

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Abbott S30239

fn38SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/28/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of Mississippi Wilkinson County: On this 11th day of October A.D. 1835 Personally appeared before me John McCrea a Justice of the Peace in and for said County William Abbott a resident of Wilkinson County and State of Mississippi aged seventy-five years who by reason of bodily infirmities [is unable] to appear in open Court, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered in the South Carolina Militia in the year 1778, under Captain James Clark, the Lieutenant's name was Clark also under the command of Colonel M. Singleton, it was a General call for all the militia and we marched off to Augusta in the State of Georgia General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] commanded there some days after our arrival at Augusta, a draft took place for a company to go on an expedition down the Savannah River. I was one that was drafted, Colonel Eli Kershaw commanded said company, we took possession of a Fort which the Enemy had left and destroyed the same. On our return to Augusta we were attacked by Colonel Sharp & Major Spurgeon, the latter was killed and the former was mortally wounded & died next morning about day light, a Captain McCormic was taken prisoner. In the month of May I returned home, having been out from February say four months soon after that this Captain Clark died the Company was for a short time without a Captain, and some confusion ensued, in fact the County in that section being overrun with British soldiers & Tories I was told if I did not join them I would be hanged at my own door, this I refused to do and went off to General Marion's Army and attached myself to Captain Armstrong's Company for a few days until Richard Singleton was appointed Captain of the company formally commanded by Captain Clark, the Lieutenant was by the name of Kields. In all I served 8 months, and 14 days under these officers having been in several skirmishes, and at the Battle of Watbow [sic, Wadboo?¹] and one at Parkers Ferry,² at the time of the Battle at Eutaw [Eutaw Springs³] I was sick & unable to be there being about 8 miles off the officers belonging to Marion's Army which comes within my recollection at present were Colonel Horry Colonel Joseph McCanty Colonel Coakly, Colonel Mayham [sic, Hezekiah Maham], Major

¹ An engagement occurred on Wadboo Bridge on January 31, 1781 <http://gaz.irshelby.com/wadboobr.htm>; another action occurred at Wadboo on August 29, 1782 <http://gaz.irshelby.com/wadboo.htm>

² August 31, 1781 <http://gaz.irshelby.com/parkers.htm>

³ September 8, 1781.

Mulean [?] who was brigade Major a Frenchman, Captain Hill Captain Armstrong Captain Draukes [?] Lieutenant Bradley of Colonel Armstrong's Company Captain or Lieutenant Joor [?] not positive which, Captain Simons Lieutenant John Richburgh, Major Benson who was surprised and afterwards killed at Santee River by some British dragoons. I was in camp near Charleston at the time the enemy evacuated that place. I recollect the following who were in the Camp of General Marion Captain Snipes, Sergeant McDonald also the following Privates Reddin McCoy, William Pringle, Roger Bradly, Nathan Maply, Benjamin Hodge, Francis Richardson who belonged to the Dragoons, JasperHarrell, Jas. Dickey, Josiah Firman, Henry Haynesworth, Colt Simmons, Fed L. Sam, Peter Mashow, John Canty, Capt. Jas. Gaulden, Josiah Gale, John Malam, Thomas Bradford, Thomas Neile, William Baglin, William Mitchell, John Candle, William Russ, Randall Singleton, Benjamin Guess, Shadrach Inman the 3 were with me in the first Campaign Ambrose Gayle, John Singleton, Abram Pool, John Wheeler, Adval Atkinson, John Odell, Horrice Mitchell [Horace Mitchell?], John Chany, W. P. Brown, Jacob Felder, Able Bagdell, Henry Bates, James Bates, John Molet & William McConico.

I William Abbott do hereby relinquish every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John McCrea, JP

S/ William Abbott, X his mark

Interrogatories the first

Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in South Carolina on the High of Santee Clarramont County Sumter District

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer -- it was in a Family Bible and left with some of my Family in South Carolina

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer Where I was born at which place I lived until the year 1818 since that time where I now live.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer The whole of the militia were called out

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. Colonel Maham and Colonel Horry commanded the Cavalry under General Marion

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer At the time a troops were troops discharged a Sergeant & Fourteen were sent about fifteen miles on Black River to guard some Boats to prevent the British from getting provisions at that place we received a message from our officer to go home that is all the discharge I ever got --

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

William Gaulden being duly sworn says that he has known William Abbott ever since he deponent was about 8 years of age with the exception of about 5 years. I know that the said William Abbott was raised in Sumter District in South Carolina where I was also raised. I also know that the said William Abbott was a soldier under the command of & attached to the Company of Captain Richard Singleton who was an officer under the command of General Frances Marion. I do not know the precise length of the time of the service of Mr. Abbott but I know that it was for a long time for he was in service off and on from the first to the close of the war I was at the time a boy it being about 7 years young then Mr. Abbott once I went down to the camp to fetch his horse back. This I did for Mr. Abbott as I was well acquainted with him & only lived about a mile & a half from him. I know that he was in that neighborhood always spoken of as a good soldier of the Revolution. I now live about 7 miles from Mr. Abbott's residence in this State & County & now believe & always have believed Mr. Abbott to be a man of the strictest veracity & I believe that his word has never been doubted by any one that is acquainted with him & I believe him to be a man of strict veracity and as any that I ever knew & I have known him for near 60 years as I am myself near 68 years of age.

S/ Wm Gaulden

[William Winans, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 23: in an undated document appears to be an earlier draft of the application, the veteran stated he was born September 24, 1760 in Sumter District South Carolina.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 6 months service in the South Carolina militia.]