

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Fullwood: S18829

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Spelling and punctuation corrected where necessary.]

State of No. Co.} Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions

Burke County} Jany Term 1844

On this 18th day of Jany A.D. 1844 Personally appeared in open Court William Fullwood Sen'r. a resident of the County of Burke and State of North Carolina aged Eighty years and three mos. who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832

That at the age of 17 years he entered the service in the Militia of S.C. and in the years 1780 and 1781 he performed 3 tours of 3 mos each under the following officers and at the period stated as set forth by himself.

I Wm Fullwood Senr. was born in South carolina pudding Swamp, waters of black River Sumter District October 10 1763, and when about 17 years of age & soon after Gen Mareian [sic: Francis Marion] had defeated the torys in the fork of black River I was called upon with others, perhaps to the amount of 20 or 25 privates under the command of Capt armstrong, I think his given name was John, & Wm Lewis, his first Lieutenant, to suppress a body of Torys incamped in Lynchess Creek [now Lynches River] swamp, about 25 or thirty miles from my Fathers, where we had gotten against where they were incamsed, having a pilot, we were led two deep into the swamp, & when we had gotten near, we discovered them runing over the creek, on a log which they had prepared for their own use. some of our men who was in front fired four or five guns at them but without effect. we then moved up the Creek to their Camp & found a great deal of meat roasting and some dutch ovens on the fire. we were then led higher up the Creek but meeting with no opposion, we left the swamp and made towards black River. when we had gotten perhaps 6 or 7 miles, an express overtook us who informed the Captain that he had seen 12 or 3 hourses saddled, some five or six miles of believed to be Torys. the Captain derected Lieutenant Lewis to get 12 vollenteers & persue them, but when we got to the place they were gone. we then turned our course & made for black River. we traveld untill late at night & it was verry dark, we at length got near the fence of a widdow Lady, who was friendly to our cause, we holteded tied our hourses and went to sleep in the morning we went to the house, got our hourses fed & the promis of breakfast. while waiting we was alarmed by the sharp holloing of a man who was persued by two or three red coats which proved to be part of Tarletons [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's] light hourse. our Captain who was about four miles above us, & on the road to Camden, had met the brittish light horse quite unexpected. they Charged upon our men kiled Charles Warnack, & scattered the rest. fortunately for Wm Carter, son of Majer Carter, who was with Capt Armstrong, was the man persued by the british whose warning voice under God, advised us. our men was all saved but the hourses, except two or three, was taken by the british. This happened about 20 miles from my Father. That evening I got home & the next day I set out for Genral Marian & found him I think on the secon day, between great & little peedee [sic: Pee Dee River], at a place called Brittans neck [sic: Brittons Neck]. here we staid perhaps two or three weeks. I think this was in the spring of the year. we then recrossed great peedee, & Linches Creek. here we swam or hourses by a caneu. & Coln Richards [sic: probably Richard Richardson's] hourse had like to have been lost a fine young hourse, who could not swim & was towed over by main strength, we was then on the way to Santee. at this time the men was not classed, as they were afterwards in three divisions, & one division served three months. I was then releived by another. the next duty that I was appointed to was as a guard at Lenews ferry [sic: Leneud's Ferry on Santee River where ALT 17 now crosses], under Lieutenant Wm. Bennet. here I think I stayed about 5 or 6 weeks, & was then sent home with a man that got his arm broke by wrestling. I then I had served three months in the army at that time. I then served a tower of duty under Lieufteinat Thomas Wheaden, Samuel Chander served at that time, we were then on the south side of Santee River. I said I had served a tourer of duty under Lieufteinant

Mckfaddin, but I am led to think that it was only part of a tour for I had been appointed with some others, to gether a drove of cattle & take them to Genral [Horatio] Gates. we collected a good maney beeves & had drove them over forty miles & got them within two or three miles of Gates Army, the night before he got defeated [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]. The morning that he got defeated, we had started the cattle but got but a little way befour the battle began, when it was over, we was led towards the battle ground to a convenient place, & formed. we had been formed but a few minutes untill we saw three or four men runing across. we hailed them & they said that they belonged to Gates & that he was intirely defeated. we then left the cattle & made for home. I think this might include six months service in the army. The next time that I went out to the army, I found them in a farm that had been left by the owner on the South side of Santee where they had scrimage with the british a few days before we got to camp. a company of british light hourse had charged upon marrian, but he was ready for them. he gave them one platoon one british officer was killed but I cannot remember how many more. a few days after getting to Camp I was appointed quartermaster for Coln Richardsons Ridgmet. I served out the time & was releived I think this last tower of duty was served under Capt Nelson, Lieut. McFadden and William Remust[?] as 2^d Lieut. - which was a tour also of 3 months. - my services during the Revolutionary War amounted to at least 9 months and as well as I am able now to state were performed 1st under Capt Armstrong as before stated by me, this tour I think commenced early in the Spring of the year 1780 I recollect I was about 17 years of age and think I was drafted into service in the month of March and was discharged the June following

2^d Tour under Lieut McFadden as before stated by me commenced soon after I was discharged from the first service as near as I can state at this time I entered the service under him in June 1780 and continued until about the time of Gates defeat at Camden in the month of Aug. following.

My last Tour as well as I can state was performed in the Spring of the year 1781 I was drafted and served under Capt John Nelson and other officers as stated before from about the 1st of April to the middle of July 1781 this is the period which I acted as Quarter Master -

I have no recollection of having ever rec'd. a discharge in writing after the close of my services I rec'd. from Maj. [John] Gamble on Indent for my services which I some time after disposed of in Georgetown S.C.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension roll of any Agency in any State - I further state by way of explanation why I have delayed so long in making this application is that I was not aware untill recently of any one by whom I could prove my services. that some time ago I addressed a Friend in N.C. requesting him to get the testimony of Wm McIntosh the only person that I knew of by whom I could prove my service satisfactorily - I was informed by my Friend that he was no more and I therefore declined making application - I also have the satisfaction of thanking the Giver of every good and perfect Gift for a sufficient competency of the things of this World for my support during the few remaining days that I may be spared to live and on this account was more careless and indifferent about my application than I should otherwise have been - I know of no person now living by whom I can prove my services except Saml. Chandler whose statement is hereunto annexed.

I was born as stated by me on the 10th Oct 1763 as appears from a record made by my Father now in my possession - I lived in South Carolina after the War of the Revolution untill I was about 30 years of age - I then moved to the County of Burke in the State of North Carolina where I have since lived a period of 50 years or more

Sworn to & Subscribed in open Court the day and year first above written -

[signed] Wm Fullwood Senr

State of South Carolina}

Sumter District}

Be it known that before me William H Smith magistrate for said district personally appeared Samuel Chandler a resident of said district and made oath in due form of Law, that he is Eighty years of age, that he was personally acquainted with William Fulwood, that he was a private in the Revolutionary War, that he saw him doing duty, under the command of Capn John Nelson & Col William Richardson in Genl Francis Marions Brigade, that

the said William Fulwood was one of his missmates frequently during their Campaign, and that he is not able to say with precission the length of time the said Fulwood was in the Army.
Sworn to before me this 18th June 1843 Samuel hisXmark Chandler
[See also Chandler's pension application, W8599.]

April 16 - 1844, Burk County NC.

Dear Sir, I received your pamphlet, & am glad to find, that you are firm in holding your corner, & contending for the libertys of your highly favored Country, which I think we are in danger of loosing unless the Good Lord helps us, as he did in the Revolutionary struggle. I took part in that bloody sean for which I have been asking for a pention, which in justice I should obtain, but I have no papers to prove my service. I had an indent, which was obtained according to law, at the close of the war, given & signed by Wm Martin Esqr. & signed by Magr Gambol for nine months active service part of which time I acted as quarter master for Coln Richardsons Ridgment, which service was named in saied indent, & for which service the Magistrate said I would draw Captains pay. I kept the Indent several years, but seeing no prospect of getting any pay, I put my Indent into The Land office, to save pine Land. ten dollars paiied one. I cannot remember whether Winns Borough [sic: Winnsboro] or George Town [sic: Georgetown] office received my Indent, or whether a copy of said instrument could be obtained if i could make application, but the distance from my native state, & my feeble state of body makes it impracticable. my service in the bloody conflict was in Southcarolina where I was born & raised & in Gen Marrians Brigade I served. & I am now living in Northcarolina, three hundred miles from the place of my nativity. about 7 or 8 months ago I thought that it was my duty to make application for a pention. I then wrote to one of my nephews, who is living in Southcarolina, to get the affidavits of some of my old companions that had served with me in the army. when he got my letter two of my fellow soldiers was then living, but one of them died verry suddenly, befor he could obtain his testamony in my favour. The other he obtained, which was Mr Samuel Chandler, who swore that he knew me, that I was his mesmate, that I was a private Souldier, as I was at that time, but after that I was appointed quarmaster, as above stated and served I think about three months. I was exempted from guard duty form the time that I received that appointment. I applied to Robert Pearson Esqr. of Morganton, to attend to my business. I drew up a few Items respecting some of the seans that I passed through to assist him in making out my declaration, when he examed it, he said that he would send it on with the other papers. if he has done it you may understand the justness of my claim, if you can read it, in that paper I stated that I was sent with others during my service to geather a drove of cattle & take them to Gen Gates. we had collected a fine drove of cattle & had gotten within a few miles of said army the night befor he got defeated. we had started the cattle in the morning but had not drove far when the battle commenced. as soon as it was over, we was moved on towards the battle ground & formed. I cannot remember any higher officer than Sergent John Mckinny. I well rember that he assisted in forming the men. we had been formed but a few minites when we discovered three or four men runing by. we hailed them & they saied that they belonged to Gates, & that he was intirely defeated. at that time Camden Gail was crowed with some of our sincere friends, few of which ever came out alive. the dark Cloud that was then spread over Georgia, Southcarolina, & part of Northcarolina was truly awfull, murdering, burning houses, & plundering. my Father lost two likely Negrow men that joined the British, besides other property, but note of his famely died in or by the war except a cousin who was killed in the vicinity of Georgetown, who with others four men had ingaged a plundering party who was taking of rice to the Brittish. he got mortally wounded & died some hours after the action. I have given you a true statement of some few facts, but time has swept away allmost all of that class of men, whose motto was, liberty or death. God has favoured me with a long life, for I am over 80 years of age, & am favoured with a moderite portion of the good things of this wourld, for which I wish to be thankfull to the Lord, but that is no reason why I should not enjoy the benefit of a pention. I now request an exertion of your influence in the war department.

Wm Fullwood Senr

I do not recollect in which of the Land offices I had left my Indent. for I followed Surveying several years & as did one of my Brothers, and we done business in Winns Borough & in

Georgetown. if my claim to draw a pension is thought not to be valid, still I shall have this consolation, that I obeyed the call of my Country when it was bleeding, in Georgia, by the British, the torys, & the Indians, & in Southcarolina, by the British, the torys, & the Negrows. a respectable family, who lived about 6 miles from my Fathers, the man being a staunch Whig, was from home one night, when one of his Negrow men went into the room where his Mrs slept and cut her throat, & wounded several of the Children. he then robbed the house, putting the dear bought plunder in a bag. he then took one of his masters horses, & set out for the brittish, but Justice overtook him the same day, for he stopt to inquire the way, where he was detected by the blood on his cloase. he was tyed [possibly "tryed"], found guilty, & was executed within one or two miles of the place where he committed the Murder. I add no more.

South Carolina}
Sumter District}

Personally appeared before me Peter DuBose and made oath that he was acquainted with a man by the name of William Fullwood (Said to be the son of Major Fulwood, in the time of the revolutionary war - and he saw him frequently in general Marians army. he was in actual service for a term of at least eight or nine months. this deponant says that he thinks that the above named William Fullwood was quarter master a part of the time - that he was in general Marians army - and this deponent further says that he has every reason to believe that the above named William Fullwood was a faithful Soldier - [signed] Peter Dubose
Sworn to before me this the 14th day of August 1844
[See pension application of Peter Dubose (DuBose) S21163.]

Pension Office
December 9th 1844

Sir, The certificate of the Comptroller General of South Carolina shewing that two indents were issued to William Fulwood for supplies and provisions furnished in the Revolutionary War, affords strong proof that he has confounded his employment in making these supplies with the service of a Quarter Master, for which he has asserted a claim. As the records do not credit him with any Military service, his claim cannot be allowed without the most satisfactory proof

I am, very respectfully, Your Obt. Servant J. L. Edwards
[To] R. C. Pearson, Esq Morgantown, North Carolina

December 18 - 1844 Burk County N.C.

Dear Sir, I have been looking over a letter which you recently received from the war department, stating that there was two Indents owed to William Fullwood for supplies & provisions furnished in the Revolutionary war. I know nothing about such papers, but suppose that the difficulty arises from this circumstance. my Fathers given name was Wm, & he had acted in a publick capacity for several years. in an early period of the war a large body of Torys had imbodyed on or near Keewee [sic: Keowee] River, one of their leading officers was named Fletcher [probably Col. Thomas Fletchall]. a large number of of our people was collected, to oppose them. my Father went as Captain of a company, when our army got near them the Torys fled, our men persewed them, & took maney prisoners and broke up their army. soon after their action my Father was promoted, & acted as Mager, he was s[ta]tioned in Charestown, when the brittish attacked Fort Mortree [Fort Sullivan, later named Fort Moultrie], & saw the whole contest. They got such an unexpect defeat [28 - 29 June 1776], that some people thought they would never return. for two years or more there was but little trouble in South carolina. in that interim Father resigned. he was geting old, & had a large Family. when the brittish returned the second time, they took Charlestown [12 May 1780], & over powered Georgia & South carolina. crowding our gails, with some of our best friends, Camden gail was crowed with whigs, who mostly died. when that dark Cloud, was spread over our much loved Country, & soon after General Marrion defeated the torys in the fork of black River, & at the age of about seventeen [I] obeyed the call of my Country, & took up arms to supress the Torys, who had imbodyed on Lynches Creek. from that time, to the close of the war, I was in the service of my Country. at the close of the war, the men was directed to go to a magistrate & give in the term of time they had served. I did, and got an

Indent for nine months service, it was stated in that indent, that I had acted as quartermaster. I received that Indent from Wm Martin Esqr, who signed it. & so did Mager Gamble of Col Richardson Ridgmont. I kept that indent several years, & then put it into the Land office, to save pine Land, giving ten dollars for one. I put 3 tracts, or plats of Land in the office kept in Georgetown at one time, & I think my indent might be found in that office, for the books are still kept there, but the office discontinued. if the Gentleman in the war department knew, that it was over forty years, since I first came to Burk County & was living near three hundred miles from the place of my nativity, & that I was no way connected with Mr Chandler, nor Mr Debous, whose testamoney according to law, has been given, that by comparing my decleration, written in haste, & their affidavits together, might give the satisfaction required. if i should fail drawing a pention, I shall still have the satisfaction to know, that with some others, who are mostly gone to a world of Spirrits, I was trying to guard the tree of Liberty, which had been planted by some of the master spirrits of our highly favoured Country. fairwell for ever yours in much love

Wm Fullwood Senr.

PS I think the indents mentioned in the letter sent you, was given to my Father, for hogs or cattle, to support our army, for that was often done.

October 30 1845 Burk County N.C.

Dear Sir, I have lately received from my Nephew Mr. Wm Mckelveen, of Southcarolina, a part of a leaf of my Fathers house Bible, in which is an account of my Fathers age, my Mothers & my own, with some others of the famely, & discover by that paper, that I made a little mistake respecting my age, when I put in my claim for a pention. I thought I was born October 10 1763, but I discover that it was November 10, 1764. which makes me a little younger than I thought I was. however the mistake is small, when we consider the length of time since I left the place of my Nativity. the objection made to my claim to a pention was, two Indents, or receipts, given to Wm Fullwood for supplys of provisions given to the American army. those papers must have been given to my Father, as I was then young, in the leading strings, & under the controle of my Father. & at that time possessed but little property, except a house and close. I was one of the number of men, appointed to collect a drove of cattle to supply Gen Gates's army. The cattle was collected within 7 or 8 miles of my Fathers, & some of his might have been in the drove, but I canot affirm. but I well remember that Coln [Henry] Lee, & his troop of lighthouse did Forriage on pudding Swap, waters of Black River, at Mr John Burgess's for some time, I think several weeks. & the supplyes of provision, spoken of might have been given to Coln Lees Ridgmont, but I cannot affirm. one Circumstance I will here relate as told me by my Father, while our friends were staying on Pudding Swamp, some of Coln Lees officers, & my Father, went driving for deer. Father had loaned one of the officers a shot gun for the purpose, in the course of the day a deer run out of the swamp, near to Father, & the officer that had borrowed the gun, Father fired at the deer & it fell, but was not killed dead. The officer run up to the deer, & struck it with the gun, untill he had broken it to pieces but killed the deer. when I had returned home, Father showed me the broken gun. I think that my case looks a little hard, when the good deed done by my Father should deprive me of what justice says I should have. I think it would be but a reasonable request for Esqr Edwards to reexamon my papers, look at my declaration, my personal service, Mr Samuel Chandlers oath. he says I was his mesmate, that I was a private this was correct, I was then a private, but afterwards appointed quartermaster, and was never called upon to stand sentary to the close of the war. again I would request that Mr Peter Debouse's testimony be examined two men were from whig Famely's, which was not as plenty as we wished them to be in that dark & cloudy day. I have had a great deal of trouble to prove my service in the hard struggle for liberty, but I have done it better than I expected when I commenced, for my Brother Soldiers have all passed away with a few exceptions. The two mentioned above, with myself, is all that I know of. I will now commit my cause to him that Governs the world. fairwell for ever, your sincere friend, Wm Fullwood, Sen.

[Transcription of the family record]

William Fulwood Sen'r Born Feby 12th 1735

Sarah Fulwood Born on the year 1740

William Fulwood Jun'r. Born Nov'r 10th 1764

Robert Fulwood Born January 3^d 1766
Thomas Fullwood Born September 7th 1769
Annah Fullwood Born January 7th 1773
James Fullwood Born January 10th 1775
[illegible] Giles Fullwood Born May [?] [177?]
John Futhy Fullwood Born December 2^d 1778

State of North Carolina}
County of Burke}

Be it known that on this day 13th May 1846 before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Burke Personally appeared Wm Fullwood Sr. of said County who being first duly sworn deposed that he is the identical person whose Declaration is now on file in the Pension office for a Pension under the Act of Congress 7th June 1832 and further swears that he is the person alluded to in the Certificate from the Compt'r Gen'l. of S.C. - that the Indent a copy of which is hereunto annexed was rec'd. by him for services rendered in the S.C. Militia during the War of the Revolution in the years 1781 and 1782 under Capt Nelson and others as set forth in his Declaration now on file in the Pension Office

Further the Deponent saith not
Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and year first above written
[signed] Wm Fullwood Sen.

Comptroller Genl's office.
Columbia S.C. May 4th 1846.

Book 2}
Indent 99} Issued 7th May 1785 to Mr. William Fulwood Jun'r. for twenty one Pounds eight shillings and six pence three farthings for three hundred days duty in the malitia
No 1st in 1781 and 1782 pr account audited
Princ'l. £21:8:6¼D Int'r £1:9:9D

Book 2} William Fulwood Jr.
Account 99} His account of Three Hundred days malitia duty in 1781 and 1782 @ 10S
2nd pr day John Nelson's Cert. Amounting to Sterling £21:8:6¼D
I certify the above No 1st Indent 99 of Book 2 and No 2nd Account 99 of Book 2 to be a true copy
from the Records of this office For Comptroller Genl J. Aug. Black

NOTE: On 21 Jan 1844, R. C. Pearson of Morgantown NC wrote to the pension office describing William Fullwood as "an old and respectable Clergyman of the Methodist Church."