

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Alexander Muscle White (Musselwhite) R11401

HQ4NC

Transcribed by Sam West

State of South Carolina, Colleton: S. S.

On this Sixth day of April one District of thousand eight hundred and thirty five personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Alexander M. White a resident of Saint Bartholomew's Parish in the District of Colleton and State of South Carolina aged seventy eight years who being 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.

1 That he entered into the service of the United States of America under the following officers as herein after stated and served as herein stated. He deposeseth and saith that he was born in Bladen County (since called Robinson [sic, Robeson] County) about twelve or fourteen miles from Cape Fear River & State of North Carolina on the eighteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and fifty seven and will be seventy eight years of age on the eighteenth day of June one thousand eight hundred and thirty five; that in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, he was drafted as a private in Capt John Hathorn's [John Hawthorne?] Company of light horse (Col. William Robertson was of Bladen County and was both Capt and then Colonel) and served during all the tour until within one month of the Peace when he was confined by an injury received during the war. He was regularly discharged by Capt. Hathorn which discharge is destroyed or lost; he has no documentary testimony at this time. He knew General John Willis of Bladen County, who was General of Col Robertson's Regiment. He the deponent was at a skirmish at Bittie's Bridge¹ [sic, Beatty's Bridge] across drowning Creek; Col. Robertson was in command when they were attacked by the Tories under the command of Major Samuel Andrews and Capt McNeal when deponent's horse was shot under him and fell back on him by which he deponent was ruptured.

Deponent was on his way to join General Gate's army (under Command of Capt Hathorn) and was within hearing of the Cannon at the battle at Camden South Carolina but before they reached the field of battle his Capt heard of General Gate's defeat and retreated towards North Carolina and In their way fell in with a party of Tories with whom they had a hot skirmish; this he says was on Big Pedee near Mares Bluff [sic, Mars Bluff] that there were a good many of the Tories killed on that occasion; he says he had a brother Nathan White who was a regular soldier in General Gate's army; the deponent was with Gates' army a few days before his defeat and General Gates was pointed out to him by his brother; he cannot state why they were not in the battle of Camden. On the retreat of Capt Hathorn's company on the south side of Big Pedee they encountered a small body of Tories under command of Capt Thomas Gibson and defeated them. That from great length of time and very imperfect memory deponent cannot recollect all the incidents of the war. He was with his company under Command of Capt Hathorn and another Company under command of Capt Clayton in a severe skirmish with the Tories at Kelly's cowpens in South Carolina; that he removed to South Carolina Saint Bartholomews Parish in Colleton District about the eleventh or twelfth of March one thousand seven hundred and ninety and has resided in the said Parish and District from that time to this.

2 The deponent was at one time drafted from Capt Hathorn's company of Light horse and placed under command, he thinks of Capt Rice and acted as pilot or guide for General Rutherford's Light horse in Bladen County North Carolina. He was stationed in a Big Swamp called the ten mile swamp about ten miles below Cross Creek, does not recollect how long he served there, thinks not more than a month, General Rutherford and his troops left there and came south.

3 After they left there deponent returned home and was very shortly after called out by and served again with Capt Hathorn's company. During deponents service as a guide or pilot the company of Capt Rice and deponent occasionally went into General Rutherford's camp. One Lieutenant Jesse Little who

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/beattysbridge.htm>

commanded the Tories about there came up back to the fence hurraid for King George and waived his hat for some of his company to follow him. Capt Rice ordered ten or fifteen of his men to mount and follow Little and run him down. They pursued him and in the woods a mile from the house they came up with Little and some of his men; a skirmish took place with Little and some of his men; a skirmish took place in which Little was killed and one of Rice's Light horse also.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on any pension Roll of any agency in any State.- Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Sworn to in open Court

April 6th 1835

A. Campbell, Clerk

Alexander M. White