

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McClure (McCluer) S18112

f50SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

1/17/09: rev'd 9/12/16 & 1/28/24

[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.]

State of South Carolina Spartanburg District: To wit--

On this 28th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and Sessions, for the District aforesaid now sitting, John McClure a resident of Spartanburg District, aged Seventy-two 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 7 of June 1832. -- that he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. -- "I entered the Service of the United States about the first of July 1775 when the Indians first broke out, and was stationed for some time at Gowen's Fort, and continued at Gowen, and afterwards at Earle's Fort, under Capt. Parsons [Thomas Parsons], or Gowen [John Gowen], (I have forgotten which) and continued in this service and in the scouting service -- and took a tour under Col. Brandon [Thomas Brandon] down on Saluda [River] against the Tories -- I then joined Capt. Parsons on an expedition to the Nation and served about a month or more, against the Indians. -- After my return and the breaking up of Earle's Fort -- I went under command of Col. Thomas to the Catawba [River] to reinforce General Sumter [sic, Thomas Sumter], after his defeat,¹ and remained with him some time -- when we were discharged by him, to return and obtain clothes and fresh horses, in order to oppose Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson], the Tory Col. [sic, Patrick Ferguson was a Major in the regular British Army, not a Tory or Loyalist], and continued to scour the Country after the Indians & Tories for a considerable time, and until we were ordered by Capt. Parson under Col. Roebuck [Benjamin Roebuck], to Mudlick Fort,² where Col. Roebuck was taken Prisoner -- after my return from this Tour I continued in constant service, some time as an Indian Spy on the lines, sometimes after the Tories, and outliers, until the final expiration of hostility, having served at broken the periods from the commencement to the end of the war -- I cannot recollect the dates, and have no documentary evidence of my services -- And my officers and my companions in service are all dead or removed. -- I do hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declare my name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State. --

¹ Sumter's defeat is also known as the Battle of Fishing Creek. It occurred on August 18, 1780.

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/fishingcreek.htm> &

http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fishing_creek.html

² This engagement is known by the names of Roebuck's Defeat and the Battle of Williams Fort. The engagement is believed to have occurred at the fort (or blockhouse) constructed by Col. James Williams on his plantation on the line between present day Laurens and Newberry Counties, SC. The engagement occurred on March 2, 1781.

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ftwms.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_mudlick_creek.html

In answer to the Interrogatories put by the Court I answer

1st & 2nd I was born in Ireland -- but have no record, and do not know the precise date.

3rd I lived in Spartanburg when I went into the service and have resided here ever since the War.

4th I always served as a Volunteer.

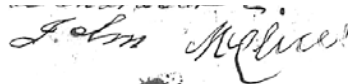
5th I cannot recollect any General Officer with whom I served except General Sumter

6th I never received any written discharges --

7th I refer to the Rev. Benjamin Hix and to Jesse Cleveland and Edmund Clemons to prove my moral character.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John McClure



[p 37: Berryman Hicks, a clergyman, and Edmund Clement and Jesse Cleveland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of South Carolina Spartanburg District

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a justice of the Peace in and for said District, John McClure, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age, severe afflictions 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 not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades -- for one year and six months I served as a private under Capt. Gowen, for three months I served as a private under Capt. Parsons -- for two weeks I served as a private under Capt. Benjamin Roebuck & Col. Brandon -- For three weeks I served as a private under Col. Thomas & after Col. Thomas left us; I served as a private in General Sumter's Camp for one month and two weeks -- but I cannot recollect who had the command of our company we were in the Camps with General Sumter -- After I left General Sumter's Brigade I served for two weeks under Capt. Parsons & Col. Roebuck at Mudlick Fort -- For one week I served as a private under Capt. Roebuck before he was a Col. in pursuit of the Enemy on the Golden Grove -- For one week I served as a private under Capt. Parsons in pursuit of the Indians. This deponent saith that he cannot recollect the different small Tours, which took place during a service of 6 or 7 years, but he is well assured that he was in actual service with Capt. Gowen at the least one year & 6 months -- that he served under Capt. Parsons at least one year and three months -- that he served under Capt. B. Roebuck at the least five months. This deponent further saith that from the time he first went into the Service of his Country in the month of July 1775 until the cessation of hostilities in 1783, he was not employed in any civil pursuit, That when he was not in actual service, he had to stand & guard at the forts, while those unable to do military duty, cultivated the soil, to make their bread.

This deponent further saith that the cause of his delay in prosecuting his claim to a pension was owing to his being old & infirm, & residing at a considerable distance from the village -- That his papers were returned during the life of the former clerk of the Court, That after Mr. Bomar's death his agents were unable to find the papers until recently.

This deponent saith, that for the services above set forth he claims a pension.

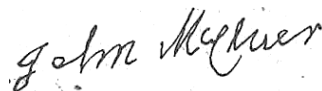
This deponent after reflecting upon the subject recollects a Tour of at least two weeks he served under Capt. B. Roebuck, when he (Roebuck) went to the relief of Col. Thomas whom the

Tories had besieged [at] his dwelling house.

Sworn to & subscribed before made this 15th September 1836

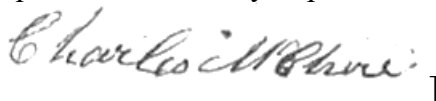
S/ H. J. Dean, JP

S/ John McCluer



[p 5: On July 30, 1856, Judge Reuben Bowden of Spartanburg District found that John McClure, a pensioner of the US for his services in the Revolution at the rate of \$80/annum, died in Spartanburg District December 30, 1840, survived by only two of his children, to wit: Charles McClure and Margaret White.]

[p 6: Power of attorney dated September 30, 1855 signed by Charles McClure in which she empowers his attorney to pursue the claim of his father, John McClure, for a pension.

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[Veteran was pension at the rate initially of \$80 per annum increased to \$100 per annum for service as a private in the South Carolina cavalry.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts³ relating to John McCluer
Audited Account No. 4939

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1/28/24

[p 11]

[No. 407 Book Z]

John McCluer for 474 days Militia Duty in 1780 & 1781

Amount £67.14.3 ¼ Stg. [Sterling]

N:B: the Signing [by] Major Parsons's Capt is counterfeit

Ex^d. W. G. [Examined by William Galvan]

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

he never did the above [undeciphered word] ED

[p 12]

State of South Carolina to John McCluer

Debtor

To 473 Days Service on horseback in Captain

Persons [sic, Major Parsons's] Company Col. Thomas's [John

Thomas's] Regiment Commencing July the 25th Day 1780

and ending November the 10th 1781 Both Days Inclusive

at 20/[20 shillings old South Carolina currency] per day Currency £473.00.00

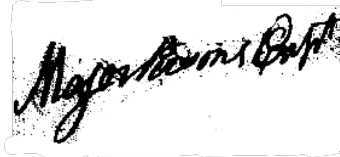
³ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian 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.

£67.14.3 ¼ Sterling

Ninety Six District} Before me William Wood Esquire personally appeared John McCluer who
Being Duly Sworn Saith the Above Account as it stands Stated is Just and True as above
Specified. Sworn to before me this 26th of July 1784
William Wood, JP John McCluer, X his mark

I do Certify that John McCluer Did the Above Duty in my Company in Col. Thomas's Regiment
on the time Above Specified and that his Account is Just and True. Certified this __ day of July
26 – 1784

Major Parsons Capt



[p 14]

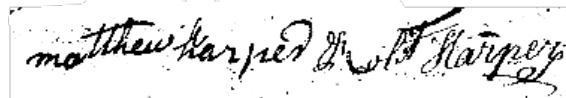
The State of South Carolina to John McClure
To a Mare lost in an expedition against the
Cherokee Indians in the year 1781, appraised to

Dr.

£15.0.0

We Matthew Harper & Robert Harper [being first Sworn) have viewed the aforesaid Mare & do
value her as above to 15 pounds
Witness our hands the 15th of June 1784

Matthew Harper Robert Harper



State So. Carolina

Sworn & subscribed before me the 15th of June 1784

Ninety Six District} Sgt. Personally came before me John McCluer and made Oath as the law
directs, that the Mare above Mentioned was his property, and lost in the service as aforesaid, in
the Cherokee Nation – that he hath never received her since or received any satisfaction therefore
Baylis Earle, JP John McCluer



I do Hereby certify that the above named John McClure was a private Soldier in the expedition
aforesaid, under my Command and lost his beast in the Nation as above Mentioned, witness my
hand this 15th day of June 1784

Meager parsons Capt

