

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to John Duncan, Sr. SC2499
Audited Account No. 2078

pp18

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/9/20

[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 14]

To the Honorable, the Speaker & others, Members of the House of Representatives, of the State of South Carolina

The respectful Memorial of John Duncan, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Fairfield District, Senior, Sheweth unto your honorable body: that your petitioner is about eighty years of age; & in consequence of his great advancement in years & his accumulated infirmities, is barely able to support himself, with the Partner & companion of his better days, the mother of nine Sons (all of whom have performed much arduous military duty, & some of whom in the toils & perils of war have distinguished themselves;) equally old, infirm & helpless with himself, & who too hath born during our protracted revolutionary struggles & difficulties, the burden & heat "of the day, of that eventful period which tried men's souls,["] and proved equally calamitous to every age & sex, the friends & defenders of the liberties & rights of this devoted Country. Under these circumstances he is induced to beg some assistance for the convenience & comforts of Life, so particularly desirable to old age. In the year 1774, your Memorialist served as volunteer, under Colonel Henry [presumably Patrick Henry], at Williamsburg, Virginia. Thence to Long Island, enlisted at that place, thence to New York under the command of Captain Thomas, where he served two years in the regular service.

After that for six months he acted as a Substitute; & was present at the capture of Burgoyne [Bemis Heights/Saratoga, October 7-17, 1777], red banks [Red Bank, October 22, 1777], in Pennsylvania, under Major Thomas Martin, afterwards General Martin.

The Troops marched to Charlottesville in Virginia; after a short interval from service, your Petitioner entered the Militia & served under Captain Dick Knappe Taylor [Richard Taylor], being then acting Commandant in Virginia. After that he was drafted for eighteen months (being one of what were called the Eighteen Months Men) – thence he went a volunteer to Little York, under the command of Colonel Daniel Gaines, of Amherst County, Virginia.

• But your Memorialist, in recounting his complicated sufferings, toils & dangers, a detail of which is not attempted; & the development to "actual view" even of a small part, would sink

¹ 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 "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number. 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.

with deeper weight, on your patriotic & sympathizing breasts, than any possible combination of language could do; begs further to state that he personally served under the immediate command of the immortal Washington [George Washington], at the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777]; that he for the first time saw the intrepid & philanthropic Fayette [Marquis de La Fayette], at that memorable spot; that he there too was wounded, where many others Shared a Similar fate: – & that finally his Service expired at the Surrender of Corn Wallis [Cornwallis, Yorktown, October 19, 1781].

Worn out by old age, emaciated by hardships and afflictions, your petitioner doth hereby appeal for relief & assistance, to a generous, enlightened & discriminating Public; & if they are duly sensible to his Services, as he is compelled to believe they are; and can appreciate the magnitude of his sacrifices & suffering; to them he cheerfully submits his case, & will as cheerfully received from your honorable Body, whatever it may in the exercise of their wisdom, humanity & munificence may deem proper & expedient to contribute. & To your Honorable Body, your petitioner will ever trust & pray &c &c

John Duncan

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December 8, 1826

Report of the Committee on pensions on the petition of John Duncan.

Against

Not to Senate

Tomorrow

[p 18]

The Committee on pensions to whom was referred the petition of John Duncan praying for a pension.

Respectfully Report,

That they have considered the same and recommend to this house that the prayer of the petitioner be not granted. December 1826

S/ John McComb, Chairman