

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Shelly R9472

f20SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/27/11 rev'd 12/19/19

[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.]

[p 2]

[South Carolina Marion District]

On this the 13 day of October A.D. 1834, appeared in open Court of Common Pleas before the Judge thereof, at Marion Court House in Marion District State of South Carolina, William Shelly, who upon oath made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was born in Marion District South Carolina on the __ day of __ A. D. __. He has no record of his age nor ever had according to the best of his knowledge, but has been informed by old persons of his acquaintance that he is upwards of ninety years old. The deponent can neither read or write. That he entered the Service as a drafted militia man under the command of Luke Prior [Luke Pryor] in the year 1776 with whom he served three months at Haddrell's Point near Charleston South Carolina. In the year 1777 he served three months under Captain James Ford in the militia, stationed at Sewee Bay. He had no engagement during this term – a British vessel ran aground near the place where they were stationed from which he was concerned in taking some barrels of rum &c. In the latter part of the same year, about the month of December he enlisted in the regular service under Captain William Withers (or Wethers) in Colonel Daniel Horry's troop of Horse in which troop he served Eighteen months as a private. During this term he was in a Battle at Stono [June 20, 1779] – another at Savannah¹ in Georgia & British commanded by Generals Provost [Augustine Prevost] and Metlin [sic, Col. John Maitland]. It was in this battle that Count Pulaski received his death wound. Deponent held the Doctor's horse whilst he examined Pulaski's wound – wound was caused by a grape shot. Major Wise [Samuel Wise] was also killed at Savannah. Deponent recollects the names of General Moultrie [William Moultrie], Major Mayum [probably Hezekiah Maham], Captain Giles – can't recollect any others. In the year 1780 when Charleston was taken [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] Colonel Horry's troop of horse was taken prisoner in Charleston which terminated that tour of deponent's Service. He was not taken prisoner himself being at that time out of Charleston, his horse having died & he with about fifteen others remained out of the city. When the city was taken, one Doctor Linen, who belonged to the troop, came out to deponent & gave him a furlough. Deponent was not called upon afterwards to serve further in the troop. In the latter part of the year 1780 he served one month in the militia under one Captain James Jones at Watboo [Wadboo] Creek under General Marion [Francis Marion]. Here he had a small skirmish with the British in which two of the

¹ Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

latter were killed. In the month of January 1780 one month under Captain Benjamin Munnerlyn – one month under Captain James Davis – one month under Captain Joseph Davis and one month under Captain David Davis – each time under General Marion in the neighborhood of Santee River & whenever General Marion chose to conduct his men for the good of the Country. In the year 1781 four months under the same officers alternately in the same kind of service. In the year 1782 he also served four months in the same manner & this term completed his service in the Revolutionary War making in the whole nineteen months service as a private in the militia & eighteen months as a private in the regular Service. That he has lost all his discharges & has no documentary evidence of his service –: has lived in Marion District ever since the Revolutionary war to the present time. He further swore that during the time for which the above services were performed, he was either in the field or in Garrison & that he was not engaged in any civil pursuit. He hereby renounces all claim whatever to any pension except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.
Sworn to before me in open court October 13, 1834.

S/ Edward B Wheeler, CCP

S/ William Shelly, X his mark

[Edmond Herring, a clergyman, and Edward B Wheeler, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 6]

State of South Carolina Marion District}

William Shelly, on the 13 day of October A.D. 1835, appeared in the Court of Common Pleas, holden at Marion Court House for the district aforesaid in open Court before his honor A. P. Butler the presiding Judge thereof & on oath made the following Statement. That he was born in Marion District & has lived there from his birth to the present time. That he does not know his own age; his father having left him no record of the same & he (the deponent) not being able to read or write & his memory being much impaired by age & infirmity. He considers himself above eighty years but he cannot tell how much. That he was living in Marion District when he was called into the service which was in the year 1776 – was drafted & served three months under Captain Luke Prior in the militia – William Davis was his Colonel – he was stationed near the Haddrell's Point & was there at the time the attack was made on Fort Moultrie by the British fleet – had no engagement during this tour. In July or August of the Succeeding year he served three months under the same Officers at the same place. In the same year he served six months under the same officers, stationed at Sewee Bay, when at this place a British vessel ran aground near the shore, from which were landed 6 or 7 hogsheads of rum to lighten her, upon an Island opposite to the place where the Americans were stationed. The Americans seeing this, pushed over to the Island in a boat & took away the rum from the British. This was the only affair worthy of relation which the Deponent recollects during this term of his service. In the year 1779 he was in the Battle at Stono as a drafted militia man under the same officers & served 3 months. In the same year he enlisted under Captain Weathers [sic, William Withers] who belonged to Colonel Horry's troop of horse for 18 months – when he enlisted he received \$200 of the paper currency of that day of which he had to give \$60 for a ½ pint of whiskey – went from Mars Bluff on Pedee River to Charleston where the troop was properly equipped – was in the Battle at Savannah Georgia & charged up so near the enemy's lines that their guns fired over them – were compelled to retreat. In this Battle General Pulaski was mortally wounded & deponent held the Doctor's horse who came to examine Pulaski. He recollects also of a Major Wise who was killed there & the circumstance of his stepson going with a flag to ask his body

from the British who refused to give it up & said that they would bury him as a gentleman should be. He believes that the command of the Americans was given to Count d'Estaing & that the loss of the Battle was owing more to the fault of the officers than the men. The British forces he thinks were commanded by Motlin [Maitland] & Prevost – Doctor Liner was the Surgeon of the Regiment to which deponent belonged – was stationed during the winter not far from Beaufort & made excursions from that place, out in the country to such places as they could hear that the British were plundering. On one of these occasions took 10 of the British. On another, took 20 Negroes who were mounted on horses & took hung them all. When Charleston was taken he with about 15 others was out of the city – received a furlough from Doctor Liner & returned home. In the year 1781, he served as a militia man one month under Captain Edward Brown on Santee River – one month under Captain Frank Davis & 2 months under Captain Luke Prior. In the year 1782 he served 4 months under the same officers alternately down on & near the Santee River and General Marion's Company & under his direction making in the whole a service of 3 years and 5 months, during all of which time he was either in the field or in garrison & was not engaged in any civil pursuit. He has lost all his discharges & states that he was drafted in every instance except the time he served in Colonel Horry's troop of horse. He hereby releases all claim to any pension except the present & he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & signed before me October 15th A.D. 1835

S/ William Shelly, X his mark

S/ Edward B. Wheeler, CCP

[Edmund Herring, a clergyman, and Alexander L Gregg gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 14]

State of South Carolina

Treasury Office Charleston,

I hereby certify that by a Resolution of the Legislature of this State passed in December 1829 William Shelly of Marion District was placed upon the pension List of this State and that he has been regularly paid from this Office his Pension of Sixty Dollars per annum up to the 1st of March last.

Given under my hand and Seal of Office this 25th September 1835

S/ Wm Ed: Hayne, Treasurer

I have examined the Index of the Indents but do not find Wm Shelly's name, this is no proof that he was not a Soldier of the Revolution, as he may have been paid up otherwise or never presented any account for the balance due him for Services

S/ W. E. H.

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to William Shelby, Shelly, Selley
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 6925.5

AA52

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/19/19

[p 2]

William Shelly's Petition for a pension

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

Pension
Granted
Marion District
Hemingway

[p 3]

To the Honorable the Senate, and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina
The Humble Petition of William Shelly of the district of Marion and State aforesaid
respectfully Sheweth

That your petitioner was a Soldier during the Revolutionary War chiefly in the brigade of
General Francis Marion; that he has never received any Compensation from his Country, for his
services which were faithfully bestowed during that period, that he has now attained an advanced
age, and experiences the ills & imbecility incident to that period of life: – and that together with
his infirmities, he is in very indigent circumstances, as the Schedule of his property, hereto
annexed will show. – Your petitioner therefore prays that your Honorable body will take his case
into consideration and place him on the pension list: and your Petitioner as in duty bound will
ever pray &c

Marion, October 29th 1828

2y John Gibson

S/ William Shelby, X his mark

[p 4]

a List of Property of William Shelly rendered on oath this 29 day of October 1828

5 Cows and yearlings

1 ox-- 10 head of hogs

5 Beehives – 1 leather box 1 Iron pot

South Carolina Marion District} William Shelly personally appeared before me, and made oath,
that the above list, or Schedule of property, is true, and contains the whole of State of whatsoever
descriptions.

Sworn to before me

29 October 1828

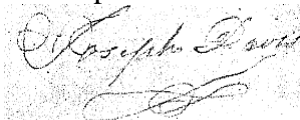
S/ Edward B Wheeler, JQ

S/ William Shelly, X his mark

[p 5] South Carolina Marion District} Personally appeared before me Joseph Davis who being
duly sworn saith that William Shelly Senior did Serve a Continental Soldier in the Revolutionary
war and does verily believe that he was an obedient Soldier and further that said has invariably
supported a reputable character

October 20th 1828

S/ Joseph Davis³



South Carolina Marion District} Personally appeared before me Nedum Gunter who being duly
sworn Saith that William Shelly Senior did serve a Continental Soldier in a troop of Horse in the
Revolutionary war and further that said Shelly was an obedient Soldier and a man of reputable

³ This MAY be the same man whose descendants filed for a pension on his behalf. See [S10534 Joseph Davis](#)

character
October 20th 1828

S/ Nedum Gunter, X his mark

[p 7]

The State of South Carolina Marion District }

Rowan Thomas⁴ personally appeared before me, and made oath, that he is well and intimately acquainted with William Shelly Senior that he knew him in the revolutionary war as a good Whig under the Command of General Francis Marion after being under the Command of General Horry, first = Stationed on the Santee River, then in the City of Charleston.

Sworn to before me

13th October 1829

S/ Edward B Wheeler

S/ Rowan Thomas, R his mark

[p 9]

South Carolina Marion District } Before me David Gibson 1 of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in and for said District personally appeared Joseph Davis Senior who being legally Sworn deposed and Saith, that William Shelly did Serve a regular Soldier in the revolutionary war in Colonel Daniel Horry's Regiment of horse under the immediate Command of Captain William, Withers and further that he believes said Shelly was a faithful and Obedient soldier Before me this 20th day of October 1829

S/ David Gibson, JP

S/ Joseph Davis



[p 11]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of William Shelly praying for a pension

Respectfully report that

They have considered the same and recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted

2 December 1829

S/ Sampson Pope Chairman

[pp 13-52: reflect yearly payments of \$60 to William Shelly (and others) commencing June 22, 1830 until 28 August 1841 when Elizabeth Shelley [sic] signed an order (with her mark) that one year's annuity due her late husband William Shelley Senior up to March 1 last be paid to Ed. B. Wheeler or order.]

⁴ [Roan \(Rowan, Rowland\) Thomas S22015](#)