

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Forbes [Forbis] R3645

Rebecca Forbes

f51SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/18/08 rev'd 2/26/15 & 1/2/18

[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.]

State of South Carolina, York District

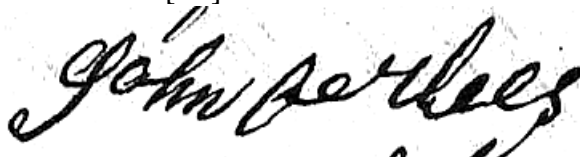
On this 16th day of June 1846, personally appeared before the Court of Equity now opened and held in Yorkville for the District of York & State aforesaid John Forbes, a resident of said District, aged 53 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836, "Granting Pensions to Certain Widows"

That this declarant the aforesaid John Forbes in behalf of himself and the other heirs of John Forbes late Revolutionary Soldier deceased States, that the said John Forbes was a private and Lieutenant in the Army of the Revolution the heirs understand and as such he served the United States against the Common Enemy. That he the said John Forbes entered the Army of the Revolution in 1779 – or 1780, as Lieutenant, under Captain Moffit [John Moffett] & Colonel Watson [Samuel Watson] of the Militia, after which he joined Colonel Hill's [William Hill's] Company of the Cavalry where he served as a Lieutenant for some time and General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter], after the above service he served some time in the Militia, during which time he was wounded while in an engagement with the Enemy at Williamson's Plantation and that for many years before the death of the said John Forbes he received an invalid Pension which was paid him by the State of South Carolina, the State in which he resided when he rendered the above service.

This declarant further maketh oath, that the said John Forbes was married to Rebecca Barren in the fall of the year 1780, and as husband and wife they lived together till the death of the said John Forbes who died on the 24th day of October 1829, and that his widow of the aforesaid Rebecca departed this life on the 4th day of April 1837 not having intermarried after the death of the said husband the aforesaid John Forbes deceased.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before the Court.

S/ John Ferbes [sic]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Forbes". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

And the Court does hereby certify that it was proven to the satisfaction of the Court that John Forbes above named died at his late residence in York District State of South Carolina on the 24th day of October 1829 leaving his wife Rebecca a widow, who died on the 4th day of April 1837, leaving surviving the following nine children, viz.: Elizabeth Shaw, Margaret McElwain, Anna Forbes, Tabitha Harberson, Rachel Jones, Archibald Forbes, Thomas Forbes, Arthur Forbes and John Forbes, who are the only surviving children of said deceased and all of lawful ages – And

that the declarant the aforesaid John Forbes is a person to whose statements is due full faith and credence.

S/ Dana Johnson, One of the Chancellors of the said State

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Comptroller General's Office

Columbia South Carolina July 28th, 1846

Book A }

Indent 104 } Issued this the 30th of June 1792 to John Forbes for Seventy-one Pounds Sixteen Shillings and five pence sterling being balance of his Account for three hundred fifty-two days militia duty in 1780, 1781 and 1782 with interest from the 1st day of April 1783--

Princl £71:16:5 Annl intr. £5.0.6

Book R }

Indent 445 } Issued the 8th of June 1785 to Mr. John Forbes for fifteen Pounds Sterling for Duty done in the militia as private part of his account audited

Princl. £15.0.0 Annl. intr. £1.1.0

Book R }

Account 445 } John Forbes

This account of 352 days Militia Duty in 1780, 1781 and 1782 (viz.) 60 days Service as Lieut. of foot under Col. Samuel Watson at 35 shillings per diem – 197 days Service as Lieut. of horse under Col. William Hill at 45 shillings per diem, 24 days as horseman under General Sumter at 20 shillings per diem, 45 days as foot soldier under General Henderson [William Henderson] at 10 shillings per diem 26 days as foot Soldier, in all 352 days amounting to £26.16.5

I Certify the above to be a true copy from the Records in this office

For Comptroller General

S/ J. Aug. Black

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South Carolina, York District

Personally appeared Robert Wilson¹ a resident of York District and State aforesaid and made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with John Forbes of said District Deceased in time of and since the war of the revolution and served between four and five months with the said John Forbes [in] the year 1780 deponent well recollects that the aforesaid John Forbes was a Lieutenant in Col. William Hill's Regiment of Cavalry after he was wounded and believes the said John Forbes was generally in service until the close of the war.

Deponent further states that he was at the house of the said John Forbes several times during the years of '81 and '82 and well recollects that the said John Forbes had a wife and children at that time. Deponent further states that John Forbes lived in York District S. C. near Colonel William Hill's Iron works in time [of] the War and has often heard John Forbes say that he was a Lieutenant in Captain Moffet's Company before he was wounded deponent further states that the said John Forbes was in Captain John henreys [sic, John Henry's] Company, Hill's Regiment Sumter's Brigade when they were in service together in the year 1780.

Sworn to and subscribed this 8th day of August 1846 Before me.

S/ A. S. Wallace, Magt.

S/ Robert Wilson

1 [Robert Wilson W2302](#)

John Wilson

[p 6: Bible Record:

Elisabeth Forbes was Born aprl the 18 and sixth day of the week 1783
margeret Forbes was Born September the 3 and ? day of the week 1784
Rebacha Forbes was Born in September 28 and second day of the week 1786
Sally Forbes was Born in June the 8 day and First day of the week in the year 1788
Ann Forbes was Born in martch the 10 and third day of the week in the year 1790
Rachel Forbes was Born in the first day of december in the year 1791
John forbes was Born in october the 25 in the year 1793
Archobald Forbes was Born in october the 22 in the year: 1795
prudence was Born in the year 1797 July the 17
Thomas Forbes was Born in the year 1800 and in the 25 day of may
Tobitha was Born in they year 1804 and 9 day of martch
Atur was Born September the 10; 1806 and fourth day of the week]

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[p 40: On August 14, 1846 in York District South Carolina, Jane Barron gave testimony that she was well acquainted with John Forbes, a soldier of the revolution; that the soldier and the affiant lived in the same neighborhood before and during the war; that John Forbes was an officer in said war under Col. Watson and Col. Hill's Regiment; that said John Forbes was wounded in the spring or summer of 1780 and was married to Rebecca Barron in the summer or fall of the same year, 1780; that they lived together as man and wife from that date; that affiant recalls that Forbes was wounded in the same year that Col. William Hill's Iron Works were burnt which was on the 10th of May 1780; that the veteran and his wife had 2 or 3 children before peace was made, viz., Elizabeth and Margaret, the 2 eldest children of the veteran. She signed her affidavit with her mark. Her relationship, if any, to the widow is not stated.]

[p 47: On April 28, 1853 in York District South Carolina, Katherine Tate gave testimony that she was born February 16, 1770; that her father lived within three quarters of a mile of John Forbes who was "cut to pieces by the Tories & left for dead" but he got well again; affiant recollects hearing her father say "he helped clean the maggots out of John Forbes"; that affiant went to school together with Rebecca Barron, afterwards the wife of John Forbes; affiant thinks that John and Rebecca were married before the close of the Revolutionary War. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to John Forbes (Forbis)
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 2459

AA40³

[p 28]

To the Honorable the Speaker of the House of representatives now sitting in General Assembly
The Humble petition of John Forbis [sic] Sheweth

That your petitioner was while in the military service of the State in the revolutionary War and under the command of Colonel Neal [sic, Andrew Neel] wounded by the British under the command of Colonel Hook [sic, Christian Huck] [Battle of Williamson's Plantation, July 12, 1780]⁴ and that by the wounds he received he is rendered unable in his old age to provide for his himself and family and that he has no other means of providing a subsistence then by his own labor.

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honorable body to take his case into consideration and if it shall you seem expedient to place him on the list of pensioners or to grant him such assistance as you in your bounty think proper.

S/ John Forbes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Forbes". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 31: identical petition addressed to the President of the Senate]

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. The "SC" file number has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

³ This file contains documents relating to several different veterans named "John Forbes" or "John Forbis." The page numbers reflect the page of the file which I believe relate this specific veteran.

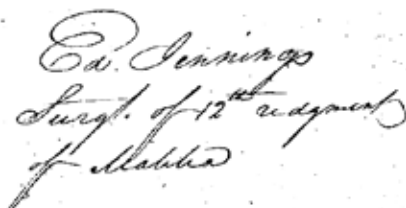
⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_williamsons_plantation.html

[p 32]

Upon Examining the Wounds of Mr. John Forbis [sic] Senior I believe them to render him partially Incapable of making a Competent Support for himself & family – who are dependent upon his Exertions, his Extreme age taken into consideration with the violence of his Wounds renders him more incapable of that Exertions, which Seems necessary for him to make in order to make a subsistence.

November 15, 1819

S/ Ed Jennings
Surgt. Of 12th redgment
Of Malitia



South Carolina York District} Personally came Joseph Forbis [sic] before me who being duly Sworn make oath in the form of law that he is a brother of John Forbis [sic] and that the said John Forbis was a Military Soldier under Curnal Neal [sic] in the Revolutionary war that he was literally cut to pieces and wounded in such a manner that he was entirely unable to make a Support for himself and family and that by his wounds now in his old age renders him incapable of making a sufficient Support for his family whose dependence on him.

Also came Captain Joseph McCorkle [paper damaged and part of his name missing] and Mary Smith who on oath saith that they were personally acquainted with John Forbis in the Revolutionary war and that the above affidavit is true As they were frequently with the said John Forbis.

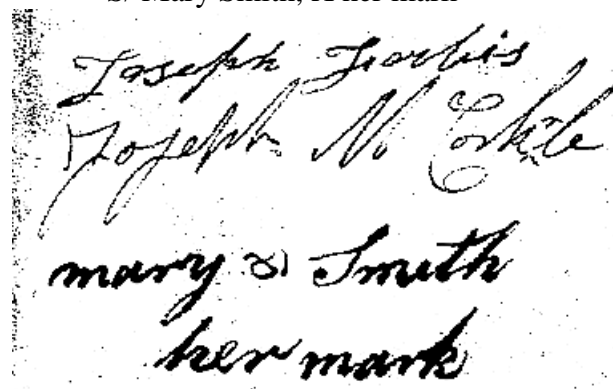
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of November 1819

S/ Elias Robertson, JP

S/ Joseph Forbis

S/ Joseph McCorkle [sic, Joseph McCorkle?]

S/ Mary Smith, X her mark



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The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the petition of John Forbes praying to be placed on the list of pensions

Report

That your Committee are of opinion that the prayer of the Petitioner ought to be granted and recommend that the said John Forbes be placed on the list as a pensioner.

S/ J. N. Davis

[Note: The Senate approved the report on December 4, 1819 as did the House on Dec. 7th 1819. It appears that an annuity of \$60 was granted the veteran.]