

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Hance McCain R6594

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Alabama } On this 22nd day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand
Fayette County } eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open court
before the Honorable John White Judge of the Circuit court for said county now sitting Hance
McCain a resident of said county of Fayette in the state aforesaid aged seventy years according
to the family register who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the
following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832
That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served
as herein stated, that in the year 1780 this deponent entered the service in a militia company
commanded by John Marr as Captain the names of the under officers not recollected in Henry
county State of Virginia from which company this deponent was shortly afterwards detached
and made to join a company commanded by Captain George Waller, the Regiment under the
command of Col. Doleman [sic: Rawleigh Downman] and General Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens].
By Captain Waller this this deponent with the balance of the company was marched from Henry
County to Hillsboro [sic: Hillsborough] in North Carolina and from thence we were marched to
Camden in the State of South Carolina having on the 14th day of August 1780 at Rugeleys mill
distant fourteen miles from Camden joined General [Horatio] Gates Army and from thence on
the night of the same [sic: next] day we were marched to the Battle Ground at Gum Swamp Creek
where on the next day [16th] about sun rise the Battle commenced known as Gates defeat [or
Battle of Camden] through the whole of which Battle I was actively engaged until defeated by the
British This deponent then returned home where he remained for about three weeks, when a
draft was ordered in the company whereupon this deponent went to Henry Courthouse and
enlisted for ten months under Lieutenant George Taylor Samuel Martin Captain in a Regiment
commanded by Col. William Polk of mounted men [of the North Carolina State Troops]
immediatly after this enlistment this deponent along with the company was marched from
Henry Courthouse Virginia to Salisbury in North Carolina from thence into South Carolina to
Head quarters on the Congaree River [after May 1781] from thence this deponent was marched
and countermarched from one pont of danger to another suppressing insurrections and
strengthening the whigs until the fall of 1782 completing a term of service under the last
enlistment which was at first for only ten months of full two years to which add my first tour of
duty at Gates defeat will comprise a term of service faithfully rendered of two years and three
months for which service this deponent has never received from the public any remuneration
whatever except a checked shirt drawn in Salisbury; this deponent had a regular discharge for
each of the aforesaid tours of duty but they in the lapse of time have been lost or destroyed He
is however able to make such proof of his service as will, he hopes enable him to make a
successful application to his country which he served in the time of trial and the hour of need
for that pittance which will ease his downward way now greatly on the wave of life. I do hereby
relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is
not on the Pension Rool of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid he
refers to the annexed certificate of Jesse Vanhoose & Dan'l Peyton as to his character

Hance hisXmark McCain

State of Mississippi } Probate Court
Choctaw County } April Term 1839

On this 22nd day of April A.D. 1839 in open court personally appeared before me, Hance
McCain of the County & State aforesaid and 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 June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the
year 1780 and in the latter part of that year - to the best of his recollection in the month of Sept
or October. the number of the Regiment not Recollected - and served under the following named
officers and in the following manner -

Was enlisted by Lieut. George Taylor under Col Polk and marched from Henry Court House Henry County Virginia through Saulsbury in North Carolina and on in to South Carolina when he was put under the Command of Gen'l [Nathanael] Greene, his Col now being Col Wade Hampton [of the South Carolina State Troops], Major Moore - first name not remembered [possibly John Moore] - and Capt Nathaniel Martin [possibly Salathiel Martin]. Continued in the service of the United States untill the latter part of the year 1782 according to the best recollection December of that year when he was discharged. During his service he was in the Battle of the Utaw Springs [sic: Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781]. His Residence was in Henry County Virginia. Previous to enlistment he served a three months tour as a drafted soldier in the following manner. To the best of his recollection was drafted in June 1780. Served under Gen'l Stevens, his other officers being Col Dolman and Capt George Wauler. Was at the defeat of Gen'l Gates on the 16th August 1780. Immediately on his return from this three months tour he enlisted as above stated

Mr McCain was born in Pennsylvania. after the Revolution he moved from Virginia to Tennessee, to Kentucky, back to Tennessee again, to Alabama from which place he applied for a pension before and thence to Mississippi where he now lives. was bourn on the 11th June 1763 which makes him 76 years of age on the 11th June 1839.

He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state — Sworn to and subscribed the date above written, Hance hisXmark McCain

NOTE:

This application was not available from HeritageQuest at the time of transcription.

In the file is a letter probably written in 1839 by McCain's agent to the Commissioner of Pensions stating that McCain was "truly in a poverty stricken condition" and "under the influence of a paralytic affliction and besides this becomes so excited when talking on the subject as to render it almost impossible to get his declaration at all." The letter continues: "If the Department can do any thing for him let them do it speedily as his days are fast wasting away and were he to die the charity of the community would have to supply him a coffin. For some time past he has been living with a daughter who has children and is so poor herself as to be unable to maintain him."

Addendum to Hance McCain R6594
South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to Hance McCain
Audited Account No. 4800C

pp 3

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

11/12/23

[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 2]

J. Thompson² M.C.

Mr. E. Hayne Esqr.

Columbia, S. C.

[p 3]

Washington City

January 24th, 1840

Sir

You will confer on me a singular favor by examining the records in your office of those who belonged to the S. C. Troops in the Revolutionary Struggle: and ascertaining if the name of Mr. Hance McCain can be found. He is now far advanced in years and is applying for a pension. He alleges that he served 2 years under Col. Wade Hampton. If you can find any mention of his name in any of the records in your office please give me a certified copy of the time he served under whom &c

Mr. Hance McCain is now a Mississippian and will feel grateful to you for any assistance you may give him.

¹ 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 "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number. 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.

² Probably THOMPSON, Jacob, a Representative from Mississippi; born in Leasburg, Caswell County, N.C., May 15, 1810; attended the public schools and Bingham Academy in Orange County; was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1831; member of the faculty of the University of North Carolina in 1831 and 1832; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1834 and commenced practice in Pontotoc, Miss., in 1835; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-sixth and to the five succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1839-March 3, 1851); chairman, Committee on Indian Affairs (Twenty-ninth Congress); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1850 to the Thirty-second Congress; appointed to the United States Senate in 1845, but never received the commission; appointed Secretary of the Interior in the Cabinet of President Buchanan and served from March 6, 1857, to January 8, 1861, when he resigned; served as inspector general in the Confederate Army during the Civil War; confidential agent of the Confederacy to Canada in 1864 and 1865; settled in Memphis, Tenn., in 1868 and managed the affairs of his extensive holdings; died in Memphis, Tenn., March 24, 1885; interment in Elmwood Cemetery.

<https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/T000203>

Yours
very respectfully
J. Thompson