

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Prewett (Prewitt) R8460

f29SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

State of Tennessee Bradley County: On this 28th day of August 1849 Personally appeared William Prewett before me William Brittain an acting Justice of the peace for said County, a resident of Bradley County and State of Tennessee aged 87 years and six months, who first being 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 in the month of January 1780 under Capt. William Smith in a Regiment commanded by Col. Roebuck [Benjamin Roebuck] (as a militia man) under the following circumstances my father Thomas Prewett was drafted in the above mentioned Company of Capt. Smith (declarant then resided in Spartanburg District in the State of South Carolina with his father) declarant entered the service of the United States as a Substitute for Thomas Prewett declarant's father for the term of six months under Capt. William Smith in a Regiment commanded by Col. Roebuck in the State of South Carolina Spartanburg District and that he mustered into the service of the United States at a place called the Piney woods House in said District in the month of January 1780 as a private soldier by the above mentioned officers, and was marched immediately to a place called Ninety Six in the State of South Carolina and remained there in Garrison until sometime in the month of May a few days after the British took Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] we left Ninety Six and marched to a place called Bunkers Hill and marched from there to the Musgrove Ford [Battle of Musgrove Mill, August 19, 1780] on the Enoree River and there had a scrimmage with the Tories and defeated them we marched from there home to Spartanburg District and after having served the full term of six months as a substitute for Thomas Prewett declarant was discharged by Capt. William Smith. In a week or 10 days after declarant was discharged he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in a company commanded by Capt. Daniel Duff of Union District South Carolina in a Regiment commanded by Col. Brannan [sic, Thomas Brandon?] Declarant does not recollect the name of the Regiment declarant says he was mustered into the Service of the United States at Union Court House by Capt. Duff for the term of six months Declarant says the Troops were called County Rangers in this Campaign we kept no Garrison but scouted in the upper parts of North and South Carolina in October 1780 we joined the Regiment of Col. Campbell [William Campbell] on Broad River to march after Col. Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] a British officer we crossed Broad River at the Shallow Ford in Rutherford County North Carolina and marched on the trail of Ferguson during 3 days and overtook him at Kings Mountain and there had a battle [Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780]. Ferguson was killed and mostly all of his army was taken prisoners, they prisoners was marched to Salisbury North Carolina but we returned to Union District and continued

to scout to keep down the Tories we joined General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] at a place called the Cross Keys in Union District and marched with him to the Tiger [Tyger] River at a place called Blackstock's Ford and there had a severe battle [Battle of Blackstocks, November 20, 1780] with Col. Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] a British officer we defeated him we then separated from General Sumter and marched to Greenville District and continued to scout until my term of service was out having served the full term of six months as a volunteer and private soldier and was discharged at Pickens old Court House by Capt. Daniel Duff -- declarant says in a few days after he returned home to Spartanburg District he was drafted into the service of the United States for six months under the command of Capt. William Smith in a Regiment commanded by Col. Roebuck and was mustered into service at Spartanburg Court House in the State of South Carolina in a few days we joined General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and [a] few days after we had a battle at a place called the Cowpens [Battle of Cowpens, January 17, 1781] with Col. Tarleton a British officer the same fellow we whipped on the Tyger River we killed a great many and took almost his whole Army prisoners about 3 days after the Battle we separated from General Morgan and continued to scout we had a scrimmage in Edgefield District we was then marched to Spartanburg District and discharged (after serving six months in the company of Capt. Smith) in the month of July 1781 declarant further says he knows of no person that he can prove his services by and has no Documentary Evidence to show his services by having his discharges lost never thinking they would be any use to him and the reason he has never applied for a Pension before he was told owing to the circumstance of his discharges being lost and not knowing no person he could prove his services by, it would be doubtful he further declares that he was acquainted with Colonels Roebuck and Brannan [Thomas Brandon] and has seen Generals Morgan, Sumter and Marion Col. William Washington and Col. Campbell he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State he declares he served 18 months in the manner stated above and a Corps called into service by competent authority that he was either in field or in Garrison and for the time during which the services were performed he was not employed in any civil Pursuits. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.  
S/ William Brittain, JP

S/ William Prewitt, X his mark

[James Carter, a clergyman, and B F Martin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Tennessee Bradley County: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 1849 before me William Brittain an acting Justice of the peace personally appeared Benjamin F Martin a credible Citizen and after being duly sworn according to Law Deposeth and Saith

I have been acquainted with William Pruitt [sic] from my Earliest Recollection, he being a near neighbor to my Father who was a Revolutionary Soldier and hearing them frequently conversing about their hardships in the war, as left the impression out my mind that he was a Soldier in the Revolution.

S/ William Brittain, JP

S/ B. F. Martin

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State of Tennessee Polk County: On this 6th day of March 1850 personally appeared before me John Cass an acting Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid John White<sup>1</sup> aged 94 years and after being duly sworn according to law says that he was personally acquainted with

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<sup>1</sup> [John White S3539](#)

William Prewett during the Revolutionary War that the said Prewett lived in Spartanburg District in the State of South Carolina affiant lived in Union District near the line which divided Union and Spartanburg in about 2 miles from where the said Prewett lived affiant says that to the best of his recollection that the said Prewett entered the service about the same time that affiant did in the month of January 1780 affiant says that he understood and believes that the said William Prewett served a tour as a substitute for his father Thomas Prewett whom affiant was well acquainted with affiant says that the said Prewett served under Capt. Daniel Duff whom affiant was well acquainted with and that he frequently saw William Prewett in Duff's Company affiant says that after the fall of the City of Charleston the troops did stay together in large bodies in the upper part of the State but scouted in separate Companies, but frequently met he recollects of seeing said William Prewett at Col. Bradon's [Thomas Brandon's] and often at other places while he was in the service affiant does not know that length of the said Prewett service but believes he served a good while and I have reason to believe he was in some heavy battles.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ John Cass, JP

S/ John White, X his mark

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State of Tennessee Bradley County: On this 6th day of February 1850 personally appeared before me John Stanfield an acting Justice of the peace for said County and State aforesaid William Prewett after being sworn according to law says the reason he never applied for a pension for his Revolutionary service is that when the law of 7th of June 1832 was passed he had removed from South Carolina where he could have proved his services and having property to keep him from want and having lost his Discharges and was told he would have to prove his services but knowing of no one that he could prove his services by I waited to see if I could not meet with some of my fellow soldiers but not being successful I concluded to file my Declaration and perhaps I could meet with proof he says since filing his Declaration he understands that John White and George West is still living and can testify to his services which he knows that he can. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ John Stanfield, JP

S/ William Prewett, X his mark

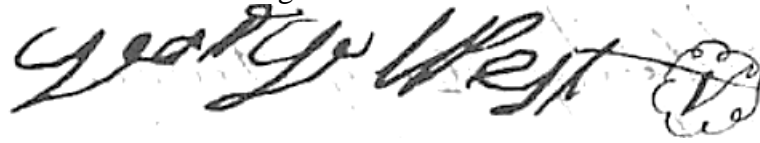
[p 25]

State of Tennessee Bradley County: On this 11th day of March 1850 personally appeared before me John Stanfield an acting Justice of the peace of said County and State aforesaid George West aged 87 years who being duly sworn according to law says he was personally acquainted with William Prewett in the time of the Revolutionary War and was personally acquainted with his service affiant was living near neighbor to the said William Prewett at the time and now knows him to be the same man his father Thomas Prewett was drafted for 6 months and William Prewett served the tour under Capt. William Smith and Col. Roebuck as a Substitute for his father Thomas Prewett the company and Regiment was raised in Spartanburg District South Carolina affiant says that the said William Prewett served as a volunteer for 6 months under Capt. Daniel Duff and Col. Brannon Capt. Duff and Col. Brannon lived in Union District affiant says that William Prewett after serving 6 months as a volunteer was drafted in Capt. Smith's company in Spartanburg District for 6 months affiant says that affiant's father Daniel West was drafted at the same time and affiant's father wished affiant to serve in his place but Capt. Smith rejected affiant on account of his size affiant says that he saw William Prewett mustered into service at Spartanburg Court house and also saw him mustered out the last mentioned service at Union

Court House in the State of South Carolina being present at the time affiant further says his father was killed during said service at the Battle of the Cowpens. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ John Stanfield, JP

S/ George West

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George West". The signature is written in black ink and ends with a decorative flourish that resembles a stylized flower or a circular seal.