

Tory Threatens to Hang Patriot

Reuben Harrison served with Colonel Richardson Owens during the Revolutionary War.

He was sent from Flower Gap in Surry County, North Carolina by Colonel Owens with a letter to Colonel Benjamin Cleveland advising Cleveland when he would advance upon the Tories. En route, he was captured by the Tories and mistreated. They threatened to hang him.

A Tory by the name of George Roberts took him into his arms and shaking him, told him that he would be hanged if he did not disclose his business. But his step-son, a young man, interceded that persuaded the Tory to release Harrison because of his youth.

He had hidden the letter in the crown of his hat, and although the Tories removed it, did not see it. Therefore, Harrison was released and went on to deliver the letter to Colonel Cleveland before returning to Flower Gap. Revolutionary War Pensions provide a great deal of personal information about the soldiers as well as battles.

They are certainly worth studying and using to piece together family puzzles.