

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Tully Choice W3774                      Rebecca Choice                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 10 Nov 2012.

Georgia                      }  
Hancock County        }

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 1833. personally appeared in open court before Joel Crawford, Gideon Holsey & James B. Ransone Esquires, sitting as the Inferior Court of said County & State now sitting Tully Choice a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged seventy nine 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 7, 1832. that he entered the service of the United States in what was called the minute service of the Virginia Militia, to the best of his recollection about the month of April 1776. in the company of Captain Thomas Dillard, & in a battalion commanded by Major Glenn all under the command of Col. Charles Lewis. That we were marched from the County of Pittsylvania in which he entered the service then to Williamsburg & York Town to James Town & then to Gynn's [sic: Gwynn] Island. After the expedition to that Island was over, we marched out to the West against the Cherokee Indians and returned home and left the service for a few days before Christmas, having been in the service about eight months.

That he again entered the service of the United States in a detachment of Virginia Militia about the first day of April 1779 and remained in service until some time in the month of August making something more than four months. that the troops to which he belonged were within that period engaged in the battle of Stono [sic: Stono Ferry SC] but owing to sickness he was not present in the battle. He again entered the service of the United States in about the middle of June 1780 in another detachment of Virginia Militia in Col. Falkner's [sic: Ralph Faulkner's] Regiment composing part of Gen'l. [Edward] Stevens's Brigade. That he remained in the service until the month of November making an aggregate of about five months. That he was in the battle of Camden commonly known as [Horatio] Gates's defeat [16 Aug 1780], & received a ball through his coat, but was not injured by it. That in the minute service above mentioned Haynes Morgan was the Lieutenant Colonel, & in the expedition against the Cherokees the whole detachment was commanded by Colonel Christie [sic: William Christian]. In the second & last campaigns, herein mentioned, he marched through North Carolina & part of South Carolina & back again to Virginia. In the campaign of 1779 above mentioned he was commanded by Captain Witcha [sic: probably William Witcher] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel David Mason. That in the minute service he served about three months as ensign, and that the other five months of that service, & the whole of his said services in 1779 & 1780 he served as a Lieutenant, making an aggregate of about sixteen months service as Lieutenant, and about three months as ensign.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid  
[signed] Tully Choice

At a Court held for Henry County 15<sup>th</sup> September 1777

Samuel Hairston is appointed second Lieutenant under George Hairston and Tully Choice jr is also appointed a second Lieutenant of the Militia under Frederick Reeves [Frederick Rives]

At a Court held for Henry County 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 1780

Frederick Reeves came into court and resigned his office as Captain of the Militia in this County. Tully Choice jr is appointed Captain in his room, William Ryan is appointed 1<sup>st</sup>. Lieut, William Choice 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut and Thomas Prunty Ensign.

[Certified extracts from Henry County Court records.]

The State of South Carolina }  
Greenville District } Ss

Before me Baylis J. Earle a presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and General Session of the Peace for said State and District, personally appeared William Choice Senior [pension application W3656] who being duly Sworn deposed and Saith that he is well acquainted with Tully Choice his brother, of Hancock County in the State of Georgia, that the said Tully and the deponent on or about the first June 1776 entered the service of the United States in the State of Virginia having been born and raised in Pittsylvania County [sic: formed in 1767 from Halifax County] in the State of Virginia where we then lived, under the Command of Capt Thomas Dillard, and marched to our station at old James Town, and on the 4 July 1776 were at Williamsburg in Virginia. We were called minutemen and the Regiment to which we belonged was commanded by Col Haynes Morgan, and shortly after we were ordered and marched to Quinns Island, and were both there engaged in the services when Governor Dunmore was driven from the said Island [10 July 1776]; afterwards Capt. Dillard was taken sick, & resigned, when Jesse Heard a lieutenant in Capt. Peter Perkins company was appointed Captain of such; and in the fall of 1776 we both marched under the command of Col. Christie out to Tennessee against the Indians and returned home just before Christmas making a time of service upwards of five months. The said Tully Choice was an Ensign in Capt Dillards Company, and from the time Capt Heard took the command he was [word illegible] as lieutenant. Afterwards, the precise period not recollected, the said Tully Choice and this deponent entered the service of the United States in the said State of Virginia, commanded by Capt Frederick Reeves [sic: Frederick Rives], in which company the said Tully Choice was Lieutenant and marched to Salisbury NoCa [sic: North Carolina] where Capt. Reeves, whose company was too small, was turned back and his company joined Capt. Witekers under the command of the said Tully as Lieutenant. thence the said Tully with the rest of the Militia marched to Stono, and this deponent was in the battle, but the said Tully was sick in camp which prevented his being in the engagement which took place on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> June 1779. this deponent thinks they left home early in April 1779 and started back home on the 13 July 1779 received our pay at Camden in SoCa and the troops permitted to make their way home the best way they could That the said Tully Choice substituted to fill the place of Joseph Cooper, and was as I am informed and believe in the Battle at Camden SoCa when Gen'l Gates was defeated, this deponent did not accompany him in this tour. He served also in this tour as Lieutenant. This deponent cannot say how long this tour of service continued This Deponent cannot say how long in the aggregate the said Tully Choice served, but thinks it is equal at least to twelve months. Sworn and subscribed before me this 19 Sept 1832 [signed] William Choice

State of Georgia }  
Hancock County }

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1834 personally appeared in open Court before Wilkins Smith, Joel Crawford & John W. Rabun Esquires sitting as the Superior Court in and for said County & State, Tully Choice a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged eighty years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following additional declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he feels confident that he commenced his first term of service as early as the first of May 1776 and continued in service until the first of December of that year making the term of seven months. That while Captain Dillard commanded the company this deponent was ensign, and that after captain Dillard resigned and Captain Heard succeeded him deponent was appointed Lieutenant as is stated in the deposition of his brother William Choice. That he served as ensign from the first of May to some time in the month of August, and from that period to the first of December as Lieutenant. Deponent can not owing to the great lapse of time and decay of memory be more particular. That deponent again entered the service as early as the first of April 1779 and continued therein until the middle of July making a period of three months and a half and that he was a Lieutenant during the

whole period of this service as stated in the affidavit of William Choice before referred to. He again entered the service on the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> of June 1780 and continued in service until as late as the 19<sup>th</sup> of October or later, making at least four months. That during this latter service he acted as Lieutenant. That deponent lost his commissions long since not supposing he should ever have any use for them. That he does not know of any living witness by whose testimony he can establish his service or his grade but his brother William Choice whose affidavit accompanied his original declaration and is herewith returned to the Department. In his first service down to Gwynn's Island he was commanded by Colonel Charles Lewis. In the service to the West against the Cherokee Indians he was commanded by Colonel Christie, and in the service in 1779 he was commanded by Colonel David Mason. That the several periods of service was in the field, not having been in garrison any part of it. That for the purpose of obtaining information from the Executive Department of Virginia he has been informed and believes that a letter was addressed, several months ago, by Charles E. Haynes as agent of Deponent, to General John Floyd then governor of Virginia requesting him to forward to said Haynes a certified copy of deponent's commission and that no answer has ever been received. That in the service of 1780 he was commanded by Colonel Falkner of the third regiment of Virginia militia— That he was born in the County of Orange or Culpeper [sic: Culpeper], Virginia, in the year 1753.

That he has no record of his age, the family bible containing it having passed into other hands and he does not know who has it at this time.

When first called into service he lived in the County of Pittsylvania, and the County having been subsequently divided, lived in the County of Henry in 1779, and also in 1780 continued to live in said County of Henry & State of Virginia, where he resided until the close of the revolution.

In 1784 he removed to the Ninety Six District South Carolina, where he resided until the year 1792, when he removed to Hancock County Georgia where he has resided ever since.

In his first service as a minute man he was a volunteer. In his subsequent service he was drafted. That he does not recollect any particular regiments by name. That in 1779 he was under the chief command of General [Benjamin] Lincoln, but does not recollect any particular regiment or its commander with which he was associated.

That in 1780 he marched from Hillsborough North Carolina under the command of General Stevens and on reaching head quarters was under the command of General Gates.

That he did receive commissions but cannot state the names of the individuals by whom they were signed. That his first commission was signed by the Committee of Public Safety, and subsequent commission was signed by the Governor of Virginia for the time being, and that they are lost as before stated.

That George Rives, John Graybill, James Simmons, John B. Simmons Esquires who reside in his neighbourhood can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

[signed] Tully Choice

NOTE: In Hancock County GA on 27 Oct 1843 Rebecca Choice, 68, applied for a pension stating that she was married to Tully Choice by Rev. Drury Sims on 15 Aug 1791 in Laurens District SC, and that Tully Choice died 19 Dec 1837. She stated that the family record transcribed below was copied from the original written by her husband by Andrew Burnum, a school teacher who was living with them at the time, except for the date of her husband's death. The record is written on blank pages of a Bible dated 1803. A supporting statement was made in Greenville District SC on 24 Jan 1844 before Jefferson Choice, a Justice of the Peace, by Mary Choice (widow of William Choice, pension application W3656), who stated that she was present at the marriage of Tully and Rebecca Choice.

Tully Choice was born June 17 A.D. 1753

Rebecca Sims Was born october 29 1775

Tully Choice and Rebecca his wife were married Aug 15<sup>th</sup> 1791

John C. son of T and R. C. was born Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 1793, and departed this life 15<sup>th</sup> of same month  
Finton C. son of T. and R. C. was born March 25<sup>th</sup> 1796  
Anne C. daughter of T. and R. C. was born Aug 7<sup>th</sup> 1797  
Finton C. departed this life Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 1799  
William C. son of T. and R. C. was born Feby 11<sup>th</sup> 1800  
Tully C. son of T. and R. C. was born June 10<sup>th</sup> 1802 and departed this life July 8<sup>th</sup> 1803  
Ruth C. daughter of T. and R. C. was born April 15<sup>th</sup> 1804  
Jesse C. son of T. and R. C. was born Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1806  
Katharine C. daughter of T. and R. C. was born July 8<sup>th</sup> 1810  
Martha C. daughter of T. and R. C. was born April 30<sup>th</sup> 1815  
Rebecca C. daughter of T. and R. C. was born Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 1818  
Tully Choice departed this life December 19 1837