

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Caldwell R1593

f24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/19/11: rev'd 4/7/19

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

State of Tennessee Franklin County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions November Term 1825

On this the 29th day of November 1825 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record for said County Robert Caldwell aged 67 years on the 6th of October next resident in Franklin County Tennessee who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows (to wit) That he enlisted for ten months in the vicinity of General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter] in South Carolina that he enlisted and served under Captain Barnett [Jacob Barnett] in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Hampton [Henry Hampton] in the South Carolina line in the Continental establishment and that he continued to serve in said Company and Regiment until discharged at Orangeburg in South Carolina on the waters of Edisto [River] by Colonel Hampton. That he was in the engagement at the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] with the British in which Major Weatherford¹ was killed. My family consists of myself aged as aforesaid able to do some work but not able to support my family, my wife aged about 47 years a cripple and very infirm not able to support herself we have one little son about 7 years old – That the reason he did not apply before the passing of an act of the first of March 1823 was and is because he has always been able to support his family by his labor until reduced by a violent attack of the Rheumatism in the spring of 1824. He is by occupation a farmer. That he has disposed of none of his property since the year 1818 but for the use of his family and that I have no evidence in my power of my service and discharge but my own oath and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed



Schedule

¹ The MAY be a mistaken attempt to name Major James Rutherford of the Mecklenburg North Carolina Regiment of militia who was killed at Eutaw Springs

one old Horse for which I paid \$20	\$20.00
one cow & calf	10.00
one small bed and furniture	8.00
one oven and two broken pots	2.00
3 pewter plates and 3 knives & forks	1.00
2 axes 3 chisels and one Goque [?]	4.00
one hoe and one pair of drawing chains	<u>2.50</u>
29 th Nov. 1825	\$47.50

S/ E. Russell, Clk

S/ Robert Caldwell

State of Tennessee Lincoln County

On this 23rd day of January 1834 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of said County now sitting, Robert Caldwell a resident of the County & State aforesaid, aged 74 years on the 6th of October last, 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 enlisted in the Army of the United States about the last of May or first of June (he does not now recollect the precise time) in the year 1781 in the Regiment of the South Carolina Dragoons which was commanded at the time he enlisted by Colonel Henry Hampton, but shortly afterward the command was transferred to Colonel Wade Hampton, the company to which applicant belonged was commanded by Captain Jacob Barnet, Lieutenant Baxter [Andrew Baxter] & Ensign Flannigan [James Flanagan]. At the time applicant enlisted he was living in Mecklenburg County North Carolina about three miles from the South Carolina line – he & several others from his neighborhood went down to the Congaree River in South Carolina about one hundred miles from home where he enlisted as above stated. The Regiment to which he belonged was accompanied by two other regiments, one under command of Colonel Middleton [Lt. Col. Charles S. Myddleton] & the other of Colonel Polk [Lt. Col. William Polk], and all under command of General Sumter – sometime after applicant enlisted the troops marched up the Congaree, and were stationed for some time at a place called "Brown's Old Field." They were not engaged in any fighting except some slight skirmishes with the Tories until about the first of September we left our station & marched down to the Eutaw Springs where we joined the Army under General Greene [Nathanael Greene] and gained a complete victory over the British who he thinks were commanded by Colonel Stewart [Lt. Col. Alexander Stewart]. After the Battle at Eutaw Springs we (the troops under command of Sumter) were marched back to the station at Brown's Old Field. After being stationed there about 6 or 8 weeks, about 62 of us were sent down to Orangeburg against some Tories who were said to be in that neighborhood. But when we arrived we found many more of them than we anticipated (being three hundred & fifty) after a slight skirmish with them we succeeded in securing a retreat (they following us about a mile and a half) we lost 3 men killed and 4 or 5 taken prisoners. The Tories I understood were commanded by a Colonel Cunningham [William "Bloody Bill" Cunningham]. After we had remained at Brown's Old Field several weeks (I cannot recollect how long) the troops were marched to Orangeburg where we remained 6 or 8 weeks – the troops were then divided in several parties. I and about 100 others were sent to the Four Holes Bridge & placed under command of a Major Moore – we remained stationed there between 2 & 3 months – the latter part of the time I think we were under command of Major Bluford who had taken the place of more – we were then marched back to Orangeburg and the time for which I had enlisted (which

was 10 months) having expired I was discharged about the last of March or first of April 1782. I received a written discharge from Colonel Wade Hampton which was shortly afterwards destroyed by the house where I was living being burnt.

I have no documentary evidence nor do I know of any person whose testimony I can procure to my services (except my brother who about 12 months ago lived in Franklin County Tennessee & 2 if he is still living knows of the fact of my enlisting and being absent from home for the term of 10 months but not having heard from him and 12 months & he being extremely old I cannot tell whether he the alive or not & I am entirely too infirm to go to ascertain the fact).

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court.

S/ F. L. Kincannon, Clerk

S/ Robert Caldwell, R his mark

State of Tennessee Lincoln County: This day William Colwell personally came before me John Enochs an acting justice of the peace in and for said County & after being duly sworn Deposeth and saith that he is personally acquainted with Robert Caldwell aged 74 years and that he knows of his own knowledge that said Robert Caldwell enlisted & served in the Revolutionary war in the year 1780 under the command of Captain Davis & served 3 months in the State of North Carolina in Mecklenburg County and was discharged and he William Caldwell further states from his own knowledge that Robert Caldwell in the year 1781 enlisted for 10 months in the State of South Carolina under the command of Captain Jacob Barnett and was in the battle of the Eutaw Springs and then was discharged.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of June 1835

S/ William Caldwell, X his mark

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to Robert Caldwell (Colwell)
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 991A

AA3

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/7/19

[Note: this file contains several documents but the images of them are of such poor quality that they cannot be completely transcribed. One of the documents appears to be an assignment by Robert Caldwell of his right to a Negro as his wages for serving in the South Carolina State Troops commanded by Thomas Sumter. Sumter recruited men from North and South Carolina to serve in the South Carolina State Troops for 10 months during 1781 promising to pay them with "Sumter's Wages" being Negro slaves confiscated from the Tories. The assignment appears to have been from the veteran to James McElroy and dated August 17, 1782. If anyone has transcripts of these documents which they are willing to share with us, I will post them in our database. Will Graves]

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) 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.