

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Gragg S10773

f18SC

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 '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, Shelby County

On this 6 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 Henry Gragg resident of Shelby County and State aforesaid aged Seventy-two years last May 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 7th, 1832. That he entered the Army of the United States as well as he recollects in the month of June 1778 for the term of six months under the command of Capt. Joseph Kirtland [sic, Joseph Kirkland] -- Field officers General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] of South Carolina -- that he entered the Service, fairfield County (now district) South Carolina, rendezvoused at Winnsborough South Carolina and marched from thence through the State of Georgia (via) Augusta Sunbury and from thence across St. Mary's River to Alligator Creek East Florida at which place we had a skirmishing fight with the Indians the object of this expedition was to take St. Augustine, in which we were disappointed and compelled to return in consequence of a man who was nicknamed burnt foot Brown [Thomas "Burntfoot" Brown] going before us and placing Cannon at St. John's River & throwing other obstructions in our way by falling trees &c so that we were unable to prosecute our expedition as already stated. This Brown was a Tory who commanded a considerable party of men of kindred feeling. Declarant commenced his retreat from Florida either in the months of August or September in the same year, commanded by the same Officers -- returned the same route to the place where he entered the service & was discharged the term of his engagement having expired nothing remarkable occurred during this expedition other than as already stated except the sufferings that we were subjected to for the want of provisions. Declarant further states that after the expiration of the above time of service in the month of February 1779 as well as recollected, declarant, became the substitute of his brother John Gragg in Capt. Lewis Pope's Company which was attached to Winn's [John Winn's] Regiment -- at that time stationed at Managors ferry [sic, Manigualt's ferry] -- Santee River South Carolina -- that he continued in Pope's company for the term of one month, which completed the term for which is Brother John had entered the service -- during this month the company to which declarant belonged was stationary -- Declarant further states that either the months of March or April 1779 he entered the service again under the command of Capt. William Raford who was attached to Col. Winn's Regiment and commanded by General Richeson [probably Richard Richardson or Holt Richeson]. Declarant likewise entered this service in Fairfield district South Carolina & joined the Main Army at the Quarter house six miles North of Charleston, having passed Moncks

Corner on his route to that place -- from thence by a forced march they endeavored to give succor to General Nash [sic, John Ashe] who was then stationed at Brier [Briar] Creek but was unable to reach him before he was defeated [March 3, 1779] by the British at that place having been disappointed in joining General Ashe -- they changed their course and marched to Pluriesburg [sic, Purrysburg] eight miles above Savannah, at which point they were stationed (the British then having possession of Savannah). Declarant continued at Purrysburg until the expiration of his engagement which was two months and then discharged verbally the relief having come by means of which declarant and all others similarly situated was entitled to go home. Declarant further states that in either the months of April or May 1781 he was elected Lieut. in Capt. John Bell's Company which Company belonged to Col. Thomas Taylor's Regiment under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. That he entered this service in Fairfield District South Carolina & from thence marched down to Orangeburg South Carolina 40 miles above Charleston at which place he was attached to the command of General Greene commanded by the above Officers as also a Major Wallace who was stationed at that place. The employment of declarant's company was during this service to succor the Country in the vicinity of the Fort to keep in subjection the numerous Tories that infested that district of country as well as to defend the country against the inroads of the British. During this period of service declarant was in no general engagement -- that he remained in the service until the month of September of the same year the day not pretended to be recollected -- that declarant has no recollection of having received a written commission that he quit the service at the above stated. That he quit this service at the above stated period to become the Substitute of one John Friday in Capt. Francis Somers company which was attached to Col. Beard's Regiment under the command of General Greene. The circumstances under which declarant quit his own company are as follows He was on his march home when he met with the above named Friday and the above named Company, when Friday proposed to give declarant a horse to take his (Friday's) place. Declarant was poor and as his term of service was just about to expire & for all the purposes of his country's defense had expired he accepted the proposition & returned to the service as a private -- that declarant was marched from the last place of entering the service to Young's Plantation on Edisto at which place he remained stationary, until the cessation of hostilities the length of time not recollected with sufficient certainty to be stated. After the expiration of this last service declarant with his Associates in arms was permitted to go home to proclaim to their countrymen the recognition of their rights as a Nation of free men. To recapitulate -- Declarant performed the first tour of six months -- the second one month -- the third of two months -- the fourth of at least five months as a Lieutenant & fifthly a term of service to be determined by the history of the Country making in all at least nine months of service as a private and five months as a Lieutenant. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll or agency in any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Henry Gragg, X his mark

[James Walker, a clergyman, and William Ratcliff gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Answers to the seven Interrogatories pounded by the War Department

Answer to 1st Int: I was born in the year 1763 in Fairfield County now District South Carolina

Answer to 2nd Int: I have a record of my age in my Bible at home

Answer to 3rd Int: I was living in South Carolina Fairfield County when I entered the Service since which time I have lived in Kershaw County South Carolina. From which place I went to

Georgia & lived in the following Counties Elbert, Jackson & Twiggs, in all about 20 years from which State I removed to this State & have been living in Bibb County & this ever since
Answer to 4th Int: A part of the time I was a substitute as stated in my declaration for John Friday as also my brother John, the residue of the time stated in my declaration I went out as a volunteer.

Answer to 5th: I have stated all that I can recollect of the officers & my services in my declaration

Answer to 6: I received a written discharge from my six months service I have lost it I left it with my brother & his papers have been destroyed this discharge was given by Capt. Joseph Kirkland. This was all the written discharge that he ever received

Answer 7th : I am known to James Walker and William Ratcliff

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State of Alabama, Shelby County

Personally appeared before me, an open Court Vincent Jones,¹ who, after being sworn in due form of law, deposeseth & states as follows (to wit) Affiant states that he has been acquainted with Henry Gragg during & since the war of the Revolution that affiant was in the service during the Revolution, with said Gragg, a tour of duty, two or three months under Col. Thomas Taylor, the year not recollected. Henry Gragg during the above period commanded & was called Lieut. Gragg. And further this deponent saith not except that the above named individual was called Gregg.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this sixth day of October 1835.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me in open Court.

S/ Vincent Jones, V his mark

S/ Henry H. Wilson, Clk

State of Alabama, Shelby County

Personally appeared in open court before me HH Wilson clerk of the Circuit Court for Shelby County Micajah Busby,² who being sworn in due form of law deposeseth & states, that he knew Henry Gregg (now called Gragg) during the War of the Revolution, that he saw him repeatedly going to and from the American Army & general report said that he was a good soldier that he does not know how long he was in the service but believes that he served the greater portion of the war.

Sworn to and subscribed before me in open court

S/ H. H. Wilson

S/ Micajah Busby, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the South Carolina militia.]

¹ [Vincent Jones S32343](#)

² No one by this name filed for a federal pension for services in the Revolution.