

State of North Carolina Court of pleas & quarter Sessions February Term  
Warren County - 3 1834, on the day 24<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1834 Personally appeared  
in open Court before the Justice of said Court, now sitting it being a Court  
of Record, John L. Ward of the County and State aforesaid, who was  
born July 12<sup>th</sup> 1763, who being duly sworn according to Law, both on his  
Oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the  
provisions made by the act of Congress, passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832, to wit: that  
he was drafted March 8<sup>th</sup> 1780, at the house of Thomas Christmas  
in said County and from thence marched to Kingston, and joined Gen<sup>l</sup>  
William Caswell's Regiment, Col. James Allen, Isaac A. Spang, and Major Thomas  
where he was put under the Command of Capt. Thos. Christmas, Lieutenant  
Pieris, and Ensign Merritt, from thence we marched to West Point, from  
thence to Crope Creek, from thence to Chesser Hill & Peedee River, from thence  
to Camden, thence to M<sup>rs</sup> Cordy ferry on the Congaree, on our way to Charleston,  
but just before we reached Monk's Corner, hearing that Charleston had  
surrendered, we retreated towards the Santee River, crossing the said River  
near where Charleston surprised Col. Mifflin & White, then up the said River  
to Wrights Bluff, joining on our march Col. Buford with his Regulars,  
at which place we staid several days, from thence we marched for George  
Town, and on our arriving at Cedar Creek below Nelsons Ferry on the Santee  
River, we were met by Gen<sup>l</sup> Davidson badly wounded, and persuaded us  
immediate retreat, which was done to the high hills of Santee, where  
thence to Camden, near which place, a dispute between Gen<sup>l</sup> Caswell &  
Col. Buford (as I understood) and they separated, Caswell taking the right  
and Buford the left hand fork of the road, soon after that took place,  
Charleston came up with Buford, and cut his troops in a shocking manner,  
and then pursued Caswell's Regiment to which I belonged, which was making  
its way to Lennox Ferry on the Peedee River, Gen<sup>l</sup> Rutherford, who had previous-  
ly joined Caswell's Regiment, and having a fine steed horse, and fearing  
that Charleston would get him, and understanding that I was a first rate rider,  
called for me & delivered the horse to me, and said never let him be taken  
from me, while life lasts, but sleep in the rear of the army, and watch if the  
Enemy came in view, and immediately give information, I rode two or three  
miles before reaching the said River, being almost exhausted with fatigue,  
hunger & thirst, and seeing a little log Cabin on the road side, I call<sup>d</sup> for  
something to eat or drink, an old woman gave me a tumbler of milk, which  
was drinking the milk, the horse began to prance, I looked back and saw a  
cloud of dust arise, I then moved with all speed, and gave information to the  
rear guard, that the enemy was at hand, and pushed for the river, where I found  
the army had nearly all crossed, I then forced the horse in the River, but had  
not got very little distanced from the land, when the enemy came to the Bank and  
ordered me to come back, or I was a dead man, at the same time they fired  
so rapidly, that the alarm caused me and the horse to get separated, but both -  
(on)

landed safe and joined the retreating army, on their way to Cold bridge  
 on Spring Creek, from thence to Crook Creek, and crossing over Cape Fear  
 river, on their march, waiting for reinforcements, at which place, Col  
 Sumner joined us with his troops towards the last of June, and our time  
 of service being expired, which was for three months, Col James Allen called  
 on the Captain to deliver up those whose time of service was out, at which  
 time myself, Tho: Stone, Nathan Viper, and W. Medley, all in the same  
 neighbourhood were discharged, and came home, but I was soon after getting  
 home taken with the ague and fever, but when I was found myself able  
 went with others in pursuit of Tories & deserters, and carrying supplies from  
 and to Gen: Sumner (who lived within two miles of my father) to other officers  
 until it was officiously prevented that Gen: Greene had come in place of  
 Gen: Gates and took the Command of the Southern Army, and the greatest  
 exertions were made to raise men, there was a call for a draft, Volunteers  
 and during the Bear Men, among the number Capt William Christmas turned  
 out as Volunteer Captain, a Nichols Lieutenant, & — Fuller ensign, Officers  
 for five months from the 10<sup>th</sup> October 1780, and completed his Company,  
 of whom I was one & with him or his officers was frequently in service,  
 of dangerous and fatiguing enterprises, until called into actual service  
 by Col Eaton, who ordered Capt Christmas to repair with his men to  
 the south to recruit and strengthen the few remaining Whigs, and cooperate  
 with Mevin, Washington, Leigh & others, and being ready to join Gen: Greene  
 in the service was experienced great hardship from almost continual marches  
 to day with one party, tomorrow with another, from Deep River in North Carolina  
 to winter in South Carolina, scarcely two days in any one location, until we  
 were called (I believe to the Waparrons) in order to cooperate with Gen:  
 Greene, to prevent Corn Wallcut from intercepting and recovering the prisoners,  
 that Gen: Mowbray had taken at the Cooper, at this place, Christmas  
 and his men fell under the Command of Col. Marbury, who continued  
 to Command until the Battle of Guilford Court House on the fifteenth  
 of March, shortly after the Battle commenced, Col Marbury with a party  
 of his men was dispatched in order to stop the Retreat of the British,  
 being well acquainted with Col Washington joined his troops, and continued  
 with him, until on Run Ballata, and his adherents to Ramsays Mills, on  
 Deep River, where I was taken very sick, and as I could hear no tidings  
 of my Col, Captain, or any officer of the Company, and continuing sick  
 and an opportunity offering of my putting my horse in a Wagon, I might  
 be conveyed within two or three hundred yards of Gen: Sumners house, and  
 within two miles of my father, Col McDowell who I was well acquainted  
 with, gave me a furlough to Gen: Sumner, where I arrived about the  
 middle of April 1781. I heard of the safe arrival of my Captain, Lieutenant,  
 and most of the men, about the first of May I went to the Forces Minors  
 Spring, and drank freely of the water, which enabled me to accompany Gen:  
 Sumner under Capt William Wood, Lieut. Cartwright, and Ensign Hillery,

3

Mrs. John  
 Stone

To join his Regiment, that had previously marched to North Carolina under (Belmont Col Williams) we left home about the 8<sup>th</sup> August & marched for Camden, but before we got there, Gen<sup>l</sup> Greene had got the British and Tories on the Retreat & we following on in order to overtake Gen<sup>l</sup> Greene at some other Office, which we did somewhere on the Santee River, we found Col William Anderson, who immediately took Command of Capt James Owen, who were captured for six Months, and were kept in prison of the enemy and had frequent skirmishes with them, until the 8<sup>th</sup> September at the Santee Springs, where in early part of the Battle, I rec<sup>d</sup>. a Ball in my left thigh, a Buck Shot in my left ankle, and another in my right leg, which did so profusely that I was soon carried off the field and many days interred before I know any thing of the Battle, owing to the heat and loss of Blood, but being placed in kind and attentive hands I was enabled to get home a few days before Christmas, so much exhausted that it was generally believed I never should recover, I continued to breathe common until April 1782, when a Company of my intimates and school fellows engaged in a private, and persuaded me to accompany them as a means of restoring me to my health, which I did, on the 9<sup>th</sup> April I returned the last of June or first of July in fine health, whilst I was at sea this State was laid off in sections, and each section was to have a Capt, Lieut, & Ensign, and were imposed to enlist men for and during the War, Aaron Dupont, a near neighbour of mine was Captain and William Dupont Lieut and myself Ensign, our section was from the Virginia line North about about twenty five or thirty miles to where we lived, Halifax east forty five or fifty miles, Wake Court House about forty five or fifty miles, Hillsborough West sixty or sixty five miles, this service commenced the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1782, in which service I suffered more fatigue and cold than I ever experienced before or since, - sometime in February 1783, we were all dismissed, as peace was concluded to. - This applicant hereby <sup>subscribes</sup> claims 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 -

- sworn to and subscribed the day and Year aforesaid -

in open Court.

C. D. Drake Clerk

J. M. W. C.

His Caswell Drake - - a Clergy man Residing in the County of Warren and State of North Carolina and Thomas J. Jenkins residing in the same County and State, hereby Certify, that we are well acquainted with John L. Ward, who has sworn and subscribed to the above Declaration, that we believe him to be seventy Years of age, that he is Raptid and bedrid in the Neighborhood in which he resides, to have been a Soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in that opinion, sworn and subscribed the day

say and Year aforesaid —

E. D. Drake S. B. C.

Caswell Drake

T. J. Fiddkins

And the said Court, do hereby declare their opinion, after investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier, and born in the State, — and the Court further certify that it appears to them that, Caswell Drake who has signed the preceding Certificate is a Clergy Man Resident in the County of Warren, and that Thomas J. Fiddkins has also signed the same is a Resident of the same County, and is a creditable person and that their statements is entitled to credit

James Somerville, presiding Justice of the said Court

State of North Carolina

I Edwin D Drake clerk of the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Warren County and State aforesaid

do hereby certify that James Somerville when signed appears to the above Certificate, was the presiding Justice as stated by him and the Signature appearing to be his is genuine — Given under my hand and Seal of Office at Warrenton this 5th day of March. A. D. 1834

E. D. Drake S. B. C.

Wm. M. J. Hawkins  
— H. R.

Adm'd as  
Squire 14 mo  
1811

May 18 1804  
M.C. 57804

Carolina

John L. / 11

Hansen Co. in the State of N.  
who was a Private in the compa  
by Captain Christman of the Regt.  
of Col. Allen in the N. Caroli  
line for 1 1/2 months

Prescribed on the Roll of N. Carolina  
at the rate of 46 Dollars 06 Cents per ann.  
to commence on the 4th day of March, 1834.

Certificate of Pension issued the 15th day of March  
1834 and is N to Hon. W. C. R.  
Hawkin

Arrears to the 4th of March 1834	139.98
Semi-ann. allowance ending 4th of June	26.33
	<hr/>
	\$163.31

{ Revolutionary Claim  
Not June 1, 1834

Recorded by D. Brown  
Book E, Vol. 67, Page 70