Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph McCormick (McCormack) S32405 f30GA(NC)
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/27/09: rev'd 9/28/17

[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.]

[p 8] State of Tennessee McMinn County

On this 18th day of October 1825 personally appeared in open Court to wit the Circuit Court of the County of McMinn aforesaid the same being a court of Record for the County aforesaid Joseph McCormick a resident Citizen of said County aged 82 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820 that he the said Joseph McCormick entered for the term of 12 months on the day of September or October in the year 1780 in the State [of] Georgia in the company commanded by Capt. Joseph Stallions in the Regiment commanded by Col. James Jackson in the line of the State of Georgia for the new Continental establishment that he continued to serve in the said Corps until July or August 1782 at the evacuation of Savannah when he was discharged from the service in Savannah in the State of Georgia, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present that his name is not on the Rolls of any State except Georgia and that the following are his reasons for not making earlier application for a pension that he was never until this time in a condition to need the assistance of his country for although he has always had very little property he has hitherto so managed it as to be independent. But age and a wound received by a ball through the socket of his left hip at the first siege of Augusta in Georgia while in the Militia service of the State under General Elijah Clarke and two other wounds received at the second siege of Augusta through the calf of his leg, and thigh have at last so disabled him that he is no longer in a situation to live without the benefit of the walls made for the Army and Navy of the Revolution and in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820, 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, nor any property real or personal except necessary clothing -- that my occupation is farming -- that I am totally unable from my age, wounds and infirmities to

¹ Siege of Augusta (first/Clarke) [September 12-18, 1780] http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/

pursue it -- that I reside with my son Benjamin McCormick who has a wife and 2 infant children and who is barely able to support himself and family his property not being worth upwards of \$100 and is encumbered with the support of a younger brother my son Joseph McCormick who is a cripple occasioned by white swelling, incapable of supporting himself that since the 18th day of March no changes have been made in my property except by expenditure thereof for my actual subsistence and to purchase the absolute indispensable necessities of life.

S/ Joseph McCormick Sworn to and declared on the 18th day of October 1825 and Open Court

S/ Samuel M. Gantt, Clerk

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State of Tennessee Marion County SS

On this 11th day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable Circuit Court of Marion County now sitting, Joseph McCormack, a resident in the County and State aforesaid, aged 87 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.

He entered the service as a volunteer in the Militia of the State of Georgia in the fall of the year 1774, and as well as he recollects, in Rutherford County [North Carolina], where he then resided with his father, under the command of Col. Benjamin Few, Capt. James Bowen or Boyer -- lieutenants and ensigns not recollected: the Regiment to which declarant belonged was rendezvoused at a place called Wrightsborough, from which place the troops were marched for Savannah, and on their way at Burke Court House, they were met by a detachment of British troops and Tories, commanded by Col. Brown known among our men by the name of Burnt-Foot Brown [Thomas Brown], who was a Tory, and who had been dubbed with the foregoing name, from having had his feet burnt by the Whigs, on an occasion of raising a Liberty pole in Augusta by the Whigs, Brown declaring for the King. Our troops on this occasion were commanded by General John Twiggs. The enemy surrounded us a short time before daylight, when the engagement commenced and lasted about an hour, when we routed the enemy and kept the field. From thence we were marched to Savannah which place was in possession of the enemy, and the siege commenced.² The enemy was too strong for us and commenced driving us back, gradually until they got possession of Augusta, which took place about 2 years after we entered the service as above stated -- Declarant next entered the service under General Elijah Clarke who made a call upon the Whigs of the State to collected to the number of about 500 officers and all. Declarant's company was commanded by Capt. Richard Hord other officers not recollected. Clarke commanded them made a push to join the American forces in North Carolina and a part of our men were in the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]. From Kings mountain the company to which declarant belonged marched to Nolichucky River, in what is now East Tennessee where we remained 3 or 4 weeks. From thence our forces marched for Georgia, through North & South Carolina; In South Carolina at a place afterwards known by the name of Hog Skin's Mill [sic,

² Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/

Hogskin Mill] we had an engagement³ with a party of the British under Major Dunlap [James Dunlap]: we beat them and took about 300 prisoners of British and Tories one of whom was Major Dunlap & some other officers.

We then marched with our prisoners for North Carolina, where we delivered them to the American forces. From thence we marched to Georgia. Our men were divided into several divisions and marched by different routes for the purpose of taking & dispersing the Tories. We were to rendezvous at Wrightsborough where on arriving we found a number of Tories embodied of whom we killed sixteen. From thence we marched to the second siege of Augusta.⁴ After a siege of about seven months we took the town. - A few months after this a company of State Dragoons were enlisted for one year under the command of Colonel James Jackson - Captain James Stallions. We were marched to the second siege of Savannah, where we remained fourteen months when the town was evacuated by the British and we took possession. Peace was then made and declarant received a written discharge from Colonel James Jackson. This was the only written discharge I ever received in which I lost about the year afterwards, together with my pocketbook &c. – Declarant recollects no regular officers' names, with whom he served – he believes there were none attached to the regiments in which he served except General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] who arrived at Savannah a short time before the evacuation. – Declarant has no documentary evidence, and he does not know of any person now living by whom he can prove the services he performed. – Declarant received two slight wounds at the first siege of Augusta and at the second siege a severe wound through the hip.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State, except that of the agency of the State of Tennessee (East Tennessee) which application was rejected as declarant was informed because the act of 1818 did [not] embrace his case.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/Wm Standifer, Clerk

S/ Joseph McCormick

[Isaac H. Roberts, a clergyman, and George W. Roy gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[In December 1835, the veteran was living in Jackson County Alabama having moved from Tennessee to reside with his son Joseph R. McCormick.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$90 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina and Georgia militia for one year in the cavalry and for one year in the Infantry.]

³ Beattie's Mill, March 23, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_beatties_mill.html Dunlap was murdered while a POW in Gilbert Town following his capture at Beattie's Mill.

⁴ Siege of Augusta (second/Clarke) [May 22-June 6, 1781] http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/