

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension app of David McCance S16464

fn13SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/5/09

[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.]

State of Georgia, Henry County

On this 5th day of May 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Inferior Court of said County of Henry now sitting David McCance, a resident of Georgia in the County of Henry aged seventy-three, 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 7th, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He entered the service on or about the Tenth day of April in the year 1776 in the County of Chester South Carolina, under Capt. Hugh Whiteside, Lieut. Thomas Neely. [He] was drafted into this service for one month. About five months after this he was again drafted and under Capt. William Jones and served two months in the second tour. Deponent marched to Congaree River & joined the army there. He cannot recollect any of the higher officers, but a Major McGriff [Patrick McGriff]. He marched to Savannah River and then to what was called Hazard Point at which place the British had a short time before destroyed a large building. The Term for which he was drafted expired. He was discharged without writing. (The applicant misunderstood the question & gave the marches of the second tour instead of the first) During the first month, Deponent's company, a company under Capt. Walker & one under Capt. Nixon, was stationed between Saluda River & Broad River without making any marches of consequence, their object being to keep back the Tories. About the 20th January 1778, Deponent was again Drafted under Capt. Cooper & Lieutenant Neely in Chester County, South Carolina; marched to and met Col. Neal's regiment at the Congaree River. Then marched to Dorchester [with]in twenty miles of Charleston. Then back to Savannah River to a place called Gulfin's Bluff [sic, Galphin's Bluff]; lay there a few days when, [upon] the approach of the enemy, we retreated to Charleston. [A] small fight took place at a place called Pusawatchy Bridge [sic, Coosawhatchie Bridge]. We lost several [of] our forces, shooting their rifles from behind trees with aim killed a number of the enemy—report said near a hundred. He was with the army blockaded in Charleston from the last of April until the 20th of June. The enemy ceasing to blockade, the militia was discharged and reached home about 1st July 1778. [He] was hauled home sick & remained sick until about 20th November 1778 [having been hauled home while sick] in a wagon by one Richard Atkins. In December (about the 20th) 1778, Deponent was drafted again under Capt. Cooper & Lieut. Archibald Gill. Capt. Walker's, Capt. Nixon's Company & one other Capt. Hemphill of Chester County South Carolina were also drafted; marched to Orangeburg & there joined ~~the main army~~ other forces under Col. Ellis & Major Ellis; remained there two months occasionally going out upon scouting parties and particularly

to Edisto Swamp in which place many Tories were concealed and many were killed. They were then discharged.

Again, after the fall of Charleston, Deponent volunteered to serve during the War under Capt. John McClure & Lieut. James Johnston; he marched to Catawba River and joined the army under Sumter at Rocky Mount—here a Battle took place between Sumter's army and the British and Tories who took shelter in a large wooden house—Sumter being without cannons, left them and marched up the river and from thence to a place called the Hanging Rock where another skirmish took place. Sumter was compelled to retreat—Deponent's Capt. John McClure was wounded and died in a week in the hospital where deponent attended a wounded brother, William McCance—Col. Hill of the American army was wounded—Sumter then retreated through York, Chester & Spartanburg—here Sumter was reinforced by Col. Williams [James Williams] of Georgia [sic, South Carolina]—during Sumter's march through Chester County, he was attacked by the British in the fork made by Fishing Creek & the Catawba, the rear guard was ordered to remain one mile behind—it was taken and the British came up on our forces, some asleep, some eating & others scattered in confusion in different directions, some were bathing in the river, a number of our forces were killed, many wounded and taken prisoners—Sumter made his escape from his tent half dressed—by running & jumping twenty feet down the Bank into Fishing Creek—a few regulars, northern men were cut down on the road up the river—our forces were then scattered for about two or three weeks—and reassembled upon Broad River under Cols. Lacey, Brandon and Col. Williams. They took the road after Col. Ferguson commander of the British forces—crossed Broad River at the Island Ford. Ferguson had left his camp at that place and marched to a spur of King's Mountain at which place we overtook him—and had an engagement—Ferguson was killed and the whole of his army were killed, wounded and taken; about 120 were killed, 109 wounded and nine hundred taken prisoners—the fight lasted 33 minutes deponent knows. The prisoners were taken [indecipherable words] but knows no more of them. After this Deponent was marched home to Chester; got there 15 or twenty days before Christmas, he cannot recollect distinctly the time of his volunteering, but knows that this service lasted Ten months.

Again in January or February 1780 [sic, 1781], he went into active service under Capt. Mills of Chester who marched to & fro through the Country performing the usual duties of that day—in this service which lasted at least two months—they took prisoners a British Major & his Captains and a servant. They were exchanged for Lieut. Thomas Neel, John Holton, Archibald Elliott, Hugh McClern [sic, Hugh McClain or McClure?] & two others. After the termination of this last duty, he continued to perform services in small companies which lasted only a few days at a time.

Deponent was born in the [year] 1661 [sic, 1761] in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania on the 12th day of September. He has no record of his age, he saw one in his Father's Bible, but does not know where it is. He lived there until 3 years of age & was moved to Chester County, South Carolina; resided in Chester until 25 years of age, then moved to York District, S. C., and remained there until nine years since, when he moved to Henry County Georgia. He knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to prove his services—has no documentary evidence—William Andrews, Hugh Loryins [?], Rev. William Griffin reside in his neighborhood and can testify to his veracity.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

The petitioner says that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served no less than the period mentioned below and in the following grades: For Two years and three months, he served as a private; and for such service he claims a pension.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. S/ David McCance

S/ John Williams, J. I. C.

[William Griffin, a clergyman and William Andrews gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 12]

"I do hereby certify, that David McCance of Cambden District have taken and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity, as directed by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, entitled, "An Act to oblige every free Mail Inhabitant of this State, above a certain Age to give Assurance of Fidelity and Allegiance to the same; and for other Purposes therein mentioned."

Certified this 8th day of July 1778

By S/ Hugh Whitesides, Capt."