

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Eliezer McA (McKee, McCay) R6578

f13SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Missouri Cooper County } SS

Be it remembered that on the Twenty sixth day of June in the year while Lord 1846, before me one of the County Judges in and for said County personally appeared Eliezer McA a resident of said County, aged Eighty years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832, granting pensions to certain Officers and Soldiers of the War of the Revolution, that he is Eighty years of age, that he was born in the State of South Carolina in the City of Charlestown, that at the age of about or in my thirteenth year I entered the Army of the United States, at Charlestown South Carolina, I think in the month of January or February, in the year 1779, that he entered as Bugler, in a Company of Rangers Commanded by Capt. William McA who was ordered to Ninety Six District on the Frontier, and was attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Andrew Pickens, and served in said Company and Regiment till the summer of 1780, when at the Battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780],<sup>1</sup> his Capt. and most of his Company was Killed. He was then transferred to the Company of Capt. Robert Maxwell (same Regiment) and served under him as a Drummer for one year or upwards, And was then transferred to the Company of Capt. Wilson [John Wilson], also as a Drummer, That shortly after he was transferred to Capt. Wilson's Company the Battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781]<sup>2</sup> took place, when this affiant was disabled and taken to the Hospital, that he remained at the Hospital until he had recovered of his wounds and was afterwards retained by the Surgeon of the Hospital Dr. William Russell to be a nurse till the close of the War, and from whom he received a regular Discharge, That he served as a Musician as aforesaid from the early part of 1779 to the battle of the Eutaw Springs, and from his recovery at the Hospital to the end of the War, he was a nurse in the Hospital. The most of his first term of service under Capt. William McA was spent against the Indians and Tories in the upper part of Ninety Six District, that when not in active service Capt. McA's Company was Stationed at Senaka [sic, Seneca], Occasionally at Cheowee Station was thence marched to the Battle at Camden where as aforesaid by Capt. in the greater part of his Company was Killed, was then marched back to Seneca Station, from thence I was sent as Drummer with Captains Hannah and Nicholson of North Carolina to raise troops to meet Col. Ferguson [Major Patrick Ferguson] at Kings Mountain, but

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_camden.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_eutaw\\_springs.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html)

did not arrive there until after the Battle [October 7, 1780],<sup>3</sup> thence, returned to Pickens Fort in Ninety Six district, thence to the best of my recollection our Regiment marched to Join General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and fought at the Battle of the Cow Pens [Cowpens, January 17, 1781]<sup>4</sup>, thence returned to our former Station in Ninety Six District, thence I think to the 2nd Battle at Camden [Hobkirk Hill, April 25, 1781],<sup>5</sup> thence to our old station, shortly after our return, I was sent with Col. Clark to recruit, when we occasionally fell in with a British Major I think Dunlap [James Dunlap] who commanded a small party of English and a large party of Tories, surprised and defeated them. Killing their commander and many of his men I think we then crossed the Savannah River and fought the Battle of Kettle Creek [February 14, 1779],<sup>6</sup> thence returned to the Siege of Ninety Six, thence General Greene [Nathanael Greene] retired across the Saluda River to Reedy River and after recruiting a short time took up the line of march for Eutaw Springs, there being a supernumerary number of Musicians this Affiant then fell into the Ranks and fought the Battle in the Company commanded by Capt. Wilson, Col. Anderson [perhaps Lieutenant Colonel Robert Anderson] formerly Col. Pickens Regiment, Col. Pickens having been promoted, Col. Anderson took the command, was injured and sent to the Hospital as before stated, shortly after the close of the War I met with Col. Anderson in Charlestown South Carolina and received from a regular discharge for upwards of 4 years Service, having entered the Army at 5 different times for one year each time, Affiant further Declares that he was in several Skirmishing fights or battles with the Indians That the following incident took place during his services which he thinks worthy to relate a scouting party came in contact with a large party of Indians and were beaten by the Indians and forced to fly -- That on the retreat this affiant came up with Patrick Calhoun father of Honorable John C. Calhoun, the said Calhoun was unable to keep up with the Main body of the party, that said Patrick Calhoun requested this Affiant to remain with him. Calhoun and myself were soon separated a short distance and overtaken by the pursuing Indians, the pursuers taking advantage of our separation, one of them attacked Mr. Calhoun and prostrated him on the ground, and while in the act of dispatching him Calhoun, this Affiant fired on the Indian and saved the life of Mr. Calhoun, the other Indian in the meantime, for there were 2 who seemed to have devoted themselves to the destruction of this Affiant and Mr. Calhoun, had advanced on Affiant, his gun being empty, and in turn Mr. Calhoun came to his rescue and saved him. He thinks this incident still fresh in the memory of the Calhoun family; That his discharges was left with General Thomas Pinckney for safe keeping, that after the war Affiant on account of bad health made a visit to the settlements then making in Kentucky, and on his return to Charlestown after an absence of over 2 years he called at General Pinckney's residence with a view of recovering his papers, but by reason of his being abroad on a foreign Mission affiant was unable to get them, Affiant left Charlestown before the return of General Pinckney Consequently has lost his discharges; That this Affiant did not apply sooner for a Pension because he was in better Circumstances and better health and felt disposed to support himself, that he had in fighting the Battles of his Country got all that he fought for Liberty But now he is reduced in health, and wealth & bodily vigor and desires a Pension, That he knows of no living person by whom he can prove his services and he further declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State and he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension except the present.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_kings\\_mountain.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html)

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_cowpens.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_hobkirks\\_hill.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hobkirks_hill.html)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790214-kettle-creek/>

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the day and year first above written.

S/ Eliezer McA

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eliezer McA". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes.

S/ John H. Hutchison, Judge

[There is no evidence in the file that this applicant ever submitted supporting affidavits of any sort. He also did not respond to the 7 interrogatories required by the War Department to be put to all pension applicants claiming under the 1832 Act. There is a letter dated in 1847 from a man stating that he his acting as attorney for the applicant in which the attorney says the 'old man' sometimes writes his name "Eleazer McKee" or "Eleazer McCay."]