

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William McElheney (McElhenney) R6697 Rebecca McElheney f22SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves rev'd 3/19/09: 11/16/16 & 4/21/24

[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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.]

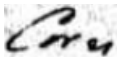
[p 5]

State of Georgia, Jasper County } SS

On this Fifteenth day of October 1834 personally appeared before George W. Holland one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of the County aforesaid and which Court is a Court of Record, William McElhenny [sic] a resident of said County and State, aged Seventy-five years and who is so infirm as to be unable to appear in open Court, 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 June 7th, 1832. That he volunteered in Chester District South Carolina in that part called Craven County in the South Carolina militia in the company commanded by Captain Mills [John Mills] and in the Regiment commanded by Col Lacie [sic, Edward Lacey] – sometime in the year 1779 – and served with the said Captain Mills a tour of duty of about three months or thereabouts during this service he was engaged in a fight which took place at a place called Mobley's Meeting house [May 1780]<sup>1</sup> in Chester District between the Militia and a party of Tories – in this action Col Bratton [Lt. Col. William Bratton] of another Regiment commanded. That after the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], he cannot recollect the date, having lain for years upon a sick bed – and being much impaired in memory – he volunteered again and under the same officers – and marched up to the Catawba River – where at Land's Ford his Regiment joined Colonel Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] troops and marched with them to Corn[?]<sup>2</sup> station at Corn[?]<sup>3</sup> Mills – that he marched with Col Sumter's forces to a place on the Catawba River where they met the British and Sumter was defeated [Battle of Fishing Creek, August 18, 1780].<sup>4</sup> That they marched afterwards to join Col Campbell [William Campbell] at the place called the Cowpens and then marched to a place called Hanging Rock-- and then fought the enemy at that place [August 6, 1780]<sup>5</sup> – this he thinks was in the summer or fall – that he afterwards marched for Kings Mountain and was there engaged in the battle [October 7, 1780]<sup>6</sup> at that place against the Tories commanded by Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] – he recollects Major Brown of the Regular Army at the time news arrived of the capture of Lord Cornwallis's Army [Yorktown,

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_mobleys\\_meetinghouse.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_mobleys_meetinghouse.html)

<sup>2</sup>  Core Station? Coro Station?

<sup>3</sup> 

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

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_hanging\\_rock.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html)

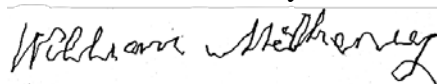
<sup>6</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_kings\\_mountain.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html)

October 19, 1781] and that he then returned home. The reason he never was drafted was from a natural defect in the right arm and hand – he could perform services, but was such a man as was exempted from duty <sup>7</sup> – he was born in the County of Lunenburg, State of Virginia – if there was ever a record of his age, he never saw it – but from subsequent events, to wit, the war, his marriage &c he thinks it was in the year 1759 – he lived in Chester District at the time he volunteered – and after the war in Richland District – then in Edgefield District & then in Abbeville District – from which last mentioned place he removed in the year 1825 in Georgia, Jasper County – where he now lives – he never received any discharge from service – he refers to the certificates of Stephen McElhenney<sup>8</sup> & George Gill<sup>9</sup> – soldiers of the Revolution who were acquainted with him at that time – and for further reference as to his character for veracity &c he also is the certificate of Robert Brown & Thomas Houston & David L. Adams a clergyman – all of whom are well acquainted with him at this time & for several years past – and reside in his neighborhood – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency of any State – or (if any) only on that of the Agency of the State of Georgia.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ G. W. Holland, J.I.C.

S/ William McElheney



Personally appeared before me, George W. Holland, a Justice of the Inferior Court of Jasper County Georgia William McElheney who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the period of two years & six months from the beginning of the year 1779 as a volunteer & for such service he claims a pension. Sworn to & subscribed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 1834. S/ G. W. Holland, J.I.C.

S/ William McElheney

[David L. Adams, a clergyman, Robert Brown and Thomas Hariston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 21]

South Carolina Chester District }SS

Stephen McElheney appeared in open court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of

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<sup>7</sup> Here the veteran begins to answer the 7 interrogatories promulgated by the War Department to be put to each applicant for a pension. Those 7 interrogatories were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

<sup>8</sup> [Stephen McElheney S21368](#)

<sup>9</sup> [George Gill S21229](#)

ordinary of said District who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that he was well acquainted with William McElenaney, of the State of Georgia during the revolutionary War & saith that said William McElenaney, then resided in Craven County Camden District in that part now called Chester District & further saith that the said William McElenney, was a soldier of said Revolution and a friend to his Country, the United States, and was in the following Service: he believes said William McElhenney was Drafted but this deponent does not mind the date of the time nor the officers under whom said William served but knows the claimant marched to Orangeburg & believes he served three months tour, after the fall of Charleston he knows said claim William McElhenney, was pretty constantly in service till the year 1782 and was under command of Capt. John Mills Col. Lacey's Regiment and this deponent saith that he knows said William McElhenney was at the Battle of Kings Mountain as this deponent was there with the said William & this deponent saith from the time Charleston fell to the time the claimant quit Service was between one and two years.

Sworn to & signed in open Court the 29th of December 1833 before  
S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

S/ Stephen McElhenney

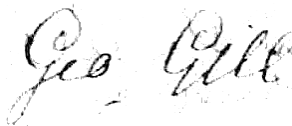


[p 22]

State of South Carolina Chester District } SS

George Gill a Soldier of the revolution came into open court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary for said District who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that he was well acquainted with William McElhenney who now resides in the State of Georgia and then resided in State of South Carolina in the past now Chester District and further saith that he knew William McElhenney to be a friend to his country of the United States during the Revolutionary War and was one of those who suffered much fatigue & privations during said War & further saith he does not mind any particular service done by said McElhenney but knows when the Enemy had possession of the country said McElhenney had to conceal himself from them as all others did that is from their own homes and believes him to have been in constant service of some kind or other Army scouting &c & further saith that he would refer for particulars to the within affidavit who was made by a Brother of said McElhenney & a man of truth & veracity.

S/ Geo. Gill



Sworn to & signed the 31st day of December 1833.

S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

[p 2-3: Affidavit dated Sept. 30, 1854, of Sarah Hairston in which she states she knew William McElhaney and his wife Rebecca (whose maiden name was Rebecca Coleman) back as far as the year 1795; that she always knew them to have been legally married in the state of Georgia some time in the year 1787; that William McElhaney died in 1840 and bore the reputation of a revolutionary soldier and that his wife died April 15 1853 having raised a family of "many children"] [It is not clear from the papers in this file why this affidavit appears as there is no application by either the widow or her children in the file.]

[Comptroller's certificate of payments made to a William McElhenney for military service

during the Revolution, including service under Capt. Mills and under Capt. James Ramsey:

Comptroller General's Office  
Columbia So Ca June 19-1854.

" No 287 } Issues the 16<sup>th</sup> October 1784 to Mr Wil-  
Book L } iam M<sup>c</sup> Elhenney for Ten Pounds  
twelve Shilling and Ten Pence for  
Shilling for 94 days Militia Duty in 1780  
and 1782 as per Account audited.

Principal £ 10. 12. 10<sup>4</sup>      No 12  
Annual Interest £ 0. 14. 10. "

" No 287 Book L. Mr William M<sup>c</sup> Elhenney his Ac-  
count of 94 days Militia Duty in 1780 & 1782.  
Amo<sup>t</sup> to £ 10. 12. 10<sup>4</sup> & c.

" State of So. Carolina Debts to William M<sup>c</sup>  
Elhenney

Comment Sept } Forty Two days under Capt  
the 26 1780 } Mills Abowmen at 20/p/day £ 42. 0. 0.  
Comment Feby 11 } Fifty two days under Capt  
1782 } Jas Ramsey at 12/6. p/day 32. 10. 0

£ 74. 10. 0  
£ 10. 12. 10<sup>4</sup>

I do hereby empower Mr Stephen M<sup>c</sup> Elhenney  
to receive an Order for the amount of my  
Acct against the Publick of South Carolina  
and his receipt shall be a sufficient dis-  
charge from Govt your very Obedt servt  
William M<sup>c</sup> Elhenney

June 8<sup>th</sup> 1785.

To the Treasurer of the  
State of So Carolina.

Taken and Assigned before John Darr M.P. "      No 287.

" Rec<sup>d</sup> 16 Octo 84 from the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of the  
Treas<sup>y</sup> in an Order No 287 Lib L for  
£ 10. 12. 10<sup>4</sup> in full Satisfactn for this  
Acct by virtue of an Order.

" Stephen M<sup>c</sup> Elhenney "

I do hereby certify the foregoing to be  
a true Copy as taken from the Records  
of this Office.

For Comptroller Genl  
T. S. Jacobs  
Deputy.

(No seal of Office)

[p 2: Printed form of Indent No. 287 Book L dated October 16, 1784 “delivered to Mr. William McElhenny this our INDENTED CERTIFICATE for the Sum of Ten Pounds twelve Shillings and ten Pence farthing Sterling for 94 Days Militia Duty in 1780 and 1782 as per Account Audited.”]

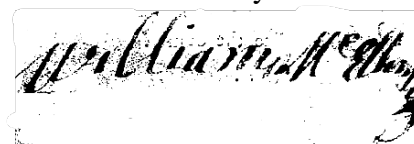
[p 3: Reverse of the above Indent bearing, among others, the following endorsement:

April 1786 I do hereby assign over to Robert Tate his Heirs or Assigns the within Certificate principal & interest due or to be due – Value received

Witness

James Houston

William McElhenny

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William McElhenny", enclosed in a rectangular box. The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized.

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<sup>10</sup> 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.