

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Vincent Vaughan W4366

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of North Carolina, Granville County

On this 8th day of February A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Chairman & Justices holding the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for the County of Granville and State of North Carolina, Vincent Vaughan, a resident of said County, aged 72 years this day who being first duly sworn upon the holy Evangelist of Almighty God as the law requires, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th A.D. 1832.

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

The first Tour of duty in which he engaged was as a Substitute to take the place of Thomas Gardner in a Company of Infantry then stationed at the Town of Halifax in North Carolina; and the duty required of them was to guard the Public Magazine in the town. The company was taken into the service for a three months tour, and when two months of it had expired, I was mustered in to it. It was Commanded by Bartholomew Powell as Captain; the names of the other officers I cannot recollect. I served as a private and was kept on duty four or five days after the month in consequence of the Company that was ordered to take our place not arriving in time. I was then an Inhabitant of Halifax County – I am content that this Service shall be fixed at one month or more if Just. I do not remember that I had a discharge but if I had, it is long since destroyed. This tour I think was in my 17th year and as I was born in 1761 this would fix the date of the service in 1778, but with certainty, I cannot speak of it nor with more precision.

The next tour of Service in which I engaged was as a volunteer in a Tour of nine months service. I am sorry that my memory is so impaired as to prevent me from remembering the year in which I entered into it, but the facts I shall mention with the aid of the evidence in the War department, will enable its officers to fix the date of it. A Regiment was raised in North Carolina & marched to the North. The company to which I was attached was Commanded by Gee Bradley a part of the time and another part by Captain Joyner. The Regiment was commanded by General Hogan [sic, James Hogun]. If there was a Colonel I cannot remember the name of him; but I remember we had four Colonels Viz., Hogg, Coffield, Mebane & Davidson. The last named is the man that was subsequently killed on the Catawba [River] when he commanded the American forces as a Brigadier General and was engaged in preventing the British from Crossing that River at Cowan's or Beatties Ford. The other captains that had command in this Regiment were Redding Blunt, John Baker, Anthony Hart, ___ [blank in original] Harrison, Cader Ballard, ___ [blank in original] Quinn and Lieutenants Montford, Wilkerson, Yarborough, Tatum, Campbell. I think our Company was organized about the first of June. Rendezvoused at Long's Camp old field in the vicinity of Halifax town, where the The Regiment was assembled and put upon training mastering exercise, until baggage wagons and other preparations needful for the Detachment were in readiness; and about the last of June we took up our Line of March to join the American Army under the command of General Washington. We marched through Hicks Ford, Petersburg, Richmond, Fredricksburg, Alexandria, Georgetown, Baltimore & Wilmington to Philadelphia. Here we took Boats and were carried up to the Delaware River to a small town, the name of which I do not now recollect, at the head of Tide Water where we were landed and we marched through Trenton, Princeton, Elizabeth Town to Newark. Here we Crossed the River and were quickly ordered to return to our Boats and were forthwith carried up the River to West Point at which place we arrived and Landed on the first day of August. The American Army at this time under the command of General Washington was stationed at White Plains. In a short time, we were ordered on duty and set to Work in building a Fort. The Regiment from Virginia built the lower Fort and our Regiment worked upon the ipper one. Here we continued on duty until the Fort was completed, and about a fortnight

before Christmas, were marched the same route we came to Philadelphia at which place we arrived on the night of Christmas Eve. We were here stationed at the Barracks and the main duty required of us was to Guard the British Prisoners at that place in the new Jail a short distance from the Barracks. A short time before our time of service had expired, I think, but am not certain, it was about the middle of March the small box made its appearance among the Soldiers and our Regiment was marched to the Hospital and every man of us inoculated – and returned to our station at the Barracks, where we remained until we were all well of the infection, and as well as I can recollect but one of our men died of the disease. As soon as we were able to travel, we again took up our line of March & went to a place called the head of Elk, at which place we took water and were carried to Suffolk in the State of Virginia. From this place we marched the most direct route through Southampton in Virginia, Northampton in North Carolina to Halifax town on the Roanoke [River] and were here regularly discharged. I cannot recollect the day or month on which we were discharged, but I recollect that the planters were engaged in weeding their corn. And I remember that it was said among the officers and Soldiers of our Regiment that if we had remained in Service three days longer we should have served a full year. I received a discharge but it is lost or destroyed. In this campaign I officiated as first Sergeant and throughout the whole of it. I do not know of a single individual now living who served with me or who can prove my service in this campaign. Some of my fellow soldiers removed to this Southern and sister states, but whether they or any one of them, be living, or where they are resident if living, I know not.

The next service I engaged in was in a Company of infantry raised in the County of Halifax by Draft. Richard Thompson was drafted, but what company he was attached to I know not. I was employed as a Substitute by said Thompson and the same evening that the company was drafted, I as his substitute, joined the detachment. And it being known that I was a good Fifer I received the appointment of fife Major. This Tour was for three months. Being well acquainted with William Muir the Quarter Master, and Colonel Linton I was received into their tent & messed with them. General Allen Jones and General Thomas Eaton had some command but who held the first rank I do not remember. I think Whitmill Hill was a Colonel. Nunn[?] was in command & a Captain by the name of Eves and another by the name of Richards. This I remember well from a notable occurrence between them. In a fracas between them, Eves with his sword cut off the hand of Richards, of which I was an eyewitness. I think I joined this detachment in the Early part of the month of February 1781. From Halifax we were marched through the Counties of Warren, Granville & Orange & early in the March joined the Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] at the High Rock on Haw River. Here we remained until a day or two before the battle & marched towards Guilford Court House. The detachment to which I belonged had charge of the baggage wagons and we were not in the engagement. After the Battle we followed with the Main Army after the British to Ramsay's [Ramsey's] Mills on Deep River; -- before my arrival at this place I had taken sick, and those on the sick list and I among them were left here, when General Greene left that place. The Physician under whose care we were had no medicine and we were extremely reduced in Strength for the Dysentery with which I (and most all were afflicted with the same disease) labored under had reduced me so low that I was unable to perform any duty. The Physician told us that, as he had no medicine, and very poor & scanty means to supply our wants that if any of us chose & felt ourselves able we might go home, and myself and two other men determined to try and reach our homes. In about two weeks after General Greene left Ramsey's Mills we set out on our Journey home and after great suffering and distress, without money to buy our food, & having passed through a small part of the Country inhabited by the Tories, in which we had to hide ourselves in the day & Travel by night, I arrived at home on the 16th day from my discharge as aforesaid. I am unable to state the day of my arrival at home or discharge from the Hospital – but I know very well that I was 63 days laboring under my disease aforesaid, and that when I arrived at home, a field of Rye I had sowed had gotten into the “Boot” as farmers called it. In a week or two, by proper application and medicine I was redeemed from my disease & soon gained my usual health and

strength. Of course I Received no written discharge when I had leave to go home. I am not apprised that there is a person living who can prove this Service, but there are many men living & now resident of the Same County with myself, who were in this campaign, but none who know me or duty for I engaged in the Service in Halifax town and that is distant from Oxford near about 70 miles.

The first tour aforesaid was about four or five days over a month, the Second was three days short of a year, and the last can be estimated as shall same right to the Department. If I am allowed for service until I was relieved from the disease contracted while on duty I suppose the term of three months was performed; if I had not the time can be estimated in the manner that may be seem just and right.

I am unable to prove the first tour aforesaid by any person that I know to be living.

I was born on the 8th of February 1761, in County of New Kent in the State of Virginia and in early infancy I was removed to Northampton County in North Carolina. At a proper age to go to school I removed across the Roanoke to Halifax County where I continued to reside until I was 27 years old, when I removed to the Western part of Warren County where I live more than 20 years, and then removed of a few miles to Granville County where I now live & have continued to live ever since.

I procured from the Parson of the Parish in which I was born, a record of my age many years ago, but it is lost or destroyed.

I expect to be able to prove my Character veracity & the belief of my service as a Soldier of the revolution, by the Reverend Jonathan Fuller, ~~Lewis Reavis~~, Fredrick Wiggins, Franklin Moss and by Colonel Leslie Gilliam, the Sheriff of our County or some of them & perhaps by the Honorable Micajah T. Hawkins.

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 or Territory.

S/ V Vaughan

[Jonathan Fuller, a clergyman, and Frederick Wiggins give the standard boarding affidavit]

[On September 9, 1841, Martha Vaughan, widow of Vincent Vaughan, made application for a pension in which she states that she married him in 1787 in Warren County; that there is no record of their marriage and that County; that Vincent died on November 11, 1837 in Granville County.]