

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ebenezer Fain R3421R

Mary Fain f86GA/NC/VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves Amended 9/9/08 & rev'd 1/8/15 & 12/26/22

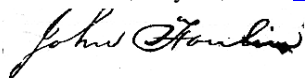
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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.]

State of Georgia, Habersham County

On this Eleventh day of March, 1836, personally appeared at open court before the Honorable Inferior Court of said county now sitting for said county Ebenezer Fain is of the age of Seventy-three years and six months, a resident of said county and according to law & on his oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed on the Seventh day of June, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he first entered the service of the United States under Captain James Montgomery in Washington County in the State of Virginia in June, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Six as a militiaman for the term of three months under the command of Col. William Christian when he was about fourteen years of age. That he served during the said three months at a place called Black's Fort and Montgomery's Station. During that time he was engaged in two battles with the Indians in one of which sixteen Indians were killed. Colonel Christian from Virginia marched in considerable force into the Cherokee Country while the applicant was engaged in this service. He was discharged by Captain Montgomery and received pay two or three years afterwards at Abingdon in Virginia.

He entered a Second term of duty under Captain William Trimble & Colonel Charles Robertson as a volunteer militia light horseman in Washington County, North Carolina, now Tennessee, the first of June One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty (1780). He marched to & remained at Gilbert Town for a week or two and then joined Colonel Charles McDowell's Regiment. Colonel Isaac Shelby and Colonel Elijah Clarke from Georgia were also there. He was marched with said troops to Edward Hampton's on the Pacolet River in South Carolina where a skirmish took place with the British.¹ The Americans lost two men killed and took several prisoners among whom was a British Capt. Patterson. The detachment marched then to Broad River near the mouth of Buffalo Creek where while on sentry I shot a spy by the name of John Foulin[?]² and found an express from Lord Cornwallis to a Tory Captain Moore [Patrick Moore] urging him to defend his fort and promising to reinforce him. We made a forced march to said Fort at a place called Thicketty in South Carolina and Captain Moore gave up the fort [July 26, 1780]³ and surrendered himself and about 100 men as prisoners of war. We then set out to meet the promised reinforcements from the British

¹ Earle's Ford, July 15, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_earles_ford.html

² 

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thicketty_fort.html

Army and met them at a place called Musgrove's Mill [August 19, 1780]⁴. Had an engagement with them and drove them back with considerable loss to them. They took shelter in the mill, barn and dwelling houses where we left them. Then we marched to Lawson's Fork near Wofford's Iron Works where we had an engagement with the British commanded by Major Dunlap [James Dunlap]. We were suddenly charged by the British in the night and after a short but severe struggle in which a number were severely wounded by the broadsword among [the wounded] was Col. Elijah Clarke of Georgia. [We] were compelled to give way. The Americans after retreating a short distance again rallied and renewed the fight. The enemy was finally defeated. Their commander, Major Dunlap, was wounded and taken prisoner [August 8, 1780]⁵. After this the declarant was placed under the command of Captain Cunningham and attached to Colonel Clarke's Regiment. Colonel Clarke marched for Georgia but hearing that Augusta & nearly all Georgia was in the hands of the British & Tories we marched back to Rutledge's Ford on the Saluda River. Colonel Clarke having heard that Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] with a strong detachment of British & Tories was marching up toward the mountains sent this declarant with an express to Cols. Sevier [John Sevier] & Shelby in Washington County, North Carolina, now Tennessee and this declarant returned from them with one to Col. Clarke. And his time of service [of] three months having expired, he returned home.

In a very short time after this declarant arrived at home at the solicitation of Col. Swain he entered the service again as the substitute of one Jacob Vance who was drafted & refused to serve. The legislature of North Carolina passed an Act that under such circumstances the drafted man should pay the substitute sixty dollars which the said Vance paid the declarant after his return. This declarant states that this time he served three months having mustered in to service about the fifteenth of September of that said year in Washington County, North Carolina, now Tennessee, under Captain Christopher Taylor, John Sevier, Colonel. In this tour he served as a mounted man and marched thence to the Cowpens in South Carolina where we met Colonel Campbell [William Campbell] of Virginia, Colonel Shelby, Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] and Colonel Williams [James Williams]. Thence we marched in pursuit of Maj. Ferguson and overtook him at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]⁶. This declarant was engaged in that battle and received a wound in the leg. This declarant accompanied the greater part of the Army to Rutherford, North Carolina & thence to Morganton as it is now called in Burke County, North Carolina and was in a short time thereafter discharged.

The declarant entered on a fourth tour of duty immediately after the close of the last under Captain Gibson in said County of Washington, North Carolina under Col. Sevier and as a volunteer light Horseman & marched to a place called the Big Island on the French Broad River in the Cherokee Nation near which an engagement with the Indians took place. They were defeated with a loss of fifteen or twenty killed. A few days afterwards we were joined by Col. Arthur Campbell of Virginia & from thence was marched to old Chota Town where we had a small skirmish and killed one Indian on the 24th of December of the same year. The next day Maj. Jesse Walton with a part of the force, this declarant among them, marched upon a town called Sitaco [?]⁷. Killed several Indians and took fifteen or twenty prisoners, mostly women and children & returned to headquarters at Chota. We then marched to Tellico towns (and were engaged in a skirmish). The Indians fled across

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_musgroves_mill.html

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_woffords_iron_works.html

⁶ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

the river and were pursued. We lost a Capt. Elliott killed. We then marched to big Hiwassee, took some prisoners and returned to Tellico. We then returned home. This declarant was discharged at Jonesboro, now Tennessee in the last of February or first of March Seventeen Hundred and Eighty One having served upwards of two months.

This declarant was again called in to service & served as a light horseman in a Company of Rangers under Capt. Christopher Cunningham and under Cols. Sevier and Carter for the purpose of watching the Indians & Tories and guarding the Frontier. That he was constantly marching & ranging through this country, principally through the Indian Country, and the frontiers of Washington County North Carolina, now Tennessee. That he was in one skirmish with Indians. He with some thirteen or fourteen others were attacked in a house. They defended themselves from early morning til about mid-day and were relieved by Col. Sevier. The Indians had several killed. The declarant entered this tour of duty on the first of April Seventeen Hundred and Eighty One and served six months having been discharged in October following. He received he thinks ten dollars a month for this service.

This declarant states that he was actively engaged in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War as herein before stated fifteen months and about one half.

This declarant states that he was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania on the 27th day of August Seventeen Hundred and Sixty Two and the only record of his age which he has is his family bible which he has at home. He also states that he resided in Washington County, Virginia at the time he first entered in to service. He moved to Washington County, North Carolina, now Tennessee in the year Seventeen Hundred and Seventy Eight and continued to reside there until the year Seventeen Hundred and Eighty three and then moved to the District of Ninety Six in South Carolina to that part of it now called Pickens District which he resided until 1792 and then moved to Buncombe County, North Carolina where he resided until the year Eighteen hundred and then moved into that part of the State of Georgia now called Habersham County where he has resided ever since and where he still resides.

This declarant states that he always volunteered his services when he served upon his various tours of duty and once when he served as a substitute for one Jacob Vance as herein before stated.

This declarant states that there was no Continental or Regular Officers among the troops with which he served as this declarant believes and with the Militia Regiments have been specified unto the foregoing part of this declaration as well as this sworn answer of his services.

This declarant states that he never received any written discharges from any of his several tours of duty. This declarant states that he is known in his immediate neighborhood by the Reverend Jesse Richardson and the Rev. Francis Bird, clergymen of the Methodist Church, and by Thomas Hughes, Esquire who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolutionary War & he does not produce them in court because the Rev. Francis Bird has just lately moved a considerable distance and the Rev. Jesse Richardson is unable to attend on account of old age and sickness. He is also acquainted with Samuel A. Wales and John Stancill who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the Revolution. This declarant states that there is now no person living within his knowledge who he can state in detail his personal knowledge of his services and whose testimony can be conveniently obtained.

This declarant further states that he made the declaration substantially the same as the above about two years ago and was sent back by the War Department on account of some formal defect to Thomas J. Rush, Esquire for amendment and that it arrived but the said Thomas J. Rush as this declarant is advised and believes never returned the same to the Department That the said Thomas J.

Rush has gone to Texas and after the most diligent search among his papers and when the same could not be found and therefore he makes the second declaration for the purpose before stated.

This declarant hereby relinquishes any claim whatsoever to any pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on any pension roll of any agency in any state.

S/ Ebenezer Fain



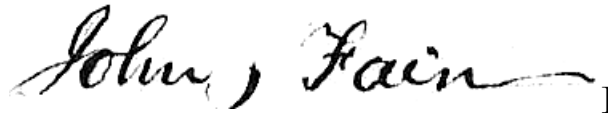
Sworn and subscribed in open court in the year aforesaid.

S/ Chas. Ward, J.I.C.

[Samuel A. Wales and John D. Starritt gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Rev. Jesse Richardson and Rev. Francis Bird also gave supporting affidavits.]

[p 13: According to a claim filed in Union County, Ga., by John Fain, 53, son and heir of veteran, the veteran, a Revolutionary War pensioner of the US, died in Ga. on December 29, 1842; that his mother, Mary Fain, died February 12, 1846, both in Habersham County, Ga.; that he, John, is a resident of Gilmer County, Ga.. The claim is dated December 19, 1852.



[p 17-18 Bible record

[p. 17 entries are very difficult to read; p. 18 is largely legible: red bracketted entries below are taken from an affidavit of John Fain, son of Ebenezer Fain]

Ebinezer Fain was Born in the State of Pen [?]

Charles Fain on 27 August 1762 [?]

Mary his wife was Born in the State of North Carolina ??? 176?

David Fain was Born in ?? County ? N. C. now Tennessee on August ??? 17?? [August 3, 1782]

Margret [Margaret] was Born in South Carolina Pendleton County Aug 6, 1786 [married a Thomas]

Marie [Mercer] Fain in So.[?] Feby 28 1789

Elizabeth Fain in So. [?] ???July 7 17[91] [married a Grammell]

Maryrose [Mary Ann] was Born in Buncombe North Carolina January 6 1794 [married a McJunkin]

Sally do[?] May 30, 1796 [married a Howard]

Vern [John] do December 14, 1797

Rebecca do December 10, 17?? [1799] [married a Hews?]

[p 18]

Robert Hamilton was born Jany 17th [could be 19th] 1771

Lydia Hamilton was born April ye 9th 1776

John Hamilton was born March ye 22nd 1793

Robt Hamilton was born ye 27th of Novr. 1797

Loveday Hamilton was born Feby ye 19th 1800

Cynthia Hamilton was Born the 5th day of May 1802

Anne Hamilton was born on the 20th day of May 1804

Saml. Fain was born July 11th 185_[last digit is blank]

Poleyann [Polly Ann] was Born in the year April 1804 [married a Harvell]

Robert Hamilton was born Sunday 5th - 1778
 Lydia Hamilton was born April 9th - 1776
 John Hamilton was born March 22nd - 1793
 Robt. Hamilton Junr. was born 27th of Nov^r - 1797
 Louisa Hamilton was born Feb^r 19th - 1800
 Cynthia Hamilton was born the 5th day of May 1802
 Anne Hamilton was born on the 20th day of May 1804
 James Fain was born July
 11 185
 James Fain
 Raleigh was born in the year 1804
 April 1804

[p 36]

Georgia, Union County

Before me Albert Vickery a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally came Jesse Mellim of said County who after being duly sworn deposeth and saith on his oath that he has frequently heard James Kuykendall⁸ deceased in his lifetime said that him and Ebenezer Fain Senior did serve together from the first Campaign under Colonel Charles Robertson until Cornwallis was taken in the American service and that they were together in several Engagements against the British Tories and Indians Sworn to and Subscribed before me this day December 9th 1834.

S/ Albert Vickery, JP

S/ Jesse Mellim

[p 38]

State of NC, Macon County December 30th, 1835

This day John Clark Senior⁹ of the State and County aforesaid Personally appeared before me one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the same, and made oath in due form of law to the subsequent lines of this Affidavit --

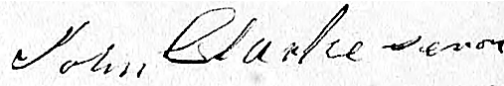
8 This means Kuykendall may well have been at Musgrove Mill with Fain and Col. Robertson.

9 [John Clarke R1990](#)

This witness certifies that he was himself Stationed at Bryan's Fort State of Virginia Washington County within 7 or 8 miles of where the present applicant Ebenezer Fain was stationed at Black's Fort, from the first of July until sometime in October of the year 1776. I the witness say that I volunteered myself in September of 1780 attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Campbell, who was afterwards promoted to I think Brigade General, and this E. Fain under the command of Colonel John Sevier both Regiments met at the Cowpens I think the day before the battle at Kings mountain, where I was engaged in the fight and I have every reason to believe from our conversation on the subject since the war he the said E. Fain was beyond all manner of doubt in the same Battle, and I have been personally acquainted with the said E. Fain from the year 1776, and I know that he has ever bore the name of a good Soldier, a true friend to his country, and of later years he has been a Military officer, well beliked, and has been a justice of the peace a great many years, not only these little offices but stands fair in society – Sworn to and Subscribed before me the day and date above written.

S/ Jno. Zachery, JP

S/ John Clarke, Senior.



[p 44: On June 21, 1846 in Union County Georgia, Susanna Nicholson of said County, aged 80 years, gave testimony that she was intimately acquainted with Ebenezer Fain and Mary Mercer before their marriage; that they were married by Tidence Lane, a minister of the gospel in Washington County, now Tennessee; that Jane Wethers and Peggy Wiley were there waiters. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

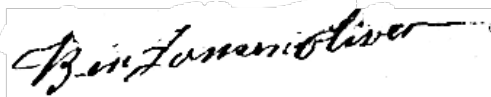
[The following has been heavily edited: p 67]

State of North Carolina Macon County This day personally appeared Benjamin Oliver before me Jesse A Reid one of the acting Justices of said County and made oath that he was personally acquainted with Ebenezer Fain and that said Fain served a three months tour of duty under Colonel Charles robberson [Charles Robertson] of Washington County North Carolina now Tennessee it was in the year 1780.

Sworn to and Subscribed this 24 July 1834.

S/ Jesse Reid, JP

S/ Benjamin Oliver¹⁰



[p 69—heavily edited]

State of Georgia, Union County January 9 1836

This day David Fain [of] the State and County aforesaid personally appeared before me one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the same and made oath in due form of law to the Judgment lines of this affidavit --

This witness certifies that he heard Mr. John Menab [? could be Menah] of Tennessee say that he was present with Ebenezer Fain in several tours in the old revolutionary war and this said

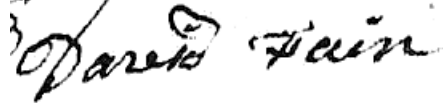
¹⁰ [Benjamin Oliver S11156](#)

witness further states that he heard James Kuykendall deceased said that he was present with Ebenezer Fain in several tours in the old revolutionary – the witness further states that this Menab was a man in good standing that his word could [be] relied on also states that this Kuykendall was a man in good standing for he had been acquainted with him for many years.

Sworn to and subscribed before me given under my hand and seal this January the 9th day 1836.

S/ Job Self [?], JP

S/ David Fain

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Fain". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name "S/ David Fain".

[Job Self also gives a statement that he (Self) has heard Thomas Rodgers, Esqr. say he served with Ebenezer Fain 3 tours of duty in the Revolution.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 12 months in the Virginia militia.]