

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alston S. Massey R7004 ¹

Emeline Massey

f22SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

rev'd 7/5/16 & 11/19/23

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

The State of Alabama, Monroe County

On the first day of April 1848 personally appeared in open court before the Circuit Court for said Monroe County Alston Massey a resident of the County of Monroe and State of Alabama of about Eighty five years of age, who being first duly sworn according to the law doth on his oath make this following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein stated. William Hendricks was his Captain. Peter Dubose and James Oldfield were Majors, Lemuel Benton was Colonel under General Francis Marion. He cannot recollect the day or year he entered the Service--but states that it was about two months before the discharge of the army in South Carolina by General Marion [Francis Marion]. That he served one month and twenty seven days. That when he entered the service he resided in Chesterfield District South Carolina. That he was draughted [sic, drafted]. That he does not know of any person who knows that he served in the Revolution except what William Hollis² knows, who lives in Covington County, Alabama and whose affidavit is hereto annexed--and that he has no documentary evidence of his service.

Says that he entered the army when he was sixteen or seventeen years of age. He was drafted as he recollects--in 1781 or 1782--for two months--that he went from Chesterfield District to Watboo [sic, Wadboo] where they stayed until discharged. That soon after he went into General Marion's camp--the British evacuated Charleston [December 1782]. General Marion discharged his up-country soldiers and went to Charleston. That he got no written discharge because none was given to any of the troops.

He says he was born in Virginia about 25 miles above Halifax. That when he was a child his Father moved to Chesterfield District, South Carolina. That since the Revolutionary War he resided in Chesterfield District, So. Ca. forty five years--then he moved to Georgia where he resided until three years ago when he moved to Monroe County Alabama.

He says the reason of his not earlier applying for his pension is that he was told that none but six months soldiers were entitled to the provisions of the act of June 7, 1832. That within a year he has heard that other soldiers who were drafted for two months were receiving their pension in So. Ca. That he had a petition or declaration written by Justice of the peace in Georgia--but he was advised by Wilburn a lawyer of Georgia that none but six months men were entitled to pensions.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension rolls of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court on this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Alston Massey, \\\ his mark

Attest: S/ Daniel McColl, Clerk

¹ BLWt87024-160-55

² [William Hollis S10845](#)

We, John Daily--a clergyman residing in Monroe County Alabama & near Alston Massey and Samuel J. Cumming residing in said Monroe County Alabama & near Alston Massey, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Alston Massey who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be Eighty-five years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.
Sworn & Subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ John S. Daily
S/ Saml. Jas. Cummings

The Court propounded interrogatories to the said Alston Massey who upon oath answers as follows:

1st That he was born in Virginia--about twenty five miles above Halifax. That he is in his eighty sixth year.

2nd That he has no record his age-- he had one but gave it his son about 24 years ago in South Carolina.

3rd That he was living in Chesterfield District, State of South Carolina--when he was called into service--that at first he was drafted & for the forty-five years after afterwards he then removed to Georgia thence to Alabama.

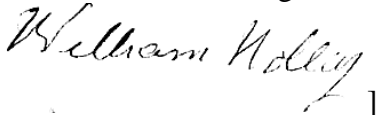
4. That he was drafted.

5. That he was with General Francis Marion. Lemuel Benton was Colonel, Colonel Horry was also with them. James Oldfield and Peter Dubose were the Majors. That he went into the Camp of General Marion at Wadboo about thirty miles from Charleston.

6. That he never received any written discharge--that he was discharged by General Marion's verbal declaration to his soldiers discharging them.

7. He names John Daily - Aldin Clark, Samuel James Cummings, and William W. McCall and John J. Roach Esq. as persons to whom his is known in his present neighborhood & can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief as to his services as a soldier in the revolution.

[p 20: On July 20, 1847 in Covington County Alabama, William Holley gave testimony that he was personally acquainted with Alton Massey [sic] at the time said Massey went out in the campaign under General Marion during the Revolutionary war.

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[p 9: On October 6, 1855 in Monroe County Alabama, Emeline Massey, 52, a resident of said County and state filed a claim for bounty land as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier; she states she is the widow of Alston S Massey; that she was married to him on April 14, 1820 by one Aaron Knight; that her name prior to her marriage was Emeline Allen; that her husband died near Monroeville and Monroe County Alabama July 17, 1853 and that she remains his widow; that at the time of her marriage in South Carolina, no public record of marriages was kept by the state. She signed her application with her mark. Her application was supported by the affidavit of Henry and Nancy Honeycut, both of whom signed with their respective marks.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts³ relating to Alston Massey

pp 3

Audited Account No. 4822.5

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11/19/23

[p 2: Printed form of Indent No. 581 Book N dated April 15, 1785 “delivered to Mr. Alston Massey this our INDENTED CERTIFICATE for the Sum of Two Pounds one Shilling and five Pence Sterling for 29 days Duty in the Militia in 1782 as per Account Audited.”]

[p 3: Reverse of the above Indent bearing only endorsements by Robert Lowry and Hardy Sellers. How these men acquired an interest in the indent is not disclosed by the documents in this file.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature on the left is "Robert Lowry" and the second signature on the right is "Hardy Sellers". Both signatures are enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

³ 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.