

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hugh Lavender (Leavander) S10972

f23SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/12/08: rev'd 5/15/16

[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.]

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State of Alabama, Greene County to wit: Circuit Court September Term 1833

On this fourth day of September in the year 1833 personally appeared before the presiding Judge of the Circuit Court in and for the County of Greene Hugh Lavender a resident Citizen of said County of Greene and State of Alabama aged Seventy-eight years on the eleventh day of November last past, who being 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 7, 1832.

That he was born on the 11th day of November 1754 in Ireland in the County of Antrim near Bollymena at which place he continued to reside until his immigration to the United States. He emigrated to South Carolina in the year 1771 and settled the same year on the Wateree Creek in Camden district, now Fairfield district. That he entered the United States service as a volunteer soldier in the winter of the year 1774 [sic, the events described by the veteran occurred in 1775, not 1774] under the command of Colonel John Winn: the name of the Major he does not recollect, Robert Allison was the Captain of the company of volunteers in which he served and John Allison Lieutenant. This company was from Camden district now Fairfield district, South Carolina which was at that time the place of his residence. This tour lasted about three months during nearly the whole of which time he was stationed at the Snow Camps in South Carolina. He assisted in taking a party of about 150 Tories during this tour they surrendered without resistance.¹ The term of service for which he enlisted having expired he was dismissed by the above mentioned Colonel John Winn without any written discharge in the spring of the year 1775 he again volunteered under the same officers and continued in service about one month that being the period for which his company was drafted nothing remarkable occurred during this tour. He was stationed at Charleston until his term of service expired, and then returned home without obtaining any written discharge.

His next tour commenced in the fall of the year 1775 -- as before he was a volunteer, the officers under whom he served were the same as before except that Captain John Mullin (since General Mullen) had succeeded Captain Robert Allison in the Command of his company. He was stationed the greater part of this tour at the quarter house within six miles of Charleston. He marched from that place to Beaufort on the Savannah River. Nothing remarkable occurred during this Campaign which continued about three months altogether and he again returned

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_snow_campaign.html

home without procuring any written discharge from his Commanding officer, that being deemed by him unnecessary as he held himself in readiness at a moment's warning to march to the assistance of his Countrymen.

His next tour took place in the spring of the year 1778 he volunteered in the same company and was commanded by the same officers as in his last expedition. He was stationed the greater part of this tour at Orangeburg in the State of South Carolina. He was one of a guard to conduct some prisoners from Orangeburg to Ninety Six. In the course of about two months he together with his Company were dismissed by their Commanding officer and returned home.

Shortly after the battle of Sullivan's Island [June 28, 1776]² he again volunteered and to the best of his recollection under the same officers and served about one month principally in the vicinity of Charleston.

His next tour was under one Captain Casey (since General Casey) [Christopher Casey] and commenced about the time of the capture of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]³ by the British. He does not recollect the name of the Major and Colonel under whom he served. Since his last expedition he had removed from Camden district since Fairfield district to Newberry district and had again joined a company of volunteers in that section of the Country. He remained in service as a volunteer from that time until the Close of the war, and had a number of skirmishes with Tories with alternate success. On one occasion he was sent out in company with ten Americans on a scouting party. They unexpectedly fell in with a large company of British soldiers by whom they were defeated with the loss of one killed and three wounded and taken prisoners. In this affray he lost his horse saddle and bridle and his hat and gun. This skirmish took place on the morning of the battle of Blackstocks [November 20, 1780],⁴ and which no doubt prevented him from being in that engagement at which General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] Commanded the Americans. He served under the command of General Sumter a considerable part of this tour. He was also under General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] for some time, how long he does not now recollect. He afterward joined General Nathanael Greene and was under his command at the Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781].⁵ He continued in the Army as long as his services were required by his Commanding officer and when he returned home received no written discharge. He afterwards volunteered against the Indians⁶ under one Captain John Wolgen [?] -- Major Jolly [Benjamin Jolly] was his Major the Colonel's name not recollect. General Pickens commanded the expedition, nothing of importance occurred except the capture of some Indian prisoners. In the course of about one month he was discharged. He was engaged at different times during nearly the whole of the revolutionary war, and was in actual service more than two years, during which time he encountered many hardships and dangers and suffered greatly from hard marching, cold weather, hunger and fatigue. At no period of his service did he ever obtain a written discharge, minor considerations of that character being deemed altogether unnecessary when the only alternatives presented were liberty or slavery. He has no record of his age in his knowledge on that subject is derived from his parents.

When first called into service he resided on the Wateree River in Camden district since

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_ft_moultrie_1.html

³ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_blackstocks.html

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

⁶ This **MIGHT** be a reference to the last campaign against the Cherokee Indians conducted during the Revolutionary War by Andrew Pickens from September 16-October 17, 1782.

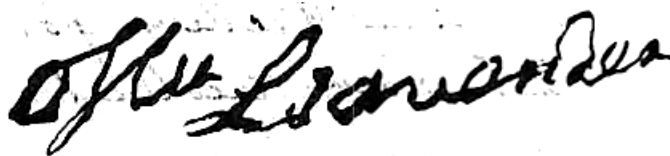
http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_last_cherokee_campaign.html

Fairfield district South Carolina, he afterwards removed to Newberry district in the same state where he continued to reside until the year 1822 when he removed to Greene County Alabama, where he now resides. He is not aware of there being any person in existence by whom he can prove the facts set forth in the foregoing declaration. His fellow soldiers have either paid the debt of major; or have removed to places where their testimony would be beyond his control. He is acquainted with John Elliott, David Campbell and James Campbell who reside in his neighborhood and can testify as to his character or veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. 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 of any state in the union.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day of the date hereof.

Attest: S/ James Yeats, Clerk

S/ Hu Leavender [sic]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hugh Leavender". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized and slanted.

[James Monett, a clergyman, and David Campbell gave the standard supporting affidavit]

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State of Alabama, Greene County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in and for the County of Greene aforesaid, Hugh Lavender who being duly sworn deposes and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grade, for one year seven months and twenty-six days I served as a private Soldier in the Army of the revolution all of which was since 19 April 1775 and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of December A.D. 1833.

S/ Wm M. Murphy, JP

S/ Hu. Leavender [sic]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hugh Leavender". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized and slanted.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$66.21 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year 7 months and 26 days in the South Carolina militia.]