

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Adam J. Files S13026

f35SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/7/08 rev'd 2/9/15 & 2/12/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

Georgia, Talbot County

On this the third day of February 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Inferior Court of said County of Talbot now sitting – Adam J. Files a resident of the County aforesaid in said State aged Seventy 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, that he was enrolled by his father in the winter of 1777 under Captain William Baskin in Abbeville District South Carolina and served a tour of six months. The Company was Commanded by Captain Baskin, Lieutenant Files & 2nd Lieutenant Baskin – a brother of the Captain. This Company was chiefly engaged in excursions against the Indians and for the purpose of protecting the frontier settlements in that part of ~~the~~ Country South Carolina from Savage depredations. During the whole of this service the Company was in no formal engagement nor under the command of any other officers than those above mentioned. The next service was performed under the same Captain under a draft for two or three months deponent is not exactly certain as to the time upon the frontiers against the Indians. This service was performed in the year 1778 in South Carolina. The third tour was performed under the father of this applicant who was Lieutenant Files [John Files] as a scouting party against the Indians. This service only continued about one month. The next service was performed after the capture of Charleston by the British under Captain Files (who was promoted from 1st Lieutenant) and his Company joined the Army of General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] at Grindal Shoals on Pacolet River South Carolina, the militia being under the command of General Andrew Pickens. This applicant was at the battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] under General Morgan. The right of the Army was commanded by General Pickens. The left by Colonel McCall and the Center by General Morgan. In this battle the father of petitioner Captain Files and his brother Jeremiah Files¹ were severely wounded. The latter is now residing in the State of Alabama and is receiving a pension from the Government in consequence of his wounds received in the above engagement in South Carolina. After the battle petitioner was left at General McDowell's [Charles McDowell's] in North Carolina on the Catawba River to attend the wounded and sick and remained there for some time until marched to the State of Virginia remained in the Virginia a short time and returned back to South Carolina where in a skirmish Captain Files was taken prisoner and murdered [sometime in May 1781] by the Tories and Indians. Petitioner was present at this engagement when only five of the Company made their escape. From this time to the close of the war he was frequently in service under Captain Baskin

¹ [Jeremiah Files S13025](#)

who commanded the Company after the death of Captain Files in which he served after peace was made with the Colonies and Great Britain. Petitioner served two tours in the Company of Captain Baskin commanded by General Pickens against the Cherokee Indians. The first tour was in the spring the second in the fall of the year after the evacuation of Charleston by the British.² The last service he performed was as guard at the treaty made by General Pickens and Colonel Hankins and others at General Pickens' plantation on Seneca River in Pendleton District South Carolina with the Cherokee Indians. He was then under the command of Captain Pace. The petitioner states that the whole of the time he was in service would make about eighteen months or two years. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed before me this day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Brown, JIC

S/ Adam J. Files, X his mark

[p 30: Hiram Powell and John Blackstone, a clergyman, gave these standards supporting affidavit.]

[p 31]

State of Georgia Gwinnett County

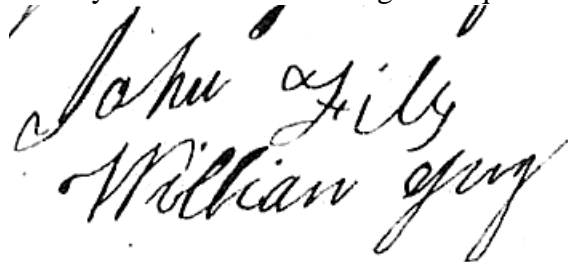
Personally came before me William Liddle [sic]³ who being duly sworn said on his oath that he was personally acquainted with Adam J Files in the Revolutionary War in favor of the United States against Great Britain and the Indians he was a citizen of South Carolina and Ninety Six district and that he was a man of Respectability and he further saith that he served two towers [tours] of duty in the Revolutionary war with him in Capt. Baskins company commanded by General Pickens the first tower of duty as a soldier in the year 1777 and the next 1778 or 79. Sworn to before me this the 5th of August 1833

S/ G. W. Jones, JP

S/ William Liddell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Liddell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name is written in a fluid, connected style. Below the signature, there is a horizontal line and a small square mark at the end of the line.

[p 19: On October 26, 1838 in Macon County Alabama, the veteran filed for the transfer of his pension benefits to the Alabama agency having removed from Georgia to live with his children who have moved from Georgia to Alabama. This document was signed with his mark. p 20: John Files (relationship not stated) & William Dye gave supporting affidavit regarding the identity of the veteran making the request for the transfer of his pension benefit.

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature reads "John Files" and the bottom signature reads "William Dye". Both signatures are written in dark ink. Below the signatures, there is a horizontal line and a small square mark at the end of the line.

² The British evacuated Charleston South Carolina in December 1782.

³ [William Liddell W3835](#)

[p 7: On October 19, 1840 in Macon County Alabama, Mary Files, widow of Adam J Files filed an affidavit in which she states that her husband, a revolutionary war pensioner, died at his residence in Macon County Alabama August 11, 1840.

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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 18 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁴ relating to Adam Files pp 5
Audited Account No. 2377

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/12/21

[p 2]

[Book] O [No.] 405 No. 28 20 April 1785

Mr. Adam Files his Account of Militia Duty done alternately from 1780 to 1783 inclusive, say as Private 258 Days on Horse at 20/ [20 shillings old SC Currency per day] £258

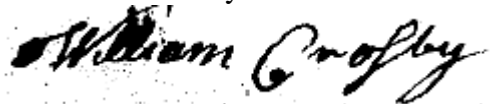
Stg. [Sterling] £36.17.1 ½

Ex^d. W.R. [Examined by W. R. [identity unknown]]

J. M^c. A.G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

Received 20th April 1785 full satisfaction for the Within, in an Indent, No. 405, Book O, by an Order

S/ William Crosby



[p 3]

State South Carolina

Dr [Debtor] to Adam Files

for Duty per Captain Wm Baskins's [William Baskins'] Pay Bill

from 1780 to 1783 done alternately as Private

on Horseback 258 Days on Horse at 20/

£258

Stg. £36.17.1 ½

[p 5 (retake of page 4)]

South Carolina Abbeville C.

I do hereby authorize and empower William Cosbie [sic] to draw and receive for my Use the Indent or Indents, being for Monies due to me for service done to the Public of this State, according to Returns made by Colonel Robert Anderson into the Auditor's Office – Given under my Hand this 29th Day of September 1785

S/ Adam files

⁴ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) 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. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

Adam Files

South Carolina Abbeville C
September 29th, 1785 }

I do hereby Certify that the above Adam Files did sign the
above Order in my presence
S/ John Harris, JP