

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

*Petition Of The Upper Craven County Regiment Of Militia To His Excellency John Rutledge, President And Commander In Chief Of The Province Of South Carolina, Complaining Of Long Service At Cheraw Hill When Two Sergeants And Twenty-Five Privates Would Be Sufficient (2 Pages)*¹ Date: 1776 C. **B404**

Posted online by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/> and filed under the name of Dunnam, Ebenezer among others
Identifiers: Archives ID: Series: S213089 Box: 0005 Folder: 00024 Item: 000

Transcribed by Will Graves and C. Leon Harris

12/19/20

[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' 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.]

To His Excellency John Rutledge Esquire President and Commander in Chief of the Province of South Carolina

The humble Petition of the Upper Craven County Regiment of Militia.

Sheweth.

That near three hundred of the Militia in the extensive District of the upper Craven County Regiment, have been monthly, from the bebegin of June, in a manner forced from their Plantations & obliged each to continue a month at the Cheraw Hill, at a time when a Detachment from the Same Regiment, consisting also of three hundred men had actually march'd to the assistance of their Friends in Charles Town, then Threatened with Invasion by a British Fleet & Army hovering on the Coast of Carolina.²

That the Detaining the said Body of Militia at the Cheraw Hill in the most busy Season of the Year, has caused many of them to lose the whole of their little Crops, and has already been Detrimental to the Regiment's District to a vast amount.

That there is not the least necessity, as we your Petitions [sic Petitioners], humbly conceive, for a Fort at the Cheraw Hill or in any Part of the District of the said Regiment, (notwithstanding what some Gentlemen may say, of the District, being surrounded with Foes, for we being certain that the Counties of Mecklenburgh [Mecklenburg] and Rowan [North Carolina] are almost to a Man our Staunch Friends, apprehend the Case to be quite otherwise and that the same Gentlemen might with equal Propriety say the District is surrounded by the Ocean) because we are so happily situated, as to have no Indians, the friendly Catawbias excepted, within two hundred miles of us, with the Country

¹ Actually, the petition as posted online contains 4 pages, one of text and three of signatures. Unfortunately, the second page of the text has been omitted from what is posted online. If anyone has an image of that second page, please consider sending it to me for transcription and inclusion in this database. Also, since this version of the petition only contains 300 signatures out of the 566 signatures said to have been affixed to the petition, there were probably other versions of the petition circulated among the militia companies with this version being the only known surviving one, or, alternately, there are missing signature pages.

² This appears to be a reference to the first attack on Charleston in June 1776.

between thickly Inhabited, and have amongst us but few Persons inimical to the Rights of America, neither do we know of any Enemies nearer to us, then the British Fleet now Cooped on board their own Ships in five fathom Hole, except we regard the poor deranged Highlanders of Anson [County North Carolina] and the other North Carolina Counties adjacent to us as such, and they met with such a Check in the Spring,³ which together with the wholesome Laws lately passed in both Provinces to prevent Sedition & punish Insurgents, has in our opinion, fully convinced those deluded men of their folly, and will effectually keep them quiet for the future, or supposing for a moment that it should be otherwise, we doubt not, but our Friends in those Counties, with a very little of our assistance would be able, once again, to bring them to reason.

That it is impossible, the distance so great, that the Indians can come upon us without our having notice Sufficient to be prepared for them, or that any Enemy whatsoever, formidable enough to Alarm us, can assemble & fall on us before we are apprized of their gathering together; we therefore conceive, that if it is necessary for a Guard to be kept at the Cheraw Hill, or any where else, over our small Stock of Ammunition; that a Subaltern with two Sergeants & twenty five Privates would be quite sufficient for that purpose, & be a monthly saving to the Province of at least Seven thousand [text as posted online ends here. The 3 pages currently attached to the online image of this documents consist solely of signatures as appear below.]

[p 2 of 4: Note, many signatures are difficult or impossible to decipher but We've given it our best guess. When we have guessed, we've included a bracketed question mark to so indicate. Abbreviated names have been expanded. The columns of names do not match the columns of signatures in the original.]

James Shields	George Duke	William Hardick	Charles Keen
Samuel Tyler	Goodman Betracy [Betrag]	William Willimkean [?]	John Rae
Thomas Rayf[hole in document]	John Gi[hole in document]	William Timmins	John Ha[text obliterated]
John F Jones [?]	Peter Port	James Johnston	[?]n Tin[text obliterated]
Edward Jones	William Rairdon [?]	Edmund Kite	John Belleine
John Rodgers	Donnis McClendal	Aaron Baker William Bellien [?]	Edward Rodgers
Abraham Starling	David Jameson	Richard Woodbery	William Rodgers
Ephraim McClendal	James Jameson	Samuel Jenkin Junior	Samuel Norwood
Dren Fryer [?], X his mark	Joseph Port	Andrew Dobugk [?]	William Barfrolt [?]
John Mims	William Tonce [?], X his mark	William Davis	John Owens
Samuel Rairdon [?], X his mark	Samuel Gan[paper torn]	James Rodgers	Charles Fladger [?]
Ebenezer Dunnam	Henry Bradly	James Martin, X his mark	Henry Davis Senior
William Shaw	John Dozer	Jessey Smith	Samuel Windal

³ This appears to be a reference to the defeat of the Tories at Moore's Creek Bridge on February 1776.

Benjamin Graves	Benjamin Davis	William Hartley [?]	Thomas Oakley
David Davis	Henry Blanchard	John Pigott [?]	Joseph Davis
Benjamin Blanchard	Richard Francis	John [name obliterated]	Ebenezer Dunnam, Junior
Randolph Johnson	Benjamin Port	John Dunnam ⁴	William Rowland
Thomas Avant	Robert Dunnam	John Sutton	Abram Giles
William Natcher [?]	John Newham	Samuel Cortroy [?]	Willis Wilson, X his mark
James Barrow or Barren	[signature obliterated]	Absolum Kitterlen [?]	John Warden
Benjamin Kendrick	Fowler Dawsey [?]	Luke Woodward	Isaac Neavel
Buckingham Keen	William Britton	Francis Goddard	William Cowers?

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John Betha, X [his mark]	Moses Pearson	John Whittington	John Hiott
John Micall	James Kennedy	Reuben Windham	Joshua Barfield
William Blasingame	Grifen Nemy [?]	Elijah Huse	Edward Owens
John Windham X his mark	Ephraim Wittington	James Shoemake, X [his mark]	Jeremiah More, X [his mark]
David Lee, X his mark	George Cherry	Matthew Whitfield	Thomas Osteen
Light Townson	Samuel Moor	Nathan Clink X [his mark]	William Allen, X [his mark]
Drure Lee, X his mark	William Taylor, X his mark	Frederick Jones	Joseph Powell
John Boatwright, X his mark	Isaac Jones	Charles Carter	Baikie Harvey
Robert Carter	Rubin Turner	Robert Clary	Isaac Turbevill
John Walley, X his mark	Thomas Drigore [?]	Moses Shoemake, X [his mark]	Richard Whittington
William Mixon Misore?, X his mark	William Carter X his mark	John Lee	Reubin Jenkins, X [his mark]
Rubin Ironmunger	Jacob Carter	Grief Whittington, X his mark	Francis Kennedy, Jr.
Devain Drdgrus [?]	Jennings Allen, X his mark	Benjamin Baker, X his mark	Hardy Williams
William Gainey, X his mark	Joseph Purkins [Joseph Perkins?]	Etheldred Clary	John Cone, X his mark
Denis Bulger	Henry Easterling	Stephen Portchet [?], X his mark	James Cone
Jacob Blackwell, X his mark	John Sutton, Jr	John Jordin Cumall [?]	Russel Blakley
James Harris	Charles Kerby	Stephen Gibson	Miles Davis
John Hagin	Richard Kerby, X his mark	Mark Drigers	Lewis Boatwright, X his mark
Jeremiah Rawell	Solomon Hysles [?]	Joshua Hall	Martin Johnson, X

⁴ [John Dunnam SC2523](#)

			his mark
William Shanks	William Johnson	James Graves	John F Dees [?]
Hosea Folks, X his mark	Howard [too faint]	Samuel H[faint]	William McDowel
Thomas Sweat	[too faint]	John Pitt	Francis Johnston
Henry Connelly, X his mark	William [too faint]	James Gainey	Mkiel Gooing [?]
Thomas Harrison, X his mark	Solomon Studevart, X his mark	James Crawford	Francis Gillespie
Walter Owins	John Boyd[too faint]	Julius Drigres [Julius Driggers?] ⁵	Jacob Dunnaway [?]
Henery Hodges	Phil Clark, X his mark	Danil Drigous [?]	Isaac Lockhart
Robert Hodges	George Clark, X his mark	[too faint]	William King
Samuel Cox, X his mark	[too faint]	Richard Grumes [?]	Francis Knight
Jonah Cox, X his mark	David Blackmon	William Grumes [?]	Henry Clark
John Turner	Paul Johnston	Benjamin James	John Clark
Jesse Bryant, X his mark	John Hase	William Owens, X his mark	Benjamin Tilley
Jesse Bryant, X his mark	Johnston [damaged]	James Findly [?]	William Sweat
Joseph Burkett [?]	William Smith	Isom Skipper	Jesse Brown, X his mark
John Daniel, X his mark	William Grise, X his mark	Peter Way	Joseph Alison
Thomas Bruginston, X his mark	William Gipson	John Cox, X his mark	Joseph Harper
Benjamin Clasperson	Francis Folks [?]	Manuel Cox	Joseph Harper
Zekiel Hiott	George Wright, X his mark	Farios Cleveland [?]	William Hutin, X his mark
Matthew Marity [?], M his mark	William Blanchet, X his mark	John Burkitt, X his mark	William Watkins
Francis Whittington, X his mark	David Cumbo	William Drigere	Francis Kennedy
Neal Rowse [?]	Thomas Britt	Levi Quinbe [?]	Thomas Britt
Joshua Perkins	Jordan Gibson	Gorge Pirkins	Samuel Buxton
Isaac Pirkins	Solomon Blackmon	Joshua Perkins	

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[undeciphered name]	Gavin Witherspoon*	Hugh Giles	F. Goddard
[undeciphered name]	William Johnson	Amos Vast	Lewis Hannah
John Harrell	Nathan Sanade [?]	Charles Barfeld	John Brown
David Perkins	John Brown	William Brockinton	Jacob [obliterated]
John Timmins	Gavin James	Silas Simmons	John

⁵ [SC2467 Julius Driggers](#)

			Witherspoon
William Carter	Drure Turner [?]	Levy Hansel	Archibald Little
John Muire [?]	John Coleman	Aaron [undeciphered name]	Georg Carter
John Potts	Josiah Carter	Peter Nesel [?]	William Pearson
Joseph Britton	Stephen Britton	Joseph Greaves	William Jameson
[undeciphered abbreviation] D. Britton	William Keeth	Richard Rennals	Robert Thornley
John Poston	Joseph Posten	John Poston Junior	Benjamin Keeth

The Total Number is 566

*There was a Capt. Gavin Witherspoon in Marion's Brigade.