

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Saxon (Sexton) R9400

f39SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/24/11 & 6/3/15

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

[p 13]

### Revolutionary Claim

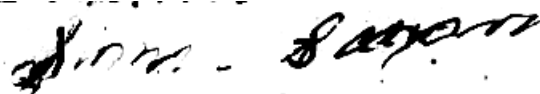
The declaration of Captain Samuel Sexton to be entitled to the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 15th of May 1828

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the act entitled "an act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the revolution," approved on the 15th day of May 1828, I, Samuel Sexton, of the County of Hamilton and State of Illinois, do hereby declare, that I entered the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the War, and continued in its service until its termination, and after, as a Captain during the whole time. I held a commission as such signed by General Washington. I was commissioned in the State of Virginia, but belonged to the line of the State of South Carolina. My Colonel's name at one period of my service was Washington [probably William Washington] – and at another period someone whose name I have forgotten. I served under General Greene [Nathanael Greene], who was commanding General during the whole period of my service – excepting General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] who commanded at the battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] in which battle I was. I was also in the battle of the Eutaws [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781] where I was wounded by a ball through my left side. And I also declare that I received some sort of Discharge at Charleston in South Carolina at the foot of which was a certificate purporting that I was entitled to 600 acres of land, to be located in the big bend of the river Tennessee. I also state that my Commission and the Discharge and Certificate above referred to were consumed by fire in the burning of my house in the State of South Carolina about 35 years ago. I think I entered the service in the year 1780, but my memory is so much impaired by age that I cannot positively say. I was a Captain in the South Carolina militia service for about a year under Colonel Hayes [Joseph Hayes] & General Pickens [Andrew Pickens], having recruited a company from the Protected man under Cornwallis, in Ninety Six District South Carolina – after serving in this way, for about a year as the elected Captain of the company, with a commission as such signed by Colonel Hayes, I received my commission in the state line, and served about three years – until sometime after peace was proclaimed. I was in the Infantry service.

I further declare that I was not, on the 15th of May 1828, nor at any other time, on the pension list of the United States –

Witness my hand & seal this 15th day of March A.D. 1830.

Sam Saxon



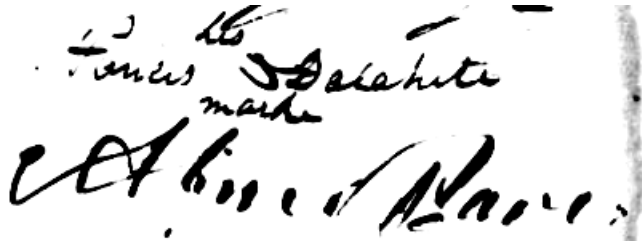
Illinois, Hamilton County

Before me James Allen, a justice of the peace in & for said County of Hamilton, in the State of Illinois, personally appeared this day Abner Pearce and Francis Dollahite at the said County, persons known to me as credible witnesses, who did severally make oath that Samuel Sexton by whom the foregoing declaration was subscribed, is not only generally reputed and believed to have been an officer, but actually known to have been such in manner as therein stated, both having known him personally in the revolutionary Army.

S/ James Allen, JP

S/ Francis Dolahite, X his mark

S/ Abner Pearce



Francis Dollahite  
Abner Pearce

[p 16]

Revolutionary Claims  
Treasury Department,  
16 April 1830

Samuel Sexton of \_\_ in the County of Hamilton in the State of Illinois has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that was an officer in the Continental line, and served as such to the end of the War, at which period he was a Captain in the \_\_ regiment of the South Carolina line; and that he received commutation certificates for the five years full pay granted by the resolve of 22 March, 1783; and, further, that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March 1826, nothing ~~dollars,~~ paid to him by the agent in the State of \_\_

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary  
S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,  
Third Auditor's Office,  
17<sup>th</sup> April 1830

It <sup>does not</sup> appears by the records of this office, that final settlement certificates had been issued for the commutation of five years full pay to Samuel Sexton in the South Carolina line, amounting to \_\_dollars.

It further appears that Samuel Sexton is <sup>not</sup> now on the pension list of any agency, and has <sup>not</sup> been so since the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1826 at the rate of \_\_ per month.

The Revolutionary records in this office furnish no information whatever in relation to the services of Captain Samuel Sexton of the South Carolina line.

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

[p 17]

War Department: Bounty land office  
April 20<sup>th</sup> 1830

The name of Samuel Sexton cannot be found on the list of Officers of the South Carolina [line], among those, returned at the Close of the War as Bounty Land from the United States, nor has a Land Warrant ever issued in his name.

S/ Wm Gordon

[p 3]

State of Illinois, County of Hamilton SS:

On the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833 personally appeared in open court before the circuit court of said county now sitting, Samuel Sexton, a resident of the said county of Hamilton, aged seventy one 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 7, 1832: That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He was born at what is now Chatham court house in North Carolina in the year 1762 and has a record of his age showing this fact in the family bible. I was living in what I understood to be Lawrence [sic, Laurens] district in the state of South Carolina when [I] entered into the service of the United States; whence I moved from after the revolutionary war into Kentucky from thence into Indiana, and thence to Illinois where I now live. I was seized while yet a boy by a party of Tories, and so severely beaten that my life was despaired of, when Major Jonathan Downs,<sup>1</sup> who lived in the same neighborhood found me and took me to his house, procured a surgeon, and rendered me every assistance at his own expense. After remaining at his house about nine weeks and after I had partially recovered, a band of Tories came to the house and again seized me, stripped me and again beat me. At the suggestion of Major Downs, I made my escape and joined the American army at the Cowpens, the day before the battle of the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 1780 or 1781 [January 17, 1781] was fought at that place. On my route to the Cowpens I succeeded in inducing twenty five men to join me, and was chosen their captain. We heard of a contemplated attack from the Tories, and lay in ambush until they came up and defeated them. We proceeded and offered our services to the army at the Cowpens, were received and I and my company were put under the command of Colonel Hays [sic, Joseph Hayes], who was under General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] and Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan] of the regular or Continental army. I was in the battle of Cowpens at the head of and in command of my company, under Col. Hayes. I remember Colonel Washington [William Washington], who commanded a body of horse, and a Captain Lee, of his command. These are all the officers except Colonel Morgan belonging to the regular army who I now recollect nor do I remember particularly any of the militia except Col. Hayes' regiment. After the battle I was ordered, together with three or four other companies of Colonel Hayes' command, to Hillsborough in North Carolina in charge of the prisoners taken at the battle of the Cowpens. At Hillsborough we remained about two weeks where the prisoners were delivered over to the jailors, and we marched down to Catawba River where we met Colonel Williams [James Williams], who conducted us to the station of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] on the same river in North Carolina. Col. Williams was then placed in command of us, under General Sumter, and we were taken to the Hanging rock in North Carolina, in order to surprise a body of Tories stationed there. The night before we arrived, a body of British had taken up a position near that of the Tories separated from them by a mount. Neither the Tories nor we were apprised of the British having taken this position, nor were the

---

<sup>1</sup> [Jonathan Downs W21000](#)

British aware of the position of the Tories. We attacked the latter as they were preparing breakfast, and defeated them [Battle of Hanging Rock, August 6, 1780]. They fell back upon the British who taking them for us fired upon and destroyed a number of them. In the pursuit my company got separated from the main body of our troops and we were intercepted by a line of the British formed between me and Col. Williams. We, however, rushed upon the line and broke our way losing in killed and missing 15 men out of 30, to which latter number my company had by this time augmented. After passing through the line, we joined Col. Williams, turned about, and took part in the battle which ensued, and which resulted in the defeat of the British.

From the Hanging Rock we were led off about twenty miles, where we were dismissed by Colonel Williams, and did not receive any written discharge. During the period of service, which I have described, and which lasted one month and a half, I never received any commission as captain but was so chosen by my company, was as received into the service, and was engaged in the battles of the Cowpens and the Hanging Rock at the head of my company, and was by all the officers recognized as captain. There was no regular troops with us during our expedition to the Hanging Rock and the only militia regiment was Col. Williams.

After being out of the service two weeks, I went to General Washington who was stationed at a place called the Cross Creeks in North Carolina. I obtained an interview with him and tendered my services as a captain. He agreed to accept them, if I would raise 25 men. This I effected immediately and I received from the hands of General Washington a commission as captain in the militia service, for two years service.<sup>2</sup> I was ordered immediately to join General Greene [Nathanael Greene], and marched with my company accordingly to the Sandy Ford on Atkin (sic, Yadkin) River, in North Carolina. He, General Greene, placed me under the command of Major Thomas Dugan. In a day or two after joining General Greene the army under his command marched to South Carolina, and at Ninety Six we fell in with a body of the British, fortified at that place. Here we were attacked by small parties of the enemy, which we defeated--and we erected works and kept up a distant fire for two months when Genl Greene withdrew his army to the Catawba River near a ford called the Old Nation Ford [the veteran appears to be referring to the Siege of Ninety Six, May 22-June 19, 1781]. The British followed us to the Charleston Road, which they took. General Greene immediately took up the line of march in pursuit of them, and at the Eutaw Springs near Charleston on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September we met the British under Colonel Stuart [sic, Stewart]. An engagement followed in which our army obtained an important victory. I was in the engagement as captain. I remember only the militia to which I was immediately attached under Major Dugan and General Greene, our commander in chief in that battle. We took possession of the town of Charleston,<sup>3</sup> and in a few days I, with a number of others, was discharged from further service. I received a written discharge from our Colonel. Both my commission and discharge have been destroyed by fire. Under my commission obtained at the Cross Creeks from General Washington, I was in service as a captain eighteen months, in addition to my services as captain first described as being performed while I had no written commission. I have no documentary evidence of the foregoing stated facts, nor do I know of any one whose testimony I can procure, who can testify to any part of my services, except Francis Dollarhide, who was a private under me, placed under my command at Ninety Six, and continued until I was discharged at Charleston. I am acquainted with Isaac Haile, a clergyman,

---

<sup>2</sup> General George Washington was not at or even near Cross Creek [now Fayetteville] at any time during the revolutionary war. This portion of the veteran's account makes no sense nor can I speculate as to what he intended. Perhaps he intended to refer to Colonel William Washington but that too is a stretch.

<sup>3</sup> The British evacuated Charleston South Carolina in December 1782.

and James Hall, representative in the legislature, residents of the county and my vicinity who will testify to their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution, and as to my character for veracity—both of them knowing me well. 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.

S/ Samuel Sexton, his mark

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jesse C. Lockwood, Clk.

[Isaac Hale, a clergyman, and James Hall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

*Isaac Hale*  
*James Hall*

[p 8]

And also on the day and year aforesaid came into open court Francis Dollahide,<sup>4</sup> a resident of the said County of Hamilton, aged 83, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath depose and state, that he was attached to the company of Captain Samuel Sexton the declarant in the foregoing declaration at Ninety Six in the state of South Carolina, as stated by said Sexton in his declaration aforesaid. That he, this deponent, continued as a private under the command of said Sexton from that time to the time of his discharge in Charleston, as stated by said Sexton, and was an eyewitness to the transactions and events during that period as related by said Sexton, and know that the statement of them made by said Sexton is true, and that he, said Sexton served during that period as stated by him. And further this deponent sayeth not.

S/ Francis Dollahide, X his mark

---

<sup>4</sup> [Francis Dolahide \(Dollarhide, Dollahide, Dollahite\) S32220](#)