

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Cornelius Quinlan (Quinlin) R8554

fn34SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/10/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of Alabama Shelby County: SS

On this 9th Day of October in the year of our Lord 1835 personally appeared before the Judge of the Circuit Court, at a court holden for the said County of Shelby, Cornelius Quinlin resident in Shelby County and State aforesaid aged seventy-one years last September, who, being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832, That he entered the Army of the United States as well as he recollects in the month of June 1781 for the term of 3 months under the command of Captain Thomas Ballard, Field Officers General Marion of South Carolina, Frederick Kimbal Lieutenant Colonel.

That he entered the service in Kershaw District South Carolina, rendezvoused at McCord's ferry on the Santee River, South Carolina & marched from thence to Bighams Church [sic, Biggin's Church to join General Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] Army & to assist him in retaking the Church which was then in possession of the British, but that General Sumpter had succeeded in retaking the church before] those together with this affiant had time to reach him -- that we remained some 2 or 3 days with Sumpter, & then were discharged, severally returned home in the month of August. Declarant further states that after the expiration of the above term of service in the month of February 1782, he again entered the Army of the United States under the command of Lieutenant Gayton [sic, Lt. John Guyton], rendezvoused at Camden, South Carolina & from thence marched to Orangeburg until about the 10th of May, that being the expiration of the term for which he engaged he was then verbally discharged & then returned home. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present; and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll or agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Sworn to S/ H. H. Wilson, Clk

S/ Cornelius Quinlan

[Hardy Horton, a clergyman, William Baker & George Mason gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Answers to the 7 Interrogatories propounded by the War Department

Answer 1 Int.: I was born in Kershaw District South Carolina in the year 1764

Answer to Int. 2nd : I have a record of my age. It is in my Bible -- South Carolina

Answer to Int 3rd: I was living in Kershaw district & I have lived in the same District ever since,

except about 3 years, those 3 years I have spent in the State of Alabama & principally in Shelby County where I now live.

Answer to 4th Int: I was drafted in both instances

Answer to Int 5th: General Marion Lieutenant Colonel Campbell, the State Troops were at Orangeburg during the time of his being there but does not recollect the names of their officers that he has already stated the general circumstances of his service

Answer to 6th Int: I never received any other discharges than a verbal one

Answer to Int. 7th: I am acquainted with Abraham Horton, Hardy Horton, William Baker & George Mason

Morgan County Alabama August 19th 1835

Dear Sir;

I received yours of the 29th of June asking my testimony to aid you in obtaining your pension allowed by the Government for services during our revolutionary war.

I should have sooner answered your letter but had no opportunity of legal counsel on the subject until now -- I am advised that the facts within my knowledge can do you little or no service especially by an affidavit -- My ill health and great bodily infirmities arising from my own advanced age and consequent diseases places it entirely out of my power to attend a court that so remote a place as your residence. Nothing within my power should be of needed to serve and old brother soldier in any way especially in procuring for him the bounty granted by our grateful country to those who have suffered so much and so well merit it.

If you will send me your petitioner for your pension I will state on yet these facts if they can in the least aid you. To wit -- That I served with you in the year 1782 for about 2 months and Orangeburg SC in guarding some Tories as prisoners -- that you then acted as Sergeant to the company -- that you were always reputed to be a good soldier and a patriot.

I fear this evidence is not of sufficient importance to benefit you but if it should be I will give it at any time. I will remark that I never received no discharge for any of my several acts of service but have succeeded in obtaining my pension.

Except the insurance of my continued friendship and my wishes for your happiness & success

Your old friend

S/ Robert Bartley

State of Alabama, Morgan County: Personally appeared before me Joel H. Wallace an acting justice of the peace in and for said County Robert Barkley¹ a Pensioner who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that Cornelius Quinlan was a Sergeant in the Revolutionary The war at Orangeburg South Carolina in the year 1782 and we was together in the service about 2 months when I left that place, the Captain's name I cannot recollect our Lieutenant was John Gatton [Guyton] our head officer was Major Thomas Thompson, our adjutant was William Maxfield. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th of April 1842

S/ Joel H. Wallace, JP

S/ Robert Barkley, X his mark

State of South Carolina Lancaster District: Personally came before me Jeff R. Connell one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the District aforesaid, Thomas Ballard² and after being duly

¹ Sic, Robert Bartley FPA S31535. I'm reasonably certain that this is the man identified as "Robert Barkley" above.

² [Thomas Ballard S20283](#)

sworn saith on oath that he was well acquainted with Cornelius Quinlin In the time of the old Revolutionary War and he the said Thomas Ballard was an acting Captain in the Regiment of Colonel John Marshall for the Term of three months in the year of 1780 & 81 -- In the County called Craven South Carolina and since that time it has been changed and called Kershaw District, where the said Cornelius Quinlin & myself did reside for number of years after the old war was ended, and that the said Cornelius Quinlin was an orderly Sergeant under my command during my service for the term above mentioned and previous to our encampment the said Cornelius Quinlin was always ready at any time that I would call on him to go out on a scouting party some 3 or 4 months previous to our encampment to defend and protect the Liberty of his Country and I said Thomas Ballard was under the command of Colonel Cimbul [sic, Kimball or Kimbrell] and was marched from the Beaver Creek Company down below Camden to a place called Bigum Church [sic, Biggin's Church] and I joined in with General Marion's Company and after that time I was under the command of General Marion until I was discharged -- and the said Cornelius Quinlan was an orderly Sergeant in my company until we were discharged. We were discharged a few days before the Battle at the Eutaw Springs.³

Sworn to and subscribed before me January 15th 1842

S/ Jeff R. Connell, JP

S/ Thos. Ballard

State of Alabama County of Shelby: SS

On this 27th day of April in the year while Lord 1842, personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of said County now sitting Cornelius Quinlan a resident of the Town of Columbiana in said County of Shelby and State of Alabama, aged seventy-seven years, six months and some days 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 7th, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated -- I entered the Army of the Revolution War as a volunteer, in the latter part of the year 1780, the day not recollected, in Captain Thomas Ballard's Company of volunteers, in which Company I was the Orderly Sergeant, during a tour of 3 months or thereabouts, our said company commanded by said Captain Thomas Ballard was attached to Colonel John Marshall's Regiment -- and Colonel Marshall's Regiment was subject to the command of General Francis Marion. We were discharged (or rather relieved by another company) in the latter part of the year 1781 date not recollected but it was but a few days before the battle at the Eutaw Springs, which battle was in part fought by the company that relieved us. We had no formal discharge, but were held in readiness to entered the service again when required, we then they have in Craven County of which I am a native now Kershaw District South Carolina. We were marched from this place below Camden to a place called Bigum [sic, Biggin's] Church, at which place we were relieved or discharged, for some time previous and after my discharge up to the 10 of May 1782, I was a regular enrolled volunteer during a good deal of which time a part of the 3 months above alluded to I was engaged in scouring for Tories and doing other service for my Country making as near as I recollect 2 years or more during a part of the 2 years I was a member of Captain Petty's Company who was commanded by General Henderson and was engaged in scouting in Orangeburg South Carolina. I was born the 20th September 1764, was young and it is now impossible for me to recollect the particular days with less in poor circumstances, I was not in any battle, the date of my age I received from my parents & made a record of which I now have, I lived in what is now Kershaw District South Carolina from my birth up to the year 1832, at

³ September 8, 1781

which time I removed to Shelby County Alabama aforesaid where I have been living ever since -
- I know of no other living person except Captain Thomas Ballard whose affidavit is hereto
attached marked A. & prayed to be taken as a part of this application by whom I can prove my
services unless it is by Robert Bartly of Morgan County Alabama, to whom I have recently
written for his testimony but from home I have not as yet received any proof, however I here
with enclosed a letter from him dated August 19th, 1835 by him I could if living prove the facts
therein set forth, which would establish services other than those proven by Captain Thomas
Ballard. Some time since, I made application for a pension, save while the late honorable Joab
Lawler was a member of Congress in which application I failed, but at which time I did not have
the testimony of Captain Ballard, my needs were not then great & believing that I could subsist
without did not press my application, but since that time having lost my only eye in consequence
of which I am unable to labor and also finding that I have almost entirely spent my property I am
prompted to make this my 2nd application for a pension believing that I am entitled to it & also
believing that my necessities require it having performed the services as above and I hereby
relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my
name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Cornelius Quinlen, X his mark

Test: S/ Noel Mason, Clerk

[Tartan P. Holcomb, a clergyman, and William Baker gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[The 7 interrogatories were propounded to the applicant. He responded in substantially the same
way as reflected in his first application except that he noted that the Bible in which his birth was
recorded is now in the possession of his brother-in-law [not named] now in Kershaw district
South Carolina.]

State of Alabama County of Shelby: SS

On this 5th day of November in the year of our Lord 1844 personally appeared in Open
Court before the County Court of said County of Shelby now sitting Cornelius Quinlin a resident
of the Town of Columbiana in the County of Shelby and State of Alabama aged eighty years one
month and fifteen days 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 under the following named officers to wit
and served as herein stated -- Captain Thomas Ballard was my first Captain he and his company
were under command of Colonel Frederick Kimball -- alias -- Kimbul, who joined and was
commanded by General Francis Marion at Santee South Carolina. I think I entered the Army
about the last of May or first of June A.D. 1781 and was discharged about the 10th day of May
1782 at Orangeburg South Carolina -- during my service Captain Ballard was promoted to
Colonel then I was under command of Lieutenant John Gatton at the time I entered the service I
resided in Kershaw District South Carolina -- I entered as a drafted man, or in other words I
entered under these circumstances. Our officers divided our company into 3 parts and we were to
and did serve alternately -- in turn -- and on or about the last of May or first of June 1781 it fell
to my lot to enter the service which I did -- I was in no battle a few days before the battle at
Eutaw Springs I was permitted to believe & go home which I did then returned and reentered the
service in a few days after said battle. We marched through different parts of South Carolina our
principal march was on the Sauls berry [Salisbury] road from Camden to McCord's ferry. I first
served under Marion but towards the latter part of my service I served under General Henderson

[William Henderson]. I do not know whether our line was considered Continental or not from lapse of time I cannot recollect many of the officers belonging to this Regiment of which I was a member. I have named as field officers Generals Marion & Henderson, and as well as I recollect Jennings -- McCool -- Brown -- McCarter and Petty were company officers of some grade or other not distinctly recollect it. -- I nor my company did not receive any written discharge -- I do not now know of any living man who could testify to my services since the death of Thomas Ballard (who, as I am informed died a short time since in Kershaw District State of South Carolina) -- a few years ago applied to the Pension department for a pension -- which application for some reason or other as I have been informed was refused at which time I procured and sent on the affidavit of Mr. Barday [sic, Bartley] and reference is here made to the same if it is on file. I do not remember any further circumstances necessary for me to state. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the 5th of November A.D. 1844

S/ Cornelius Quinlin, X his mark

S/ Charles R. Gibbs, Judge

[the 7 interrogatories were put to the applicant and his answers recorded. Those are substantially as shown in his earlier application.]

[Wylie Horton, a clergyman, and Hardy Horton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]