

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Strain S4904 ¹

Nancy Strain

f40NC/SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

3/16/11: rev'd 5/7/24

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 4]

Declaration in order to Obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

State of Ohio County of Highland: SS

On this 7th [could be 9th] day of April 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Highland and State of Ohio Samuel Strain a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy years 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 – that at the time the British obtained possession of Charlestown South Carolina² – he fled from that State and joined the American Troops as a volunteer and private in the militia Service in North Carolina under General McDowell [Charles McDowell] and Colonel Grimes [William Grimes] – in the month of July 1779 [sic, 1780]. The first engagement he was in was with a part of Colonel Ferguson's [Patrick Ferguson's] Troops at a place called Thicketty³ near Warfords Iron Works [Wofford's Iron Works] where his oldest Brother was Killed. Colonel __ Shelby [Isaac Shelby] (since Governor of Kentucky) was Chief and Command in the Engagement – he continued in the service fourteen months under different officers through three different states – to wit South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia – where he was engaged in several Skirmishes – At the time General Green [Nathanael Greene] besieged Ninety Six⁴ he enlisted in the regular service as a private and joined the a Squadron of regular course composed of four Troops of twenty five men each where he served ten months in that capacity and was discharged – his Captain was Richard Johnson – Major Fields Perdue [Field Pardue] – Col. Samuel Hammon [Samuel Hammond] all his services under these two regiments were in the Horse – he served two other towers [tours] against the Cherokee & Creek Indians in the State of Georgia each tour included several weeks – The whole of his services amounted to upwards of two years – from⁵ the records in his Father's Bible he was

¹ BLWt 18206-160-55

² Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780 Siege of Charleston

<http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

& <https://allthingsliberty.com/2020/10/britains-last-throw-of-the-dice-begins-the-charlestown-campaign-of-1780/>

³ July 26, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thicketty_fort.html

⁴ May 21-June 19, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

⁵ Here the veteran begins to answer the 7 interrogatories promulgated by the War Department to be put to each applicant for a pension. Those 7 interrogatories were as follows:

born in Augusta County Virginia on the 11th day of August 1762 – from thence he emigrated to the district of Ninety Six in South Carolina – where his Father died when he was about three years old – and where he remained until the time he entered the service of the United States – he does not recollect of ever receiving a discharge if he did he has lost it – and he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure who can Testify to his service – After the close of the revolutionary war he resided in the district of Ninety Six South Carolina – till about twenty five years ago – when he removed to the County of Highland and State of Ohio – where he has resided to this day – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present – and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of Agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid
Attest: S/ Samuel Bell, Clk.

S/ Saml. Strain



[Samuel D Blythe, a clergyman, and Allen Trimble gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – I was born on the 11th day of August 1762 in the County of Augusta and State of Virginia –

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

Answer – There is a record of my age in my Father's Bible now in the possession of my sister in the State of Indiana –

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

Answer – I was living in the district of Ninety Six South Carolina when I volunteered into the service and after the war I resided in the same place till about 24 years ago when I removed to Highland County of Ohio where I now reside –

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 – Among the regular troops were Colonel Washington [William Washington] of the cavalry – General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and General Greene of the militia General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] Colonel McCall Colonel Clarke [Elijah Clarke] of Georgia Colonel Grimes of North Carolina Colonel Shelby and General McDowell. The general nature of my service was scouting and skirmishing while in the militia – my Squadron to which I was attached were engaged in the battle of the Eutaws [Eutaw Springs]⁶ – I was not present having been left to

1st Where and in what year were you born?

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

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

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

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

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

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.

⁶ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

take care of Major Pardue who had been wounded before in a skirmish –

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 – I do not recollect of ever receiving a discharge if I did I have lost it –

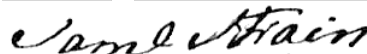
7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer – Samuel D Blythe and Allen Trimble late Governor of this State –

4th Interrogatory (omitted by mistake) How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer – I entered the service as a volunteer. I never was a Substitute for any person

S/ Samuel Strain



Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Attest: S/Samuel Bell, Clk

[p 8: On April 12, 1855 in McLean County Illinois, Lewis L. Strain, 26, filed a claim on behalf of Ben Franklin Strain, a minor child, of Samuel Strain, deceased, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that Samuel Strain died in Madison Township in Highland County Ohio April 29, 1845 leaving Nancy Strain; that Nancy Strain died May [illegible, looks like 7th] day of May 1846; that Ben Franklin Strain is the only minor child of said Samuel; that Ben Franklin Strain is 20 years of age since September 20, 1854; that his birth is shown in a family record which is now in the possession of the declarant who is the oldest full brother of the said Ben Franklin Strain.



[Facts in file: Samuel Strain and Nancy Johnson were married December 12, 1826 as reflected in the records of the Probate court in Highland County Ohio. That Samuel and Nancy had 4 children: Lewis L., Cyrus B., David J. and Ben. Franklin Strain (who turned 21 years of age on Sept. 21, 1855).]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$88.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months service as a private in the North Carolina cavalry and 14 months service in the North Carolina infantry, all in the militia service.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁷ relating to Samuel Strain
Audited Account No. 7454

pp 5

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

5/7/24

⁷ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

[p 2]

[No. 59 Book S]

Mr. Samuel Strain his Account of Duty in the Militia as Private done before & since the reduction of Charlestown and for a Horse &c lost in Militia the whole Amounting to

[old South Carolina] Currency £465

Stg. [Sterling] £66.8.6 $\frac{3}{4}$

Ex^d. W.R. [Examined by William Roach⁸ [identity unknown]]

J. M^c. A.G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3]

State So. Carolina Dr. [Debtor] to Samuel Strain

for Duty per Col. Anderson's [Robert Anderson's] Return [not extant] £360
a Horse, Saddle, &c 105

Currency £465

Stg. £66.8.6 $\frac{3}{4}$

June 3rd, 1785, Received full satisfaction for the above in an Indent No. 59, Lib. S

£66.8.6 $\frac{3}{4}$

Saml. Strain



[p 4: Printed form of Indent No. 59 Book S]

[p 5: Reverse of the above Indent bearing, among others, the following endorsement:

I do assign My Whole Right and title of the Within Indent of £66.8.6 $\frac{3}{4}$ Sterling to Genl. Andrew Pickens it being for Value Received as Witness my hand this 21st day of October 1785

Saml. Strain



[Transcribers Note: The following information was found in South Carolina Stub book I-n:

No. 36

Lib: M

Issued the 1st of October 1784 to Mr.
late a private in Lieut. Col. Saml. Hammond's⁹
regiment of State Troops for ninety four Pounds
Sterling being the Ballance of Pay and Bounty due
him for Services done in that regiment Together
with Interest thereon from the first April 1782
to date of Indent: Agreeable to a resolution of the
General Assembly of the Eleventh March last
&c – &c

⁸ See SCAA 5023 p 2

⁹ [Samuel Hammond S21807](#)

Principal	£94.0.0
Interest	6.11.7] ¹⁰

¹⁰ Men who enlisted for ten months beginning in April 1781 in the SC 10-month State Troops of Light Dragoons under Hammond were promised a bounty and wages payable in slaves taken from the Tories. Such ‘pay’ was known as “Sumter’s Wages.” When that horrific form of payment could not be made because too few slaves were confiscated from the Tories, by act dated March 21, 1784, the SC Legislature authorized the payment in pounds Sterling deemed to equal the value of the slaves not delivered (to wit, £94 Sterling for one ‘grown Negro’ and £47 Sterling for one ‘small Negro.’) That act also exonerated Sumter and the troops under his command from liability due to plundering of the estates from which the slaves were taken.