

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Garrard (Garrett) S32263

f136SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/14/08 rev'd 7/27/15

[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.]

[Transcriber's note: This file is extremely lengthy, primarily because of the voluminous correspondence and affidavits for and against the proposition that the applicant was a Tory during the war. I have transcribed more than I normally would simply to give a flavor of the kind of vituperative nature of such undertakings. Anyone interested in this applicant should read this application in full.]

[p 3]

State of Illinois, Crawford County: Commissioners Court December Term 1832

On this 4th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Crawford County Commissioners Court now sitting William Garrard Senior – a resident of Crawford County & State of Illinois aged seventy-two years the first day of January 1833 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 sometime in May 1779 South Carolina Chester County he volunteered and performed a tour of duty under Captain Anderson Thomas – marched through Wynnsborough [sic, Winnsborough] towards Santee [River]. There by order of Captain Thomas returned back – making a tour of three months – in the year 1780 he was called a second time by Captain A. Thomas for the term of three months & served about forty days & then ordered to return – after which I served a similar tour under the same Captain & of the same year – rendezvoused at Hampton's quarter marched thence to Col. John Wayne's on Little River – thence through Waynesborough down towards the Congree [sic, Congaree] River, and there taken sick & left with Captain A. Thomas' Sister a considerable time – when recovered I could not hear of Captain Thomas & went down & joined Captain Thomas Parrot [Thomas Parrott] Stationed there a considerable time by consent of Captain Parrot returned home about the first of August 1780. In the year 1781 I was called out under Lieutenant West Donald in April marched through Granby. Stationed at Col. Anckrums [sic, Ancrum's] on the Congaree River for some time then joined Colonel Middleton's [Charles Myddleton's] Regiment – then cross the Congaree River & marched down the Congaree Creek, thence down & across Beaver Creek, thence towards the Hutaw [sic, Eutaw] Springs, thence back to Ancrum's stationed there some time – thence on my return home attached myself to the company under Lieutenant James Sim's thence marched for Broad River to a place called Dutch fork & stationed some time at Colonel Adam Summers [sic, Summer's?] thence returned home in August in the year 1782 was called upon by Captain Amos Davis Early in the Spring – marched to Orangeburg EddyStow [sic, Edisto] River thence towards Dodgester [sic, Dorchester] thence across four holes [the Four Holes] thence to Santee River – at which place I was stationed under Captain record from thence I returned home about the first of July. He has no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services save the one

I have the affidavit of Absalom Humphries¹ who is the only person by whom I can prove any of the above described services.

1. I was born in Virginia Stafford County January 1st A.D. 1760
2. I have no record of my age
3. I lived in Chester County South Carolina when called into service – since which I have lived in South Carolina for about 20 years then moved to Georgia & lived there about 10 months – then moved to Kentucky, lived there about 4 years then moved to Illinois where I now live
4. He volunteered
5. Major Pearson, Colonel Middleton the latter belonged to the United States Service.
6. He received no written discharge
7. Thomas Kenneday [sic] a Clergyman & Jesse Higgins all persons in my neighborhood, & who can testify to my veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

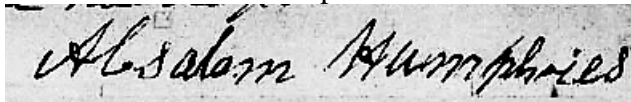
S/ William Garrard, X his mark

[Thomas Kennedy, a clergyman and Jesse Higgins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 103]

The deposition of Absalom Humphries Senior taken at the office of P. C. Frazer in the town of Cadiz, Trigg County and State of Kentucky on the 30th day of October 1832 for the purpose of establishing and proving by said Humphries a resident of the County and state aforesaid that William Garrard, resident of the County of Crawford and State of Illinois was a volunteer soldier in the revolutionary war. The deponent being of lawful age and first duly sworn deposes and saith; that he became acquainted with William Garrard in the year 1779 and saw said Garrard several times in the service of the Army of the United States in the year 1780 and 1781 under Captain Anderson Thomas and Lieutenant West Donald in the State of South Carolina. The principal commanding officers in the said Army were Major Pearson and others. And further the deponent sayeth not.

S/ Absalom Humphries

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Absalom Humphries". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper background.

[p 109]

State of Illinois Crawford County: Sct.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid, William Garrard, who being duly sworn, deposes & saith, 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 not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades viz.

Three months as a private under Captain A. Thomas in the year 1779

Four months and a half as a private under same captain in the year 1780.

Three months as a private under Lieutenant Donald in the year 1781.

Three months as a private under Captain A. Davis in the year 1782, and for such service I claim a pension.

Given under my hand and seal this 7th day of December A.D. 1833

S/ William Wilson, JP

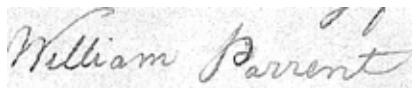
[p 11]

1 [Absalom Humphries W2942](#)

I hereby certify that I have been intimately acquainted with William Garrard Sr. for a number of years, and worked for his son who lives with him and has often heard him express himself with regard to Whig and Tory in the revolutionary war, and always took the Tory side of the question, and boasted of the British government, And one day at Mr. Jesse Donnell's up and told that the Whigs took him prisoner and tied him on a young filly and turned her loose and she ran under a stooping tree, where he thought he should be killed, and exclaimed in these words "Maybe I didn't [?] See Sights" And I further testify that I have heard not only the neighbors and that many of them, but his own connection said repeatedly, that he was a Tory in the old war, And never heard the first-person say the [sic, they] believed him a Whig and when it was rumored that he was about to apply for a pension it created a general talk among they [sic, the] people, And numbers would frequently say if old Garrard can get a pension any old man may do the same.

Given under my hand this the 27th day of February 1835.

S/ William Parrent



State of Illinois, Crawford County, Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of February 1835.
S/ William Wilson, JP

[p 13]

State of Illinois, Johnson County

This day personally appeared Hezekiah West² before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in & for said County & he being solemnly sworn in due form of law Deposeth & saith that he was personally acquainted with William Garrard Senior in South Carolina in Chester County in the year 1782 – to the best of his Recollection & for several years afterwards -- & that the said William Garrard Senior (now a Citizen of Crawford County in the State of Illinois) was a Citizen of South Carolina & Lived in the Bounds of the same Colonel's Regiment with this Deponent and the time of the Revolutionary War & in the Bounds of Captain Anderson Thomas's Company – and this Deponent thinks & Believes to the best of his recollection and that the said William Garrard Senior was a soldier in the service of the United States Army in the Revolution & served one tour in said Regiment viz Winn's Regiment at the same time & place with this Deponent – a part of which tour was under the command of Captain McCord and Captain Frost together on Santee River at a place called Laurences [sic, Lawrence's or Laurens'?] ferry as this Deponent now Believes but is not certain as to the name of said ferry – as it is said by some to be Gillard's ferry – but this Deponent saith that Let the name of the said ferry be what it may – that is the same place where the said Garrard served in the United States Army with this Deponent & at the same time & under the same officers viz. McCord & Frost this he firmly & steadfastly Believes because of several circumstances name to him by said Garrard one is of this Deponent saving one of General Greens [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Regulars from Drowning in Santee at said ferry – another is that his catching a young alligator – another of the escape of a certain prisoner from our custody while at Santee -- & some other Circumstances that Confirms this deponent steadfastly in the Believe that the said Garrard was there at that time & did serve that tour and further this Deponent believes this was in the year 1782 But is not positive as to the Date -- & moreover this Deponent saith that he was neighbor to said William Garrard for some years in Christian County in the State of Kentucky about the year 1809 & 1810 -- & that he the said Garrard supported a good character both in South Carolina & in Kentucky – and also that he was a friend to his Country in the Revolution & has continued so to remain -- & further this Deponent saith that the said William Garrard Senior Citizen of Crawford County (as the said Garrard states) is the same identical person that this Deponent

2 [Hezekiah West S34519](#)

was acquainted with him South Carolina in time of the Revolution & in Kentucky as before mentioned – the said Garrard being now present with this Deponent in Johnson County.

S/ Hezekiah West—Deponent

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hezekiah West - Deponent". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[Attested by John Oliver, JP]

[p 21]

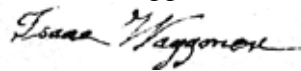
State of Illinois, Shelby County

This day appeared before me an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County Isaac Waggoner ³Senior and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that he was intimately acquainted with William Garrard Senior of Chester County South Carolina this deponent deposed & saith that William Garrard Senior did Serve in the United States Army with this deponent in the year 1780 under the command of Captain Anderson Thomas and Major Person and Colonel Richard Winn commenced service at Hampton's Quarters under the above named officers on Broad River thence marched to Howell's ferry on Congaree River and there served out his tour and then served another tour under Lieutenant West Donnel in the year 1781 at Ancrum's ferry on Congaree River then served another tour under the command of Captain McCord and Captain Frost at Lawrence's ferry on Santee River called by some Gillards ferry let the name of this ferry be what it may be it is the identical place where William Garrard Senior did service with this deponent in the year 1782 William Garrard Senior of Crawford County State of Illinois is with this deponent in Shelby County State of Illinois I do certify that this is the identical Same William Garrard Senior that did serve with this deponent under the above named officers I do certify that Isaac Waggoner Senior is a credible witness and stands fair in Society both of Church and State.

Sworn to and Subscribed to before me given under my hand and seal this 7th of October 1837.

S/ John Douthit, JP

S/ Isaac Waggoner

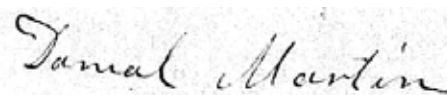
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isaac Waggoner". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 26]

State of Illinois, Crawford County December 4th 1834

Being called on to testify with regard to William Garrard, Senior's revolutionary Services: I testify from his own confession to be his [word obliterated] to me was that if we were under [the] British government that we would see better times; that we would have better laws, our taxes would be lighter and that our lands would be cheaper and whenever the British would gain any advantage over the Americans, it would animate his feelings and that he always supported the British government. I do certify this to be the fact from between 20 and 30 years of acquaintance.

S/ Danial Martin

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Danial Martin". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 27]

State of Illinois, Johnson County

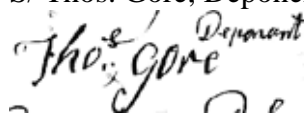
This day personally came Thomas Gore⁴ of Union County & State aforesaid – and he being solemnly Sworn in due form of law before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in & forced

³ [Isaac Waggoner S32578](#)

⁴ This MAY be the same man as [Thomas Gore S38746](#).

Johnson County & State aforesaid – Deposeth & saith that he was personally acquainted with William Garrard Senior in Chester County in South Carolina for the term of about 20 years from about the close of the Revolutionary war for the term aforesaid and that the said William Garrard was under a good character during the said term of 20 years or thereabouts immediately after the close of the Revolution as aforesaid and also that this Deponent was acquainted with said Garrard in Christian County in Kentucky & that he the said Garrard was of good character in Kentucky During this Deponent's acquaintance with him there which was about 3 years viz. the year 1807 & 1808 & 1809 to the best of this Deponent Recollection -- & further this Deponent saith that he has no Recollection of Ever hearing of said Garrard ever being accused of being a Tory in time of the Revolution During the time of his acquaintance with said Garrard neither in South Carolina or Kentucky & that the said William Garrard Senior now a citizen of Crawford County & State aforesaid being male personally present (at the taking of this Deposition) is the same identical person & William Garrard that this Deponent knew in South Carolina & in Kentucky & that so far as this Deponent never heard from general Report this Deponent believes that the said Garrard did serve in the United States Army in the Revolutionary War.

S/ Thos. Gore, Deponent

Handwritten signature of Thos. Gore, Deponent. The signature is written in cursive and includes the word "Deponent" written above the name.

I hereby certify that the above named Deponent was Duly and solemnly sworn to the above Deposition on the 6th day of October 1834 -- & also that I considered this Deponent to be a credible witness having been personally acquainted with him for the term of about 50 years or more. Given under my hand & seal this 6th of October 1834

S/ Hezekiah West, JP

[p 29, Jarret Young of Knox County, Indiana gave an affidavit dated September 12, 1834, to the effect that he knew Garrard in Chester District South Carolina and never knew it to have been doubted that Garrard served as a soldier of the revolution and was a true friend of his country during the revolution.]

[p 30, George Baith and Thomas Baith gave an affidavit dated May 27, 1835 as follows: “We do hereby certify that we heard William Garrard Senior tell our Father that the Whigs caught him and tied him on a young Filly and turned her loose, and she ran under a stooping tree, but did not go close enough to kill him, and then she ran through some brush, and grapevines, “and the way he got to dodge was nothing to nobody.” This he has undertaken to deny since he has undertook to get a pension, But need not deny it for he actually did tell it in our hearing. And not only so that he has ever since we first knew him, when called or classed with the Tories, which has been nearly 20 years”]

[p 31, appears to be a letter dated May 27, 1835, from Benjamin Beckwith in his own handwriting in which he appears to be confirming his belief that Garrard (which he spells Garit throughout along with other imaginative spelling) was a Tory during the revolution.]

[p 35-36 affidavit of Nathan Jaggors ow White County, Illinois, formerly of Chester SC in support of Garrard's character and reputation in Chester.]

[p 38-40]

Palestine Illinois March 28th, 1835

My dear Sir,

You will please to excuse me for troubling you again, Duty is what compels me, I sent you some documents bearing date the 2nd of the present instant, Bad health and cold weather had prevented

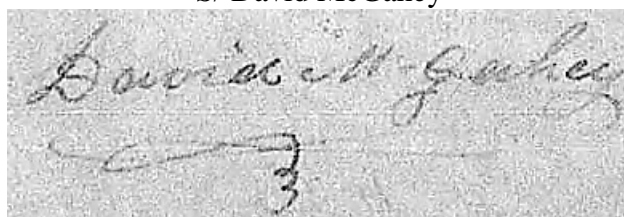
me from having them as full as I otherwise should, I have since made some inquiries, then find that several of those who signed Garrard's paper were deceived as several of them cannot read writing, and our most respectable citizens refused to put their names to it, assigning as a reason that they had never considered me a man who would depart from the truth, and that public report said that he (Garrard) was always said to be a Tory not only in the revolution but down to the present time. Take notice this was in my absence or while I was at Vandalia, but since I have returned home the [they?] durst not chirp or open their mouths to me on the subject, the plain reason is they know I can prove what I have stated and more on the back of it. He (Garrard) said in a harvest field a few years back that he would burn his hat any time to be under British government and Several has told me the [they?] asked him how long, when and where, and who he served under, and never could obtain any satisfaction, all he would say was the stood ready to serve, But one thing I had from his own mouth that he ran off to North Carolina where his Mother lived, and as he was returning home near to Hillsborough he unexpectedly met a number of the American light Horse which gave him great alarm but he turned out of the road and they passed him by, now a Whig need not have been alarmed at meeting Whigs. an honorable and high-minded man don't wish to stoop to little things, But I hope you will excuse me for doing it now, Garrard as I have understood has sent on a certificate of his good character, there are few men but may have some good traits in their character, and may have done some good acts in their lives, But I can assure you Garrard is not very conspicuous in that way. He kept a little tan yard, for several years and I never heard as much complaint on any man in my life for little mean turns about leather as were alleged against him, I will give one sample, Captain Hatfield one of our most respectable citizens gave him a hide to tan on the halves, I happened at Hatfields one day after he had gotten his side of leather, he was much displeased and said Garrard had cheated him, and that it was not the only time he had taken the advantage of him. He Hatfield brings his side to show me how Garrard had split it and as well as I could guess it was about the width of a common [indecipherable word, looks like "backhand"] too small, Again he has been a member of the Methodist Church and was turned out for bad conduct, His true character as far as I have had an opportunity of Judging (which has been good) He is a poor, pernicious, groping torified man, and I am fully convinced has no right to a pension. When I wrote to you first I was told old Mr. Jesse Higgans had certified for him under oath which made me mention the connection certifying for one another Higgans' son told me a few days ago his Father did not certify for Garrard and likewise said he told Garrard himself he ought to go to the King of England for a pension. And that he was satisfied Garrard had no right to a pension, Some such as Boatright and Lagow may have written on to you favorably for Garrard, but not a man here offers to say he believes he was a Whig or ever served his country as a soldier. The truth (as far as can be ascertained from himself and others) that he (Garrard) was a Tory but too great a coward to fight for any side, but privately did all he could for the British and Tories.

I could procure a score of affidavits to confirm what I have written to you, I could get certificates respecting Lagow and Boatright that would convince any man that their characters are not the fairest in the world by a long ways,

But I don't wish to let myself down to such men, and to be a paying money to the Magistrate for swearing witnesses and certifying officially, I wish you to consider this as officially from me as if I had under oath As I feel myself as accountable to my Judge as if sworn to fifty times.

I am yours with the utmost respect.

S/ David McGahey

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David McGahey". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured paper. Below the main signature, there is a smaller, less distinct mark that appears to be the number "3".

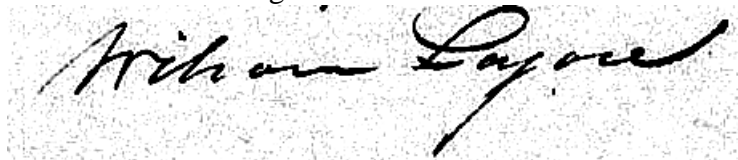
[To] Mr. J. L. Edwards
Commr. of Pensions

N. B. It has been thought and said by some here that Garrard's testimony that he would have been getting from a distance has [been] from some of his old Tory friends. Be that as it may, he has had very little done in open court here, And such a thing was never mentioned in court in my presence. Notwithstanding I was frequently called on to assist old men to get their pensions. S/ D. M.G.

[pp 68-69]
Palestine 11th May 1835

Dear Sir I write to you for an old Revolutionary Soldier William Garrard who has made sundry applications for a pension and who has done everything according to the law that any man could do I have no doubt but his certificate is as well authenticated as any applicant that has made application to your office he has done everything that you directed in your letter last winter to my son Alfred G. Lagow and fearing that some misstatement has been made to you by the same source that was through David McGahey induces me to write at this time to you there were sundry letters wrote to John M. Robinson our Senator and also to General Casey the representative from this District and neither of them has ever wrote one word about it to any person who wrote to them on the subject, and we have thought strange concerning their conduct McGahey was in the Senate of the state and would have his vote in making a Senator – and as he was the opponent of William Garrard because he did not vote for him is the only reason that he did make such Base charges against him: he is out of the Senate and will be as long as he lives he was Elected by a party that Elected him merely for local purposes he in truth is making statements contrary to what he wrote you and was it not that Justice require some aid to procure to the man who well deserves the rewards Granted to the veterans who fought for our liberty I would not trouble you with this line you will please to let me hear from you on this subject as early as possible I shall also write to Hon'r Secretary of war on the subject if it becomes necessary I think it a hard case that when hundreds of drawing the reward of their merit that this man who done Equal service to his Country and who is in his 75th year could not get the pittance which is his Just Due your Early attention to this letter will be thankfully received by your humble Servant

S/ Wilson Lagow

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wilson Lagow". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured paper.

Hon'r L. J. Edwards. P. At.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 1/3 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the South Carolina militia.]