

## **ROBERT LOVE**

Love's Valley by Jolee Love

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Robert Love, son of Samuel and Dorcas (Bell) Love, was born in Augusta County, Virginia, August 23, 1760. He was on Colonel William Christian's campaign against the Cherokees, 1776; stationed at Fort Patrick Henry, Long Island of Holston, 1775; campaigned under General William Campbell, 1779-80; and under the same leader against Lord Cornwallis, 1781. During this military service his home was in what is now Wythe County, Virginia. Love removed to Washington County, North Carolina, in the fall of 1782, settling in Greasy Cove, now Unicoi County.

He was a magistrate and member of one of the early Assemblies of Franklin, but adhered to the Tipton faction when schism arose, and was major of Carolina militia under Tipton, the colonel for Washington County. He represented Washington County in the North Carolina Assembly of 1789 and in the convention of the same year that ratified the Federal Constitution.

Love, as colonel, commanded the Washington County regiment on General Martin's campaign against the Chickamauga Indians, 1788. Under the territorial government he was justice of the peace and lieutenant-colonel of Washington County, under Landon Carter, commandant. The last place he resigned in 1792, on his removal to the State of North Carolina.

He represented Buncombe County in the senate of North Carolina for several terms and had the true distinction of having been elector for the republican (democratic) president from Jefferson to Van Buren, inclusive; and in one of Jackson's contests, Love received every vote cast in his own county. In 1821 he was one of the commissioners of North Carolina who ran the boundary line between North Carolina and Tennessee from Pigeon River south to the Georgia line.

He founded the town of Waynesville, where he died July 17, 1845, "loved by his friends and feared by his enemies," and possessed of a large estate.

## **THOMAS LOVE**

Thomas Love, younger brother of Robert Love, by six years, was too young to serve in the Revolution. After residence in the Franklin region he removed about 1790 to Buncombe County, NC – that part now Haywood County. These counties he represented in the General Assembly almost continuously from 1797 to 1820. He also served as brigadier-general of militia. General Love removed to Henry County, West Tennessee, and was the first speaker of the State Senate ever elected from that grand division of the State.

## History of Western North Carolina

By John Preston Arthur

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### The State of Franklin

#### Chapter VI

ROBERT LOVE. He was born near the Tinkling Spring Meeting house, Augusta county, Va., May 11, 1760. His father was Samuel, on of Epbraim Love, captain of the Colonial Horse; and his mother Dorcas, second daughter of James Bell, to whom had been issued on the formation of Augusta county, October 30, 1745, a "commission of the Peace." [9] Samuel Love and Dorcas Bell were married July 3, 1759. Robert Love was christened by Rev. John Craig, who was pastor of the Tinkling Spring church from 1740 to 1764. [10] It was at this old church that the eloquent James Waddell, afterwards immortalized by Wm. Wirt, was pastor for several years, though he did not become "The Blind Preacher" till after the Revolutionary War and he had removed to Gordonsville, his blindness having been caused by cataract. Robert Love's pension papers show that he was on the expedition under Col. Christie in 1776 against the Cherokees; that he was at Fort Henry on Long Island of the Holston in 1777; that he was stationed in 1778 at the head of the Clinch and Sandy rivers (Fort Robertson), and operated against the Shawnees from April to October; that from 1779 to 1780 he was engaged against the Tories on Tom's creek, New River, and Cripple creek, at Moravian Old Town, and at the Shallow ford of the Yadkin, under Col. Wm. Campbell; that in 1781 he was engaged in Guilford county "and the adjoining county" against Cornwallis, and "was in a severe battle with his army at Whitesell mill and the Rudy ford of the Haw river, under Gen. Pickens; that from this place, with Capt. Wm. Doach, he was sent back "from the rendezvous at the Lead Mines to collect and bring more men;" that in 1782 he "was again stationed out on the frontiers of the Clinch, at Fort Robertson...from June to October." He was living in Montgomery, now Wythe county, Va., when he entered the service in 1776, and after the Revolutionary War, his parents being dead, he moved with Wm. Gregory and his family to Washington county, N. C. (now Tennessee), in the fall of 1782. Having moved to Greasy Cove, now Erwin Tenn., he married Mary Ann Dillard, daughter of Col. Thomas Dillard of Pittsylvania county, Va., on the 11th day of September, 1783; and on the 5th of April, 1833, he made application for a pension under the act of Congress of June 7, 1832, attaching his commission signed by Ben. Harrison, governor of Virginia; but, a question having arisen as to the date of this commission Andrew Jackson wrote from The Hermitage on October 12, 1837, to the effect that he had known Col. Love since the fall of 1784, and that there "is no man in this Union who has sustained a higher reputation for integrity than Col. Robert Love, with all men and with all parties, although himself a uniform democratic Republican, and that no man stands deservedly higher as a man of great moral worth than Col. Love has always stood in the estimation of all who knew him." Even this endorsement, however, did not serve to secure the pension; but when E.

H. McClure of Haywood filed an affidavit to the effect that the date of the commission was 1781 or 1782, official red-tape had no other refuge, and granted the pension. He was a delegate to the Greenville convention of the State of Franklin, December 14, 1784, and voted to adopt the constitution of North Carolina instead of that proposed by Sam Houston.[12] In 1778 he was engaged against the Chickamauga Indians as colonel of a regiment operating near White's fort.[11]

He also drew a pension from the State Colonial Records, Vol. xxii, p.74). He and John Blair represented Washington county (formerly the State of Franklin) in the North Carolina legislature in November, 1889 (Ibid., Vol. xxi, p. 194). Later in the same session John Sevier appeared and was sworn in as an additional representative from the same county (Ibid., pp. 58~85). Love was also a justice of peace for Washington county in October, 1788. (Ibid., Vol. xxii, p. 702); and the journal of the North Carolina State convention for the ratification of the constitution of the United States shows that Robert Love, Landon Carter, John Blair, Wm. Houston and Andrew Green were delegates, and that Robert Love voted for its adoption. (Ibid., Vol. xxii, pp. 36, 39, 47, 48).

He moved to Buncombe county, N. C., as early as 1792, and represented that county in 1793, 1794, 1795 14 in the State Senate. According to the affidavit of his brother, Gen. Thos. Love, Robert Love "was an elector for president and vice-president when Thomas Jefferson was elected, and has been successively elected ever since, down to (and including) the election of the present chief magistrate, Andrew Jackson." [15] This affidavit is dated April 6, 1833. In a letter from Robert Love to William Welch, dated at Raleigh, December 4, 1828, he says that all the electors were present on the 3d "and gave their votes in a very dignified manner and before a very large concourse of people," the State House being crowded.[16] Fifteen cannon were fired "for the number of electoral votes and one for the county of Haywood, and for the zeal she appeared to have had from the number of votes for the Old Hero's Ticket. It was submitted to me to bring forward a motion to proceed to ballot for a president of the United States ...and of course you may be well assured that I cheerfully nominated Andrew Jackson.... I was much gratified to have that honor and respect paid me. From the most authentic accounts..... Adams will not get a vote south of the Potomac or west of the mountains. Wonderful what a majority! For Jackson 178 and Adams only 83, leaving Jackson a majority of 95 votes. So much for a bargain and intrigue." [17] The reason for firing an extra gun for Haywood county was because that county had cast a solid vote for Robert Love as elector for Andrew Jackson, such staunch Whigs as William Mitchell Davidson and Joseph Cathey having induced their fellow Whigs to refrain from voting out of regard for their democratic friend and neighbor, Robert Love. He carried the vote to Washington in a gig that year. He named the town of Waynesville for his friend "Mad" Anthony Wayne, with whom he had served at Long Island during the Revolution.

In 1821 he was one of the commissioners who ran the boundary line between North Carolina and Tennessee from Pigeon river south. On the 14th day of July, 1834, he was kicked on the hip by a horse while in Green county, Tenn., and so crippled that he had to use a crutch till his death.[18] The gig, too had to be given up for a barouche, drawn by two horses and driven by a coachman. His cue, his blue swallow-tailed coat, and knee

breeches with silver knee-buckles and silk stockings are remembered yet by a few of the older people. He died at Waynesville, July 17, 1845," loved by his friends and feared by his enemies." [19] He was largely instrumental in having Haywood county established, became its first clerk, defeating Felix Walker for the position; and in 1828, he wrote to Wm. Welch (December 4) from Raleigh: "The bill for erecting a new county out of the western part of Burke and northeastern part of Buncombe after severe debate fell in the house of commons, on its second reading by a majority against it of three only. The bill for the division of Haywood county was passed the senate the third and last reading by a majority of seven; and, I suppose, tomorrow it will be taken up in the house of commons and in a few days we will know its fate. I do not like the division line, but delicacy closes my mouth for fear its being construed that interest was my motive." [20]

He left an estate which "at one time was one of the largest estates in North Carolina." 21 "He acquired great wealth and died respected, leaving a large fortune to his children." He was the founder of Waynesville. "Besides the sites for the public square, court-house and jail, land for the cemetery and several churches was also the gift of Col. Love." Of him and his brother Thomas, Col. Allen T. Davidson said: [22] "These two men were certainly above the average of men, and did much to plant civilization in the county where they lived, and would have been men of mark in any community."

GENERAL THOMAS LOVE. He was a brother of Robert Love, and was born in Augusta county, Va., November 15, 1765. The date of his death is not accurately known, as he removed to Maury county, Tenn., about 1833. 22 Prof. W. C. Allen, in his "Centennial of Haywood County", says (p.55) that he was a soldier of the Revolution, and served under Washington," but this must have been towards the close of that struggle, as he could not have been quite eleven years of age on the 4th of July, 1776. 24 At the close of that war, however, "he went to East Tennessee and was in the Sevier-Tipton war when the abortive State of Franklin was attempted." [25]

Ramsey's "Annals of Tennessee" (p. 410) records the fact that on one occasion one of Tipton's men had captured two of Sevier's sons, and would have hanged them if Thomas Love had not argued him out of his purpose. He was one of Tipton's followers, but he showed Tipton the unworthiness of such an act. "He came to what is now Haywood county about the year 1790. When Buncombe was formed in 1791 he became active in the affairs of the new county," continues Prof. Allen. In 1797 he was elected to the house of commons from Buncombe, and was re-elected till 1808, when Haywood was formed, largely through his efforts. There is a tradition [26] that in 1796 he had been candidate against Philip Hoodenpile who represented Buncombe in the commons that year, but was defeated. For Hoodenpile could play the violin, and all of Love's wives were powerless to keep the political Eurydices from following after this fiddling Orpheus. But Love bided his time, and when the campaign of 1797 began he charged Hoodenpile with showing contempt for the common herd by playing the violin before them with his left hand; whereas, when he played before "the quality," as Love declared, Hoodenpile always performed with his right hand. This charge was repeated at all the voting places of the county, which bore such significant names as Upper and Lower Hog Thief, Hardscrabble, Pinch Stomach, etc. Hoodenpile who, of course, could play only with his left hand,

protested and denied; but the virus of class-feeling had been aroused, and Hoodenpile went down in defeat, never to rise again, while Love remained in Buncombe. "From the new county of Haywood General Love was one of the first representatives, the other having been Thomas Lenoir. Love was continuously re-elected from Haywood till 1829, with the exception of the year 1816. Who it was that defeated him that year does not appear, though John Stevenson and Wm. Welch were elected to the house and Hodge Raborne to the senate. This Hodge Raborne was a man of influence and standing in Haywood county, he having been elected to the senate not only in 1816, but also from 1817 to 1823, inclusive, and again in 1838; but whether it was he or John Stevenson who defeated Thomas Love, or whether he ran that year or no, cannot now be determined. [27] William Welch was a nephew by marriage of Thomas Love, and it is not likely that he opposed him. Gen. Love moved to Macon county in 1830, where his wife died and is buried in the Methodist church yard of the town of Franklin. He was one of the commissioners for North Carolina who ran the line between this State and South Carolina in 1814.<sup>28</sup> "He resided in Macon for several years, and then removed to the Western District of Tennessee; was elected to the legislature from that State, and was made presiding officer of the senate. He was a man of very fine appearance, more than six feet high, very popular, and a fine electioneer. Many amusing stories are told of him, such as carrying garden seeds in his pocket, and distributing them" with his wife's special regards to the voter's wife. <sup>29</sup> His service in the legislature for such an unprecedented length of time was due more to his genial manner and electioneering methods, perhaps, than to his statesmanship; though, unless he secured what the voters most desired he would most probably have been retired from public life. He never was so retired.

#### NOTES.

1. Hill, p.215.
2. Ibid.
3. Dropped Stitches, 25; McGee, p.80.
4. Roosevelt, Vol. IV, ch. 4.
5. Ibid., 231.
6. Ibid., 182.
7. Ibid., 211.
8. Ibid., Vol.111, 26.
9. Waddell (First Edition), 20, 30, 33, 210, et seq. Ibid. (Second Edition), 288.
10. Augusta county records.
11. Pension office files.
12. Dropped Stitches, 28.
13. Ramsey, 417, 427.
14. W. C. Allen's "Centennial of Haywood county" p.52.
15. Robert Love's Pension Papers.
16. "Published in Waynesville Courier, but date publication not known, except that it was about 1895, probably.
17. This refers to the alleged "puritan and blackleg trade" between Adams and Clay four years before.
18. W. C. Allen's "Centennial of Haywood County," 1908, p.51.

19. Ibid., p.52.
20. Private letter.
21. W. C. Allen's "Centennial of Haywood County," p. 52.
22. Col. A. T. Davidson's "Reminiscences in The Lyceum," January, 1891.
23. Prof. Allen says that he died about 1810, but he signed an affidavit in April 6, 1882, in Robert Love's pension matter.
24. Although but a boy, he was a private in the Continental Line. Col. Rec., Vol. XXII, 73.
25. Allen, 58.
26. Statement of Capt. J. M. Gudger, Sr.
27. Wheeler, 54, 208. There is no other record that approaches this. Col. A. T. Davidson in Lyceum, January, 1891.
28. Rev. Stat. N. C., 1817, Vol.11, p.87.
29. "The Lyceum," p.9, January, 1891.
30. Manual of the constitution of the United States, by Israel Ward Andrews, pp.199, 200.

The full book is in reprint. It is published by The Overmountain Press, Johnson City Tennessee.

East Tennessee Pre-1796 Home Page

## **LOVE, ROBERT**

DAR Ancestor #: A071812

Service:

VIRGINIA Rank(s): LIEUTENANT

Birth:

8-23-1760 AUGUSTA CO VIRGINIA

Death:

7-17-1845 WAYNESVILLE HAYWOOD CO NORTH CAROLINA

Pension Number:

\*S8858

Service Source:

\*S8858

Service Description:

- 1) ALSO WAGONEER, ASSISTANT COMSRY, SGT, CAPT STEPHENS
- 2) COLS CHRISTIE,ROBERTSON,CAMPBELL,PRESTON

Residence

- 1) **County:** MONTGOMERY CO-ENL - **State:** VIRGINIA

Spouse

- 1)

MARY ANNE DILLARD

**Robert Gustavus Adolphus Love**

b. 11 May 1760, Augusta Co., VA – d. 17 July 1845, Waynesville, Haywood Co., NC, md **Mary Anne (Dillard) Love**, b. 21 September 1767 – d. 25 March 1942, d/o Thomas Dillard (1732-1784) & **Martha Webb** (1731-1819). **Robert Gustavus Adolphus Love**, s/o **Samuel Love** (1738-1781) & **Dorcas Bell** (1740-1774). *Findagrave*.

**Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters**

Pension application of Robert Love S8858 f89VA Transcribed by Will Graves 10/25/13  
State of North Carolina Haywood County: Superior Court of Law & Court of Equity  
April Term 1833 On the 5th day of April 1833 personally appeared in open court before  
the Superior Court of Haywood now sitting Robert Love a resident of Waynesville in the  
County of Haywood and State of North Carolina aged Seventy-three years in August next  
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 the 7th 1832.  
That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and  
served as herein stated. That in the year 1778 he was stationed at the head of Clinch  
[Clinch River] and Sandy River at Fort Robertson on the Frontiers of what was then  
Montgomery County Commonwealth of Virginia where he then resided as a Sergeant in  
Captain John Stephens' Company from the month of April until October against the  
Shawnee Indians say 6 months. In the year 1780 this declarant was engaged against the  
Tories at a special Court first held [text too faint to discern] Creek down the New River  
and afterwards up Cripple Creek then up the New River where we defeated a company of  
perhaps something like 150 Tories. Then afterwards stationed at the Moravian old Town  
North Carolina & made an excursion up to near the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin [River]  
say 6 months, in this year I was a Lieutenant but do not recollect being under the  
command of any Captain. The celebrated Colonel William Campbell was commander in  
chief. In 1781 this declarant was engaged perhaps something like two months over in  
Guilford North Carolina and the adjoining Country against Cornwallis and was in a  
severe Battle with his Army at Whitesell Mill [Whitesell's Mill, Wetzel's Mill, Weitzel's  
Mill, Wetzall's Mill, March 6, 1781] on the Reedy fork of Haw River. General Pickens  
[Andrew Pickens] commanded one Brigade, Regiment commanded by Colonel William  
Preston at first, Major Joseph Cloyd, Captain William Doach [probably William Doak]  
and myself a Lieutenant were sent back from the rendezvous at the Lead Mines to collect  
and bring more men. In 1782 I was stationed out on the frontiers of Clinch at Fort  
Robinson [sic] as a Lieutenant in Captain William Love's Company say from June to  
October three months. I also acted as a commissary for this Fort and as Lieutenant in the  
line making in the whole 16 months exclusive of being a waggoner o on an expedition  
against the Cherokee Indians under the command of Colonel William Christie [William  
Christian] this was in the year 1776 say three months and in the year 1777 as a Waggoner  
to Fort Henry at the Long Island of Holston [River] at a treaty with said Cherokee Indians  
say three months. Sworn to in open Court  
State of North Carolina Haywood County: Robert Love this declarant further states on his  
Oath as an Amendment to his former declaration, That from the great lapse of time, and  
his distance from the places where he performed the Military Services set forth in his  
former declaration, that he has now no knowledge of any of his old Companions in arms

that are now living being well assured that the officers with whom he acted are chiefly or perhaps not any one of them now living – First I do solemnly declare, and swear that I served in Captain Jehu Stephen's Company as a Sergeant of said Company in the year 1778 in Fort Robertson at the head of Clynch and Sandy Rivers, (It being one of a Chain of Forts established for the Protection of the Frontiers of that part of Virginia on the Western waters[]), Colonel James Robertson being the commander of the line of Forts then established for the protection of the frontiers of that Country, and that I remained six months of that year in active service without being released or discharged from the service. That in the year 1780 I was engaged six months in this year as a Lieutenant, but have no recollection of myself or men being under the Command of any Captain, Yet if I was it was either Captain Robert Sawyers or Captain Abraham Trigg well remembering in acting with those Gentlemen at different places this year against the Tories first down the New River on Tom's Creek at Special Court to try the Tories, then up the New River where we defeated about one hundred fifty Tories said to be on their way to join Cornwallis in the South, we defeated them at a place called the big Glades [April 15, 1781]1, one of whom who fell into our hands we hung at Peach Bottom Colonel William Campbell commanding the Regiment, we afterwards passed over into North Carolina, and Established our headquarters at the Moravian Old Town, but we made frequent excursions down through Guilford County where the above named Captains and myself broke up and dispersed two companies of Tories and getting part of their Magazines of Arms and Ammunition, and one of which whom we captured Colonel Campbell hung when we returned to our headquarters; the man which we hung at the Moravian old Town was named Reid, and the one which we hung at the Peach Bottom on the New River was named Goss – Afterwards we made an excursion into Surry County up the Yadkin River above the Shallow Ford where we were informed a number of Tories were collecting for the purpose of going into South Carolina to join the British forces – I remained this year as above stated in active service with the command of a Lieutenant for six months without release or discharge from the service as above stated, and being the whole of the time under the command of that I

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_big\\_glades.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_big_glades.html)

enterprising officer Colonel William Campbell. Then in the year 1781 the whole of the Militia of Montgomery County was called out to go over into North Carolina to assist General Greene, Colonel William Preston was the commanding officer of our Regiment, on this Tour, and when we rendezvoused at the lead mines on the New River Colonel Preston ordered back Major Joseph Cloyd, Captain William Doach and myself to collect and bring up more men of our Regiment, and after collecting what men we could we followed on and Joined the Regiment somewhere above the Alamance Creek in Guilford County, as well as I now recollect, we were placed in a Brigade Commanded by General Andrew Pickens, a Regiment of Regulars of the Maryland line commanded by Colonel Otho Holland Williams, Colonel Lee's & Colonel Washington's Cavalry were with us, and we were kept as much as possible near the British lines to annoy them by driving in and disturbing their foraging parties which brought on frequent skirmishing with them, and perhaps about the sixth or seventh day of March we had a Severe Battle with Cornwallis's Army at Whitesell's Mill on the Reidy fork of the Haw River, where we lost a good many worthy men in killed and wounded, and there we lost the Chief of the Baggage belonging to our Regiment, and the next or perhaps the second day after

General Greene discharged our Regiment, we returned home, being only in this year two months in active Service – In the following year (to wit) 1782 I was ordered out on the Frontiers to Fort Robertson the same Fort which I had been stationed at in the year 1778, and served under Captain William Love who is long since dead as a Lieutenant, this year I served from sometime in June to October say three months before we were released or discharged making three months in this year of active service, making my whole term of active Service seventeen months, six months of which as a Sergeant, and eleven months as a Lieutenant, I am certain that I was appointed a Lieutenant and acted as such before I received my commission a thing very common to this day. In the declaration of my Brother Thomas Love who states that he knows that I was a considerable time in service, but that he was not an eyewitness – This is very true for where I first went into service he was but a small boy as I am near seven years the oldest, consequently he could only know of my leaving home at the time of my different Tours – when I first entered the service at Fort Robertson in the month of April 1778 I only attained the 18th year of my age in the month of August whilst in the service, this would leave my Brother to be only about 11 years of age which will fully account for his not being an eyewitness to my services. This declarant Robert Love do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a Pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State whatever. Sworn to in open Court October four, 1833 S/ William Johnston, Clerk S/ Ro. Love

[p 40] I Hugh Rogers aged 72 years do solemnly swear and declare that I have been acquainted personally with Robert Love the said declarant from sometime in the spring of the year 1783 until the present time, and that the said declarant Robert Love hath always demeaned himself as a worthy Citizen, and who hath filled since that time sundry importer offices with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people, and that in the year 1788 I Served in the Washington Regiment which he commanded against the Chickamauga what Indians and with whom we had a Severe Battle at the Lookout Mountain where we lost a number of Brave men in killed and wounded, and I further declare that I can, and do place the utmost confidence in any statement which he has made, and do believe that he served in the Revolutionary War as he has stated, and do believe him to be 73 years of age in the month of August last past. S/ Hugh Rogers

[pp 14-16: 3-page letter dated December 4, 1833 in the handwriting of the veteran] J L Edwards, Esquire Waynesville 4th of December 1833 Dear Sir/ Mr. William Johnston Clerk of Haywood County Superior Court, to whom your Address is, as to the rejection of my Pension Claim, and among the principal cause of rejection appears to be the following (to wit) That the declarant have exhibited a commission as Evidence of Service, the commission without date, "But which was actually given after the Termination of the War, has so far impaired the confidence of the Department in the Claimants Statement as to prove fatal to his claim." Dear Sir it would give me great pain at any time, and under any circumstances whatever to do any Act or deed, which would by any means calls a forfeiture of confidence in so respectable a Department of the Government, as that of the War – I hope it will not be considered as impertinent in me to inquire by what means it is which enables a discovery to be made, that the commission which unfortunately has lost its date can be told as having been issued after the Termination of the War – Now Sir the Truth is, that I had removed from the State of

Virginia, into what was then Washington County State of North Carolina now the State of Tennessee a distance of something like one hundred forty miles, before the Termination of the Revolutionary War, and it is Scarcely Supposeable that the State of Virginia would send a commission to Robert Love, then a Citizen of North Carolina, and where I received a Commission shortly after of a Superior Grade – My removal was not hidden or Clandestine at the time, Robert Love was a young man without Father or Mother living, and of but little property; which to this day is not I believe considered a Crime, but only a misfortune – Under these circumstances Shortly after my last tour of duty of three months under Captain William Love at Fort Robertson as set forth in my declaration, I sometime in the latter part of October or the first days of November 1782 place myself in the family of Mr. William Gregory a near neighbor, who was moving to that Country and in whose family I remained until the 11th day of September, 1783 on which day I became married to my present Wife, whom I had never seen before my removal, and by whom I had twelve Children before I removed to the place at which I am now living (to wit) Haywood County North Carolina – My present impression is that my commission Issued in the winter of the year 1780, and what strengthens this impression is this, That I see in General Washington's Address to his Army the day after the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis (to wit) "He with Gratitude returns his Sincere acknowledgments to Governor Nelson of Virginia for the succor received from him, and the Militia under him," This will show that Nelson [Thomas Nelson] was the Governor of Virginia in October 1781, from which I presume that he succeeded Benjamin Harrison<sup>2</sup> in the Winter Session of the Assembly of 1780 – so it is that I can prove my removal in the fall of the year of 1782 as above set forth (If file necessary) by several respectable persons, but who are living about fifty or sixty miles off, as well as by my brother General Thomas Love who was at that time a youth and who is Very Genl. [?] known to the Chief of the delegation from this State in Congress – And as to my own Character and Standing in Society for near fortyfive years, I beg leave to refer you to our much Esteemed and respected Chief Magistrate and President General Andrew Jackson, the Honorable Hugh L. White, and the Honorable John Blair<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Harrison V was Governor of the state of Virginia from December 1, 1781 until December 1, 1784. of Washington County Tennessee, in which County I was living at his Birth and for many years after. Two or three circumstances makes a strong impression on my mind that I was in command as a Lieutenant in the year 1780 first I well recollect of being in command in the first Battle I was in with any enemy this was with the Tories in the month of July 1780, and afterwards this was up the New River, in what is Ashe County now of this State, then afterwards of routing of two parties of Tories in Guilford County of this State Hanging one of the parties who fell in our hands up the New River, and afterwards another whom we captured in Guilford, Colonel William Campbell was our Commander, yet so it may be that I had not my commission at this time for it then was and still is the practice for officers to go into command as soon as appointed by their respective Companies – and this may have been the case with myself, But I have a perfect recollection, both the year 1780 as above set forth, and also in the spring of 1781 at the time that Colonel Preston ordered back from the place of rendezvous at the Lead mines on New River where Major Joseph Cloyd, Captain William Doach and myself to bring up as many men of our Regiment as we could collect in a reasonable time agreed on, and that we did follow on with such men as we were able to collect – and our Joining the

regiment I beg to refer you to my declaration, The whole Proceeding of which I request of you to re-examine again, and I request of you to inquire of the respectable men whom I have referred you to as to my Character [indecipherable word or words, appears to be "Through Sip" but that makes no sense]<sup>3</sup> – One thing more in conclusion some few years ago Captain Thomas Vincent who was then a Citizen of Kentucky made an application to me to Certify that he had served in the Regiment of Militia which I commanded against the Chicaumoagy [Chickamauga] Indians in the year 1788 as a Captain and was wounded on that expedition, At the time that application was made I did not know that Congress had made any provision for such, But I have lately have been told that they have – now if the [indecipherable word, "poor man"?]<sup>4</sup> had not obtained a Pension and that my Certificate is necessary, I do now Certify that he served as a Captain in the Regiment which I at that time commanded, and also that he was severely wounded in one side of his Hips, and was so bad that we had to carry him home on a horse litter something like 200 miles. I am respectfully your Obedient servant &c Ro. Love

6th April 1833 S/ John B. Love, Clerk S/ Ro. Love

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