of that was in the Fort and that is the widow Nancy Tucker – and She was so young that she has but a very imperfect recollection of things – and then in the last of March 1781 Same tribe of the Cherokee Indians invaded the Settlements on the head waters of the Catawba River there Colonel Davidson had a farm and the people forted at that place called Davidson's Fort. The Captains were ordered to muster their man and called for volunteers and if men would not turn out for them to draft – they got volunteers enough among whom I was one and we served under Captain Smith – at first but he married the widow Davidson and went away and then Captain Mcfarlan [sic, McFarland] took the command of us and we served under him until the 14th day of September 1781 and on that day he gave us our discharge – as you may see the original here enclosed it is much rubbed but it is all here – this was a troublesome and dangerous time people tried to make a little crop and while they were at work we had watch and guard around their farms and protect them from their Enemy the Indians would Steel the horses and by watching at private times would kill our hunters – after being discharged – our Captain McFarland said that he was then a volunteer to go to Wilmington with Colonel McDowell and General Rutherford and he asked us boys who will go with me: I liked him as my Captain and told him I would go and I did so I went by home and met him at William McMullin's [McMullen's ?] on the road leading to Salisbury, then we went on with Colonel and Captain and joined General Rutherford and then we marched down to Fayetteville – we met Colonel Armstrong [?]s men going home from the vacancy that we went to fill up we marched through Montgomery, Johnston, Cumberland and several other counties went down Cape Fear River as far as Wilmington but British were there and we did not give them a battle as we were not altogether. McDowell was sent in a different route between the 15th and 20th of October news came that Lord Cornwallis was taken which news was received with great transports of joy -- & firing of cannon &

platoons of muskets we continued to scour among the Tory Scots until towards new years, then we were marched into Malingburg [sic Mecklenburg] County and discharged. From there attached to some baggage wagons which we had to guard to Colonel McDowell's house at the Quaker Meadows in Burke County there I was near home – this was called the Wilmington Expedition – this ended my services of the old revolution as a Soldier – interrogatories – when and where were you born – I was born – in Virginia in Loudoun County 7 July 1760 – have you any record of your age and if so where is it – my father had a record and I had one copied from that – where were you living when you were called into Service and where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live – I was living in North Carolina Burke County – my father moved from Virginia and settled in Burke County NC when I was 10 years old and I was raised here and has lived here ever since in Burke – how were you called into Service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for whom – as for my first tour from September 1778 to 1779 there was neither drafted nor volunteering we were all called out to a man and were two [sic, too] few of us at that – my second tour I volunteered under Captain Smith and served with him until he got married and went away – then Captain McFarland took the command in my third tour – Captain McFarland volunteered to go with Colonel McDowell I volunteered with him – 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 – in my first tour we were a remote frontier people and was confined to stayed there: there was no marching with companies nor regiments – Captain Whitson came once to see us to inquire if we needed any assistance he was all the officer that came to see us for the term of six months-- in the tour of five months and 10 days at Davidson's Station was also a volunteer Stand – but Colonel Davidson came to see us sometimes – in our tour to Wilmington with General Rutherford – I saw but few officers or Soldiers but our own Regiment – for the greater part of officers and men were at the Siege of Cornwallis – I saw General Pickens & General Davie Colonel Armstrong with his 12 months troops were on his return – and as for general circumstances I don't know of any worth naming other than those there expressed in the foregoing declaration – one circumstance occurs to my mind – while we were in the Fort in my first tour a respectable woman by the name of Mcfawls [sic, McFalls?] had occasion to go a little distance from the Fort one evening the Indians in ambush shot her down and stabbed her we suppose with a Scalping knife and took off her scalp down to both ears – from her long stay she was sought for and found and carried in and was nursed and she recovered and got well our Captain took 10 men and Started next morning and we found their trail and followed on until night we then lay down without fire or light and in the morning we went on again and in half a mile we came to their camp, we then pushed ahead to overtake them but we soon found they had scattered we supposed that they had discovered us – we then returned to the Fort – did you Ever receive a discharge from your Service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of them – I did receive from my first Captain Martin Davenport a discharge for six months – and from James McFarland at Davidson's for five months & 10 days – which discharges from the long abuse of 56 -- & 58 years they are much rubbed and broke and some lost – but all that remains is here enclosed for inspection – my third to Wilmington I received my discharge from Colonel McDowell at Quaker Meadows and that is for three months but it is so lost or mislaid that I can't find it, I will try to prove that tour by Sherwood Bowman an old blind man he is the only living man that I know of that was out with us in that Wilmington tour – did you ever receive a commission and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it – I never received a commission I was always a private Soldier – why have you not made application before now for a pension under the act of 7 June 1832: the reason why I have not made earlier application is from my obscure situation I am a poor old deaf man and I hardly ever see any man that knows any thing about public matters and when I do I don't know what they say unless they speak unusually loud – I have understood that regular Soldiers drew a pension but never until very lately that the militia could draw and I then took the first opportunity to make out this my declaration – State the names of some of whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who

can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your Services as a soldier of the revolution – I think that Alexander Abernathy will testify for me as clergyman and Joshua Ballew will testify as a private neighbor.

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 – only of that of the agency of the State of North Carolina that that is his present claim made in this declaration – Sworn to and Subscribed this day and year first above written before me.

S/ R. Freeman, JP

S/ Jacob Grider, O his mark

[Alexander Abernathy, a clergyman, and Joshua Ballew & Allen Montgomery gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Burke County

24th of September 1836 this day Sherwood Bowman¹ personally appeared before me Redick Freeman one of Justices of the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions or the County of Burke and after being duly sworn as the law direction he deposeth and saith that in the year 1781 I served a three months tour of duty under General Rutherford in a company commanded by Captain Mcfarlen and that Jacob Grider Served in the same Company with him the full term – Sworn to and Subscribed this date above.

S/ Sherwood Bowman, X his mark

S/ R. Freeman, JP

[On April 24 1844, Elizabeth Grider, 72, filed for a widows pension in Caldwell County North Carolina stating that she is the widow of Jacob Grider; that she married him in Burke County on April 13, 1789; and that he died March 6 1840; and that she remains his widow.]

[facts in file: Elizabeth Grider's maiden name was Elizabeth Ripatoe;

[I could not decipher either of the two discharges the applicant enclosed in his application. They can be found at fn pp. 17 and 18, but are very damaged and difficult to discern. The signatures, however, of Capt. Jas. Mcfarlin [fn p. 18] and Martin Deavenport [fn p. 17] are discernible.]

[Nancy Cannon, 69, of Caldwell County, gave an affidavit dated April 23, 1844 as to the marriage of Jacob Grider to Elizabeth Ripatoe at the house of William Ripatoe in Burke County in the winter of 1789 or 1790; that they had three children and had been married five or six years by the time she, Nancy cannon, was married in 1795.]

[Elizabeth Hartly, 85, of Caldwell County gave an affidavit on April 23, 1844, that she was personally present at the wedding of Jacob and Elizabeth Grider and that she dates their marriage to 1789 or 1790 by the age of her third child.]

1 Shearwood Bowman FPA S6678