

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Rolison S11310

fn29SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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State of Alabama Autauga County

On this 15th day of April A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable Henry W. Collier one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts of said State and now sitting as Judge of the said Court for the County aforesaid, William Rolison, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged about seventy-four 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 7th, 1832 --

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated --

About the last of 1776 or the first of 1777 he substituted himself in the place of Joseph Martin and was during his service as substitute, stationed exclusively at Charleston South Carolina. His officers in this service he does not now recollect -- his memory he states is much impaired -- he thinks however the Commander in Chief of the Station was General Moultrie.

In the year 1777, he thinks in the month of May, he enlisted for a service of one year under Holly Risbeau [sic, Holly Risbey<sup>1</sup>] a Captain -- his company first assembled at Williams Branch near the Eutaw Springs -- thence marched to Charleston, receiving recruits constantly as they proceeded -- his Company was formed in the 6th Regiment, if his present recollection is correct, and served as one of that Regiment under Holly Risbeau as Captain under\_\_ Henderson [William Henderson] as Major, the same who was wounded at Eutaw -- was afterwards a General -- also under Thomas Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] as Colonel, who was afterwards General Sumter, recently dead -- from Charleston they marched under the same officers against the Indians at the head of the Savannah River -- was taken sick, before they reached the scene of action, and ordered to stop by his officers for recovery -- this was when his fellows were in some engagements with the Indians, particularly in a valley the name of which he cannot now recollect, however near what was then called Frog Town -- On the return march, he rejoined his Company, &c and marched to Taucaw Swamp, near Nelson's ferry on the Georgetown side, and were there stationed -- thence marched to Savannah -- crossed the Savannah River just above Purrysburg -- stayed at Savannah a few days -- thence to the Altamaha River and on from thence as far as Santilla [sic, Satilla] River. The impression being among the troops that they were destined to act against Saint Augustine thence back to Savannah and Charleston -- thence to Haddrell's Point -- after the battle of Sullivan's Island returned to Charleston -- was not engaged in the Battle although near the scene of it -- his Regiment having been stationed on the Marshes, at what was called Bouthens Ferry [?] -- the Troops of which he was one were then marched to

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<sup>1</sup> According to Bobby Gilmer Moss in his *SC Roster*.

Taucaw Swamp, where they had an encampment or rendezvous, and were there discharged -- He afterwards served in several militia services -- but generally unimportant in their results and of short continuance -- He has no documentary evidence and at present knows of no person who can testify to the same.

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 --

To the interrogatories, prescribed by the War Department to be propounded by the Court, he returned the following answers, as they were severally proposed --

To 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

He answers -- he was born in North Carolina, was raised in South Carolina -- was born, as near as he recollects to have been informed, in the year 1759 --

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

He answers -- He has no record whatever --

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?

He answers -- When called into service, he was living in Richland district South Carolina -- 18 miles below Columbia on Congaree -- lived in same District till 1822 and from there in Autauga County and State of Alabama -- now lives in the last mentioned place --

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?

He answers -- In his first service, he was a substitute for Joseph Martin -- enlisted as mentioned in his declaration, for one year in 1777 -- afterwards frequently volunteered in short services --

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.

He answers -- he remembers in the same Regiment which he served, Wade Hampton and Ensign -- [paper torn, text missing] not in his Company -- He paid but little attention to any thing while in service except his own business -- and this inattention taken in connection with a memory made precarious by age rendered him unable to name other officers with certainty or any other circumstances of his service, being material to mention, than those he has specified in his declaration --

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?

He answers -- I received a written discharge from General Sumter, signed by him he thinks, but was a short time afterwards lost -- so that he has never since been able to recover it --

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.

He answers -- those who are now present and who I am informed can signed the requisite certificate are Reverend Eli Terry -- John P. Dejarnette and William McPherson -- I am generally known in my neighborhood but am advised it is not necessary to [indecipherable word] further. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ M. P. Holman, Clk

S/ William Rolison, X his mark

[Eli Terry, a clergyman, and John P. Dejarnett and William McPherson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Alabama Autauga County

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for said County, William Rolison, 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 grades -- For one month, I served as a substitute in the place of Joseph Martin, a private -- for one year, I served as an enlisted private, under Captain Holly Risbeau, &c as stated in my first declaration -- and for 7 months, I served as a private in several militia services, rendered in the District of my residence in South Carolina (Richland) and the adjoining Country, and required by the turbulent and insurrectionary movements of the Tories in that quarter and for such services I claim a pension -- He also states that during the periods of the aforesaid services he was not employed in any civil pursuit --

Sworn to and subscribed the 15th day of October 1833

S/ Moses Grier, JP

S/ William Rolison, X his mark