

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Stephen Nixon R7678

Martha Nixon

f72SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/20/09: rev'd 9/3/17

[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 '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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Alabama County of Randolph

On this 7th day of June 1852, before me a justice of the Peace in and for the County & State aforesaid personally appeared Stephen Nixon Junior a resident of said County and State, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order for himself and his two sisters who have appointed him their attorney, to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and Pensions to certain widows."

That he, the said Stephen Nixon Junior, Mary A. Nettles and Nancy Finch are the only surviving children of Stephen Nixon Senior, a Revolutionary Soldier and Martha his wife, there were only 4 children in all to wit Stephen Nixon Junior born in the year 1796, Mary A. Nixon (now M A Nettles) born in the year 1797, Nancy Finch (formerly Nancy Nixon) on in the year 1794 and Isham Nixon, born in the year 1788 and who died without wife or children in the year 1850 in the District of Richland State of South Carolina.

That the said Stephen Nixon Senior served in the war of the Revolution as a private soldier. His service commenced in the early part of the year 1777 and he continued in the service of the United States for about 5 years, until about the close of the war. The said services were performed under Sumter for the most part. He constituted a part of some Horse Company in the State of South Carolina in Sumter District, on the high hills of Santee. His service was mostly rendered there and in the County adjacent. Declarant is not able to give the names of the inferior officers. The state of the country then calling for scouting companies, the said Stephen Nixon formed a part of these companies of horsemen, until 1780, when General Greene [Nathanael Greene] took command of the Southern Army, when the said Nixon entered in the service under General Greene until about the close of the war.

The deponent makes this statement from information given to him by his deceased father the said Stephen Nixon, and by others who previous to the death of the latter spoke of their own knowledge of the facts. He does not know that any persons are now alive who could testify to the service from their own personal knowledge, neither can he find any papers which would afford proof. He does not recollect what particular battles his father was in.

After the close of the war, the said Stephen Nixon was a Baptist Minister for many years. He was Pastor of the Church called Congaree in Richland District South Carolina, up to the time of his death, which took place there on the 4th of February 1816. He left his sword, cartridge box in the family. He was born in the year 1754 and was raised in South Carolina.

In the year 1780 April 10th he was married to Martha Nettles. The marriage took place in Sumter District South Carolina. They were married by one Richard Furman, Minister of the

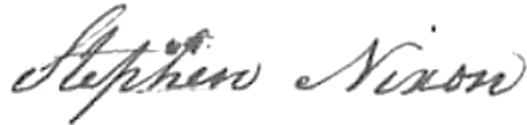
Gospel. That the said Martha the mother of the declarant and his sisters remained a widow until her death which took place in the District of Richland State of South Carolina on the 25th of September 1846. Her age was about 90 years, without ever making any application for a pension. That she was ~~not~~ married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place prior to the first of January 1794 viz. at the time heretofore stated.

That the said Stephen Nixon Senior and the said Martha his wife are buried in the same Grave Yard.

That as appears from a letter from the State office at Columbia South Carolina, the service of said Nixon is of record there, for one years service at one time.

The declarant Stephen Nixon Junior by virtue of the power of attorney vested in him, hereby appoints William Hunt of Washington City DC his true and lawful attorney to apply to the Commissioner of Pensions for and to receive a certificate allowing to the said children of the parties aforesaid the amount of pension to which Martha Nixon the widow of Stephen Nixon Senior was entitled at her decease on the 25th of September 1846.

S/ Stephen Nixon



Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written, before me, and I hereby certify that I am well acquainted with the said Stephen Nixon Jr. and am fully satisfied that the above statement made by him is true.

S/ Henry W. Armstrong, JP

[pp 63-64—original supporting affidavit given by Petty dated August 5th 1853.]

[p 10: Power of attorney dated June 7, 1852 executed by Mary A Nettles in which she states she is a daughter of Stephen and Martha Nixon.



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State of Alabama Butler County

On this 24th day of August A.D. 1854, before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared Theophilus Petty,¹ a resident of said County, aged ninety-seven years, and made oath according to law, that he was well acquainted with Stephen Nixon and served with him in the Revolutionary War, a part of the time under Capt. Generals Marion and Sumter, that they served together in several places, and were at the Battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781]; that they were in Col. Peter Horry's Regiment of State Cavalry of South Carolina, and the latter part of their service they were under the command of General Greene; that he knows the said Stephen Nixon served as much as one year as a Sgt. of Cavalry and believes it was much longer, as his whole service was as much as 3 years; that said Nixon often told him while in service that he had left a wife at home and wished he could see her, that he never saw said Nixon after the war, but was informed and believed that

¹ [Theophilus Petty R8161](#)

he became a Baptist Preacher and was Pastor of a Church in Richland District, South Carolina and died there about the year 1816, that he learned this part of his history some years ago from a source entitled to credit and should have inserted it in his former affidavit, but did not suppose it necessary; and he verily believes that the said Nixon was the identical Stephen Nixon who was a Baptist Preacher in Richland District aforesaid and died in 1816, and whose widow Martha Nixon died on 25 September 1846, whose sons Stephen Nixon is now applying for a Pension due said widow, and that he has no doubt she was his Widow Ann was entitled to a Pension for said services. He further swears that he has no interest in the Pension claimed by the children of said Nixon.

S/ Theophilus Petty, X his mark

[p 6: on August 30, 1854 in Butler County Alabama, Mrs. Nancy Finch a resident of said County aged 60 years gave testimony that she is the daughter of Stephen and Martha Nixon deceased; that her father the Reverend Stephen Nixon was for many years pastor of the Congaree Baptist Church in Richland District South Carolina and died February 4, 1816; that since her father's death she has had possession of the family Bible in which she finds in the handwriting of her father the record of her parents' marriage on April 10, 1780; that her mother's maiden name was Martha Nettles; that her mother died September 25, 1846.

Nancy Finch
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[p 42, SC Comptroller General's certificate that Stephen Nixon was paid for one year's service as sergeant in Col. Peter Horry's State Cavalry in 1781 & 1782.]

[p 12: family record:

Stephen Nixon Was born December 11, 1754

Stephen and Martha Nixon was Married April 10, 1780

Richard the son of Stephen and Martha Nixon was born March 15, 1781 about 9 o'clock in the morning

Elizabeth the daughter of Stephen and Martha Nixon was born March 5, 1783 about 2 o'clock in the morning

Elizabeth the daughter of Stephen & Martha Nixon departed this life October 18, 1783 about 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning being 7 months & 13 days old.

Thomas and Sarah Nixon was born October 7, 1780 for about 10 o'clock at night

Sarah the daughter of Stephen and Martha Nixon departed this life 18 October 1784 aged 11 days

Richard the son of Stephen & Martha Nixon Departed this Life December 24, 1786 About 11 o'clock at Night being 5 years 9 months and 9 days Old

Stephen the son of Stephen & Martha Nixon was born March 1, 1787 about 1 o'clock at night and departed this Life 27 March 1787 about 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning aged 27 days

Thomas son of Stephen & Martha Nixon departed this Life May 23 about 12 o'clock at night 1787 being 2 years and 7 months and 16 days Old

Stephen Nixon Was born December ^{16th} 1754
 Stephen and Martha Nixon was married April ^{10th} 1780
 Richard the son of Stephen and Martha Nixon was
 born March 15: 1781 about 9 O Clock in the Morning
 Elizabeth the daughter of Stephen & Martha Nixon was born
 March 5th 1783 about Two O Clock in the Morning
 Elizabeth the daughter of Stephen & Martha Nixon departed
 this life October 18th 1783 about one or two O Clock in the
 Morning being 17 Months & 13 days Old ¹¹ 1784
 Thomas and Sarah Nixon was born October 7th about 10 O Clock at Night
 Sarah the daughter of Stephen and Martha Nixon departed
 this life 18 October 1784 Aged Eleven days
 Richard the Son of Stephen & Martha Nixon Departed this Life
 December 24th 1786: About Eleven O Clock at Night. —
 being 5 years 9 Months and Nine days Old
 Stephen the Son of Stephen & Martha Nixon was born March 8th 1787 about one O Clock
 at Night and Departed this Life 27 March 1787 about one or two O Clock
 in the Morning aged 27 Days
 Thomas son of Stephen & Martha Nixon departed this life May ²³ twelve
 O Clock at Night 1787 being two years and seven Months
 and Sixteen Days Old. — — — — —

T H E

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The State of Alabama Randolph County } Personally came before me F. M. Wagnon an acting
 Justice of the Peace in & for said County & state Samuel M. Nettles, who being first duly sworn
 according to law deposeth and saith. That he lived with Solomon Nettles and his wife Elizabeth
 Nettles at the time he was 12 years old and, that Stephen Nixon Senior & his wife Martha, had
 six children at that time and that the sixth child was born in A.D. 26 January 1788. This I have
 taken from the family Record. This Solomon & Elizabeth Nettles was the Father & Mother of
 the wife of Stephen Nixon Senior & his wife Martha lived near the said Solomon Nettles, and
 further deponent was well & personally acquainted with both families. Sworn to & subscribed
 before me this 29th day of April A.D. 1852

S/ Saml. M. Nettles

Sam M. Nettles