

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Forbes R3644

Margaret Forbes f37SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/15/09 rev'd 2/26/15: 3/2/21

[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.]

[p 33]

(Copy)

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina.

The humble petition of William Forbes

Sheweth

That whereas your petitioner was regularly enlisted in the service of the State of South Carolina at or shortly after the commencement of the Revolutionary War and placed under the command of Capt. John Caldwell whose Company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Thompson [William Thomson] -- and whereas your petitioner who was enlisted for the term of three years was actively employed in the service of his country for the space of 17 or 18 months at the expiration of which period, your petitioner was discharged from the service on account of a white swelling by which he was disabled and rendered incapable of performing the duties of a soldier for the span of a few months. But on a partial recovery [he] enrolled his name again as a private soldier in a company commanded by Capt. Francis Logan, which company was attached to the Regiment of Col. Pickens [Andrew Pickens] and sent upon a frontier expedition against the Cherokees at the expiration of this service your petitioner was transferred to various commands within the State and continued constantly in the service to the close of the War, a constant, firm and active advocate in the cause of his Country. Your petitioner would further state that for the aforesaid services he has never received any compensation, nor would he have asked it at this late period had not his bodily infirmities which have grown out of the laborious services which he has rendered his country left his whitened locks [gray hair] and tottering limbs in a situation so helpless and dependent as to render him incapable of making the necessary support for his family. Your petitioner therefore humbly prayeth that your Honorable body will take into consideration the facts stated in the petition and grant him such relief as to your honorable body may seem meet¹ -- and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

S/ William Forbes

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 17th November 1819

S/ C. Gaillard, JP

[p 34: On November 20, 1820, Margaret Forbes, 56, likewise petitioned the SC legislature for a

¹ In Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of 1755, the first definition of the word "meet" he gives is "Fit; proper...." Johnson noted that even at that time the word "meet" was rarely so used. It must have become fairly popular in South Carolina in the early 1800's, however, as it appears in many petitions submitted to the SC Legislature.

widow's pension stating that she is the widow of William Forbes; that she has 3 of her children still living with her, daughters Cynthia (about 21) and Eliza (16) and son Alanson (11) who she must support. She is shown as having signed this petition with her mark.]

[p 3]

[On February 5, 1856, in Franklin County, Ga., Alanson Forbes, 46, filed for benefits due his mother, Margaret Forbes, widow of William Forbes, a pensioner of the State of SC for his services in the Revolution stating "... that during said war his father lived in what is now Abbeville District in this State of South Carolina and enlisted as a private in the company commanded by Capt. John Caldwell in the 3rd South Carolina Continental Regiment commanded by Col. William Thomson in the year 1776 for 3 years and after a service of some 17 or 18 months was discharged on account of a white swelling with which he was afflicted & returned home and after some months having recovered his health he joined the militia of said State under Capt. Francis Logan under Col. Andrew Pickens and went on a expedition against the Cherokee Indians: He was then transferred to different commands in the militia and served under Capt. William Friedman of said District of Abbeville & Col. Robert Anderson until the close of the War:"; that both his father and mother received pensions from the state of South Carolina; that his father died in his own house on November 7, 1820 and his mother died on June 27th 1840 in the house of Alanson Forbes in Anderson District; that his father had been married twice and that his mother (Margaret Warnock) was his father's second wife and that the children born of both marriages are as follows

Mary Forbes born Nov. 27th 1778

James Forbes born January 12, 1781

Margaret Forbes born June 30th 1783 [the youngest child of the first marriage]

Isabella Forbes born Oct. 13th, 1787

Elinor Forbes born May 17th 1791

William W. Forbes born June 19th 1793

Samuel Forbes born May 23rd 1795

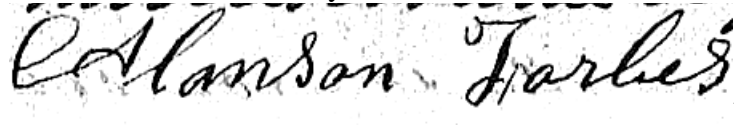
George Forbes born July 21, 1797

Cynthia Forbes born July 30, 1798

Sydney R. Forbes born Feb. 3rd 1802

Jane Louisa & Matty Louisa (twins) born August 10, 1804

Alanson Forbes born May 21st 1808



Alanson Forbes

[pp 7-6: actual family record]

Henry Forbes was born November the

27th 1778

James Forbes was born January the 12th 1781

Margaret Forbes was born June
the 30th 1783

Isabella Forbes was born October
the 19th 1787

Elinor Forbes was born May the
17th 1791

William W Forbes was born June
the 19th 1793

Samuel Forbes was born May the
29th 1795

George Forbes was born July the
21st 1792

Cynthia Forbes was born July
the 30th 1798

Sidney R Forbes was born
February the 8th 1802

Jan Eliza and Matty Leucany was born
August the 20th 1804

C. Hanson Forbes was born May the
21st 1808

Comptroller General's Office
Columbia S.C.
March 10th 1856.

"No. 145 issued to Mr. William Forbes the 20 April
Lib. O. 3. 1785 for forty one pounds 15^s sterling duty done
in the militia in 1780 and 1781 pursuant audited
Principal £415. 8^d No 28 Interest £2: 17: 6. —
April 25 20 April 85 Mr. William Forbes his
acc^t of militia duty for 53 days of Capt. Wm
Forsman in 1780 and 1781 Amty. to vizt as Private
on Horse 16 days £ 16 —
As private on foot 33 days 26 10
and for militia duty for
Capt. Anderson's return 250.
Amount £ 292. 10
Duty £ = 41. 15. 8^h

State to Carolina Or to William Forbes for duty
for pay bill of Capt. Wm Forsman from 80 to 81 as
private in the militia vizt 53 days on foot 11^s £ 26 10
16 days on horse 16 —
Duty for Colonel Anderson's return 250 —
£ 292. 10^s
Duty £ 41. 15. 8^h

Rec^d April 27th 1785 the full amount of the above
"account as a Treasury Receipt No 214 Book O.
(Signed) William Forbes."

I do hereby certify that the above is a true
copy taken from the Records of this Office and
that the name of William Forbes appears on the
Roll of the 33rd South Carolina Continental Regiment as being
entered the same as private on the 24th July 1776
For Comptroller General
W. M. P. Stewart
Deputy

(No. Seal of Office)

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to
Audited Account No.

pp

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/2/21

[p 2]

[Book] O [No.] 414

No. 23

28 April 85 [1785]

Mr. William Forbes

² 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 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.

his Account of Militia Duty per Pay Bills of Captain William Freeman in 1780 and 1781
Amounting to Viz.

as Private on Horse £16

as Private on Foot 53 days 26.10

[illegible text] for Militia

duty per Colonel

Anderson's [Robert Anderson's]

return [not extant] [illegible]

[illegible]

per Captain Calhoun [illegible]

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by John McCall, Adjutant General]

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State South Carolina

Dr. [Debtor] to William Forbes

For Duty per Pay bills of Captain William Freeman

from 80 to 81 as Private in the Militia

viz. 53 Days on foot at 10/³ £26.10

16 Days on Horse at 20/⁴ 16.00

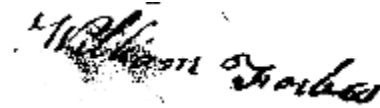
Duty per Colonel Anderson's Return 250.0.0

[old South Carolina] Currency £292.10/

Stg. [Sterling] £41.15.8 ¼

Received April 27th 1785 the full Amount of the above Account in a Treasury Indent No. 414
Book O

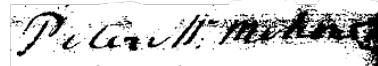
S/ William Forbes



[pp 5-6: The original of the veteran's petition to the South Carolina Legislature as transcribed from page 30 of the federal application above. The signature of the veteran appearing on this document is as follows:



[p 6: There is an affidavit which appears to be given by Peter McMahon⁵ in support of the veteran's claim. Unfortunately the image of this document as posted online is illegible as to the portion thereof in which McMahon may have given testimony supporting the veteran's claim.



³ Ten Shillings old South Carolina currency was the per diem pay for a foot soldier in the South Carolina militia

⁴ Twenty shillings old South Carolina currency was the per diem pay for a mounted soldier in the South Carolina militia

⁵ This MAY be the same man as [Peter McMahon W21782](#)

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[Note: the top portion of the following document is missing from the image posted online. The petition appears to be dated November 20, 1820 and attested in Pendleton County South Carolina.]

That your Petitioner is the widow of William Forbes to whom the State of South Carolina at the last Session of the Legislature thereof granted a Pension. Your petitioner is now far advanced in life, left destitute of the comforts & but few of the necessities, that she herself is [text obliterated] six years of age, that she has two daughters Cynthia about twenty-one years of age, Eliza about sixteen years of age and a son Alanson about Eleven years of age who are very sickly & not able to assist much in getting a Support. That your petitioner's late husband was involved in debt – And that he never received but one year's allowance of pension for his Services in the Revolutionary War. Your petitioner in consideration thereof prays your Honorable body to continue to her the pension granted to her late husband and as in duty bound he will ever pray.

S/ Margaret Forbes, X her mark

Sworn to 20th of November 1820

Before me

S/ Joseph Grisham, Not. Pub. & Ex Off. J W Q

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The State of South Carolina Pendleton District } Before me personally came and appeared Margaret Forbes the Widow of William Forbes late a Pensioner of the State of South Carolina resident in Pendleton District, who made Oath That the said William Forbes departed this life on the 7th day of November (1820) instant in Pendleton District leaving her, with her three children in a helpless situation, Her Daughters Cynthia about twenty-one years of age and Eliza about sixteen years of age and a Alanson about Eleven years of age, and that her said husband left but very little property, that the said William Forbes is considerably indebted for necessities &c and that if his creditors take the little now in her hands it will not pay the debts but will leave her in her old age (at the age of Fifty Six) without the necessities of life.

S/ Margaret Forbes, X her mark

Sworn to 20th of November 1820

Before

S/ Joseph Grisham, Not. Pub. & Ex off. J. W. Q.

[pp 20-22: Receipts in the file indicate that Margaret Forbes was paid an annuity of \$60, the first such receipt being dated May 30, 1825 and the last dated June 4, 1834.]