

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Nettles ¹ R7599

Amelia Nettles f77SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/13/08: rev'd 8/24/17

[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' 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.]

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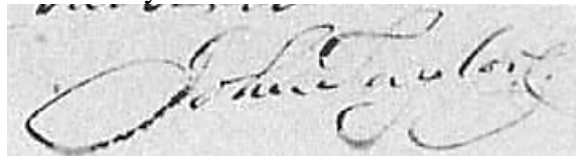
We the undersigned have known Captain William Nettles of Kershaw District, South Carolina, for many years, and take pleasure in bearing testimony to the uniform good character which he has sustained ever since our earliest acquaintance with him. He was an active and meritorious soldier during the revolutionary. He was engaged in several skirmishes with the Enemy in this State & in Georgia are during that period. During the greater part of it he bore the commission of Captain under the several Commands of Generals Sumter, Marion, and Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. He now, after having raised a numerous family who have become greatly dispersed, is left alone unable to support himself. He is in his 86th year; and as well by reason of his present circumstances and uniformly unoffending life, as his active and meritorious services during our Revolutionary Struggle, we consider strongly entitled to the munificence of his Country. We would therefore recommend that he be placed in his present extreme old age on the pension list. Camden (South Carolina) 19th June 1828

S/ Thos. Sumter



My knowledge of Captain Nettles commenced after the Revolutionary war & therefore as to facts before that Period I could only know them by Testimony -- to all the rest of the foregoing Statement I cheerfully subscribe.

S/ John Taylor



I have not been acquainted with Captain Nettles since the revolutionary war, but subscribed to the foregoing statement as to his conduct during the war.

S/ Thos. Taylor, Sr.

¹ BLReg241202-1855

John Taylor

We the subscribers know nothing of Captain Nettles revolutionary services but from general report -- But we cheerfully subscribe to the truth of the statement as to his excellent character -- & helpless state.

S/ Thomas Lang	S/ William McWillie	S/ John McCray	S/ P. Thornton
S/ Abraham DeLeon	S/ William Blanding	S/ E. Mayhew	S/ Wm G. O'Cain
S/ David Schrock	S/ Peter Warren	S/ Jos Goodman	S/ Shubel Blanding
S/ Alexander Young	S/ Jno D. Winn	S/ J. S. Murray	S/ Wm Kennedy

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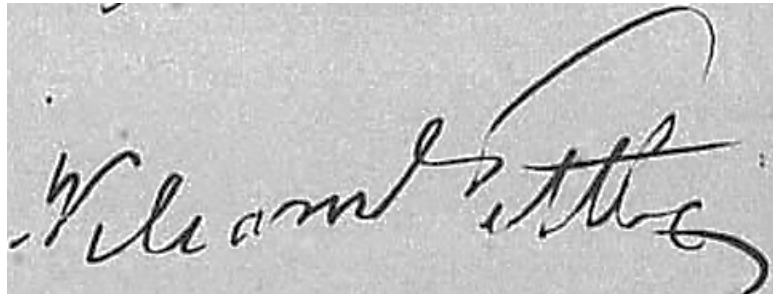
South Carolina Kershaw District }

Captain William Nettles makes oath that he entered the militia Service of South Carolina at the Commencement of the Revolutionary war, and that from that period to the close of said war he was actively engaged and constantly on duty either in said State or the State of Georgia – That he served successively during that period under Generals [Williamson Andrew Williamson], Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] Henderson [William Henderson], Marion [Francis Marion] and Sumter [Thomas Sumter]. And he further states that all the facts stated in an application made to Congress at its last Session in his behalf by Colonel John Taylor of Columbia and others, are true. He states that he is at this time upwards of 86 years old, very infirm and greatly in need of the assistance of his country.

Sworn before me this 13th of November 1829

S/ Thos. P Evans, Clk. Ker. Dt.

S/William Nettles



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State of South Carolina, Kershaw District } SS

On this the Eleventh day of July 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable ~~William~~ Henry ^{William} Desaussure Presiding judge in the Court of Equity now sitting, William Nettles a resident of Kershaw District, and State aforesaid, aged Ninety 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 act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States, as a volunteer militia man, under the following named officers and served as herein stated. As a private, and noncommissioned officer in Captain Welsh's Company of Colonel Eli Kershaw's Regiment, raised in the neighborhood of Camden South Carolina, and under the Command of General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] was in several contest with the British and Tories in South Carolina and Georgia, particularly in the engagement fought

betwixt Briar Creek² and the Ogeechee River in Georgia: -- In the year 1780 he was appointed 1st Lieutenant in Captain William Brewer's Company of South Carolina militia, and upon his Captains being obliged to retire from the Service, in consequence of his being severely wounded, and maimed at General Sumter's surprise on Fishing Creek [August 18, 1780] in the month of August in the same year, he was appointed Captain; that on General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] taking the Command in South Carolina, he was ordered with his Company to join General Marion [Francis Marion], who was then lying on the Islands in Santee River betwixt Nelson's and Murray's Ferries; that he marched under Marion to Parker's Ferry and Combee, and was ordered to beat up the foraging parties of the British and check their detachments from Charleston; that he was in a smart action with the British in that quarter, and then marched to meet General Greene on the road leading from the Eutaw [Springs] to Charleston, that on the day of the Battle of the Eutaws [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781] he was lying sick, at the main guard, and so unwell that he was not allowed to join in the engagement: that after the engagement he crossed with General Greene's Army to the North side of the River, and camped on the High Hills of Santee, and that he remained in command, and with the Army, (excepting when detached, or on furlough) until the British were driven across Ashley Ferry.

A short time after Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] he was taken prisoner by the Tories under William Kimball, and Irish John Robinson, that he escaped from them at Squire William Welsh's on Lynches Creek, raised his men, and gave them a gential [sic, genteel?] dressing on the Hanging Rock Creek below General Sumter's battle ground.

This deponent was born in Surry County, Virginia, on the 2nd April 1742, has no record of his age, but in his Family Bible, which is copied from his Father's Family Bible -- he came into the Province of South Carolina in March 1763. -- was living at the time he was called into Service, betwixt Rocky Creek and Fishing Creek, on the West side of the Catawba River, in old Camden District South Carolina, and ever since the piece of 1783, he has lived on Sanders Creek 6 miles above Camden, on the main road to Lancaster, Kershaw District, formerly Kershaw County in the State of South Carolina. -- During the Revolutionary War this deponent always went into service, as a Volunteer, he never was drafted, nor did he ever serve as a Substitute for any man. He knows, and is known to almost every person in this Section of the Country. The Honorable S. D. Miller, Senator in Congress -- Honorable James Blair, member in Congress -- Colonel James S. Deas, Senator in the State Legislature of South Carolina -- Messrs Lang, Levy, & McWillie Representatives in the Legislature of the State of South Carolina, old Colonel Thomas Taylor of the Town of Columbia -- Colonel Abram Blanding of the Town of Columbia -- John Boykin Esquire --Intendant of the Town of Camden -- and any old Citizen, or the son of any old Citizen, in this Section of the country can testify as to my Character for veracity, and belief of my services as a Soldier, and officer of the Revolution. -- Colonel John Carter, late Representative in Congress from this District, and who occasionally resides with his Father-in-law Captain Marbury, of Georgetown DC will also testify as to his belief of my character and Revolutionary Services.

I was Commission both as Lieutenant and Captain by Colonel Eli Kershaw -- and rose to the captaincy when Captain Brewer retired; both Commissions together with many of my Revolutionary papers have been lost. I was chiefly in the service 7 years of the war, and for more than 2 years of that time held the Commission of Captain.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State, only on that, of

² Briar Creek March 3, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

the agency of the State of South Carolina, payable by the said State, at the rate of \$60 per annum.
Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court
S/ William J. Grant

S/ William Nettles

[Abram Blanding, Chapman Levy, Benjamin Haile & James K. Douglas gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of South Carolina, Kershaw District: Office of the Commissioner in Equity

Before me, William J. Grant, Commissioner and Equity in and for the District aforesaid personally appeared Captain William Nettles, who being duly sworn Saith: That the services rendered by him during the Revolutionary War, referred to and detailed in the foregoing declaration, were rendered at, or about the following times viz.: Under Captain Welch from some time in July 1776, until October 1776 -- and from early in January 1779, until November 1779: Under Captain Brewer, from early in the Spring of 1780, until December 1782. That during the last mentioned term of Service, he was promoted and commissioned, (on or about 18 August 1780) a Captain, and continued in that commission in the service, until the close of the war, some time in December 1782. That he will was further at various times engaged in Scouting and other parties, besides the above services.

Sworn to before me 20th of August 1832.

S/ William J. Grant, Comr. In Eqy KD

S/ William Nettles

[p 12: On March 6, 1856, in Richmond County, Ga., Amelia Nettles (no record of age), filed for bounty land as the widow of William Nettles stating that she married him June 20, 1792; they were married by John Jamieson, JP; that her maiden name was Amelia Shivers; that her husband died November 3, 1833. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 14: On April 5, 1856 in Richmond County, Ga. Amelia, 91, filed for a widow's pension of William Nettles saying that he was a pensioner at the rate of \$480/year; that she had no children by her husband and received no portion of his estate; that her husband's estate was administered by Jesse L. Nettles, a son by her husband's first wife; she makes reference to there being other children by her husband's first wife but they are not named. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 22 there is a note dated Oct. 17, 1911 saying the following were removed from this file and sent to the War Dept.:

“An order to Captain William Nettles signed Jas. Postell Colonel militia dated Camden, May 14, 1781.

An order to Captain Nettles from General Sumter signed Fred'k Kimball, Colonel dated October 10, 1781

Three orders to Captain William Nettles, signed John Marshel Colonel dated respectively Little Lynchs Creek February 4 1782; Camp Four Hole Bridge June 12, 1782, and June 28, 1782.

A Pay Bill Return of the First Division of Captain William Nettles' company in Colonel John Marshel's Regiment General Henderson's [William Henderson's] Brigade from March 12, 1782

until discharged with sworn statement as to the truth of same signed William Nettles dated Camden District South Carolina June 14, 1783." [Pension last paid Sept. 4, 1832]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a Captain in the South Carolina militia.]