

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Payne S11187

f27SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/19/09: rev'd 10/20/17

[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 7]

State of Alabama Circuit Court Marengo County: October Term 1833

On this 8th day of October in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Leon L. Perry Judge of the Circuit Court of the said County of Marengo now in session William Payne a resident of the said County of Marengo in the State of Alabama 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That shortly before the city of Charleston in South Carolina was taken by the British during the revolutionary war [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], he was drafted in the militia of South Carolina in a company commanded by John Chesnut as Captain, in which Company William Boykin was a Lieutenant, Joseph Kershaw was Colonel of the Regiment to which he belonged. This affiant or applicant does not remember distinctly the name of the Major of his Regiment but he believes it was Dr. Charlton. He believes he was under the command of General Richardson [Richard Richardson]. He lived about six miles from Camden in South Carolina when he was drafted, but does not remember distinctly the year in which he was first drafted though he knows it was shortly before the taking of Charleston by the British. This applicant and the company to which he belonged was first employed in guarding the Arsenal at Camden to prevent the arms from falling into the hands of the Tories & in guarding Tories who at the time [were] in confinement. He believes he was engaged in this Service from 2 to 3 months. After the expiration of this Service & after the fall of Charleston this applicant with the Captain Chesnut's Company to which he belonged was marched to Orangeburg in South Carolina whether they were sent for the purpose of holding in check the Tories which after the fall of Charleston were numerous and troublesome to the Whigs and their property -- He remained at Orangeburg about one month on this service. The British having in the meantime taking Camden & marched towards the North this applicant was discharged or dismissed, for he received no written discharge, and returned home to his neighborhood of Camden -- not more than 2 or 3 months after the return of this applicant from Orangeburg he was again drafted in a company commanded by Captain Douglas Starke and marched with his company to Lenews [sic, Leneud's] ferry on Santee upon an expedition against the Tories who were said to infest that neighborhood. Charles Maginnis or McGinnis was a Lieutenant in Captain Starke's company. He was one month or more engaged upon the expedition under Captain Starke -- & was then dismissed & returned home -- not long after this he took the place of his brother Samuel Payne who had been drafted & was again ordered to the

neighborhood of Leneud's ferry on Santee against the Tories but from some cause was discharged before the term for which his brother was drafted had expired -- He was in no battle -- but was engaged in scouting parties in guarding the Arsenal at Camden as before stated, and in expeditions against the Tories and in guarding Tories for a considerable length of time in all. The effects of old age has impaired his memory to such a degree as to render it impossible for him to be certain as to the length of time he served in all, but he is confident that he was more than 2 & he believes more than 3 years in the public service as before stated. He cannot remember the time or date at which he left the Service and ceased to perform duty as a soldier but as well as he remembers he was occasionally drafted & employed as he has before stated from shortly before the fall of Charleston till peace was made between England & the United colonies or states --

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 agency of any state.

This applicant further states that he never received a written discharge, and he knows of no person or persons now living by whom he can establish his services.

Interrogatories propounded by the said Court to the applicant and his answers thereto  
1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in Karshaw district [sic, Kershaw district] in South Carolina in 1763.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans: I have none at this time. My age was recorded in my father's Bible but the Bible has been destroyed many years ago.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: I was living when called into service near Camden South Carolina I removed after the war about 25 miles from Camden on the Wateree River -- where I resided till 1819 when I removed with my family to Marengo County Alabama near Demopolis where I have resided ever since.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: I was drafted and served as stated in my declaration

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: I have stated the circumstances of my services according to the very best of my recollection. The companies in which I served were never to my recollection associated with any of the regular troops & being young at the time & formed no acquaintance with any of the regular officers. I knew a Colonel Thompson [William Thomson] who commanded what was called Rangers -- I knew Colonel Kershaw (Joseph) Major Mee [George Mee], Captain Starke, Captain Chesnutt & the others I have before named.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

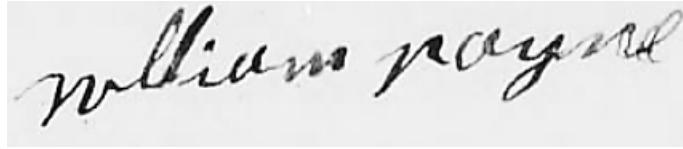
Ans: I never did to my recollection received a written discharge --

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans: I am known to George S. Gaines Esquire now of Mobile to Allen Gloon, Thomas Ringgold, Augustus Foscue, John Rains, Esq. and most of the people living in Marengo County.

Sworn and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid  
Attest: Thoas Ringgold Clerk

S/ William Payne

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Payne". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Solomon Perkins, a clergyman, David Curry & Thomas Ringgold gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Alabama Marengo County S.S. }

Before me Charles H. Drummond a justice of the peace in and for the County of Marengo and State aforesaid personally came and appeared William Payne who resides in said County and known to me as the identical person who has heretofore made a declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832, and who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth 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 as a soldier during the revolutionary war, and for which he has claim a pension under the act of Congress aforesaid; but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades -- this applicant in the first tour of service mentioned and described by him in his said declaration which accompanies this, and in which tour of service he was a private in Captain Chesnut's company of militia served in said company upon duty described by him two months he recollects he was drafted for two months & served out the time -- In the second tour of service described by him as a private in Captain Chesnut's company & where in the company was marched to Orangeburg this applicant served one month - - In the expedition to Leneud's ferry in which this applicant was a private in Captain Douglas Starke's company he served one month, -- as a substitute for his brother Samuel Payne he served as a private two months. This applicant recollects that he was engaged two months in guarding the Arsenal at Camden as a private soldier under Captain Douglas Starke, -- and this affiant was stationed at the least two months at Orangeburg to guard the Tories in the same company -- This affiant recollects that he was at one time marched as far as Jack's Creek on the way to Charleston as a private soldier belonging to a company commanded by the same Captain Douglas Starke at which place the news of peace with England was communicated to the Troops and the troops returned and were discharged for which service this affiant claims a pension -- He has now stated the length of each service as near as his memory will permit. He can only repeat that his recollection is greatly impaired by old age, and that he has always believed and now believes that the whole of his services taken together would amount to 3 years or upwards -- that he cannot now specify more particularly than he has done the length of each service -- from old age and the state of his health he cannot conveniently attend Court (held about 18 miles from his residence) to make this amended declaration & he has therefore made the same before a justice of the peace

--

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 16 September 1834

S/ William Payne

S/ CH Drummond, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 for service as a private for 6 months in the South Carolina militia.]