

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Ross S1717

Transcribed by Will Graves

f30SC

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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.]

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State of Tennessee, Hardin County

On this 14th day of November 1832 personally appeared in Open court before William B. Turley the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Hardin County, now Sitting in the town of Savannah George Ross a resident of the State of Tennessee and County of Hardin upwards of the age of Seventy-Two years of age, 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 the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers & served as herein stated, that he was first Drafted in the militia of the State of South Carolina and the District now called York district under the Command of Colonel Andrew Neel first Colonel & William Bratton Lieutenant Colonel John Moffit [John Moffett] Major & in Captain John Millar's [John Millar's] Company and that he went into Service under the above named officers some time in the Summer of the year 1780 and continued in service until Colonel Andrew Neel was killed at Rocky Mount Battle [July 30, 1780]¹ and after that he served under Col. William Bratton first Colonel and John Moffit Lieutenant Colonel & Major Hathhorn [sic, James Hawthorn] & in Captain John Millar's Company & continued until Captain John Millar was Killed at the Battle of Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780],² then continued until the End of the war under the Command of the last mentioned field officers & in Captain John Peters' Company until the End of the revolution with the Exception of certain times when permitted to return home to recruit & get Clothing & returned to Service again, & that he Served in the horse troops throughout the whole war except the first tour of about three months and that during his Service he was in the following Engagements (to wit) first at the Battle at Colonel Bratton's when Captain Hook [sic, Christian Huck] was defeated [July 12, 1780]³ Second at the Battle of Rocky Mount when Colonel Andrew Neel was killed third at the Battle of Hanging Rock where Captain John Millar was killed fourthly at the Battle⁴ taking of the British fort on the Congaree River in South Carolina and was at the taking⁵ of a British fort on Santee River in the same State and was in many Other Skirmishes during the Service of the revolution, too tedious to enumerate and that he has a Register of his birth taken from the register of his age kept by his father which shows that he was born on the 15th day of July 1760 & that he entered the Service when about the age of 20 years and that he resided in the State of South Carolina on the close of the war until the year

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

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

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_williamsons_plantation.html

⁴ Probably May 1, 1781, Friday's Ferry http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fridays_ferry.html

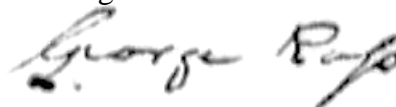
⁵ Probably February 22, 1781, Thomson's Plantation

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

1795 and then removed to the State of Tennessee to Montgomery County thence to Dickson County then to Maury County & from thence to Hardin County where he has lived for the last 12 years past & that he was discharged from Service but have lost the same many years ago not thinking it would Ever be of service to him again and that he have become so blind at the present time that he can't see to do any business whatever or travel anywhere without being led by some person, and that his sight have been failing him Ever since about the year 1790, the cause of which may probably be from Exposure in the revolutionary war – and that he had a Knowledge of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] who Commanded of the Militia of South Carolina likewise knew Colonel Lee [Henry [”Light Horse Harry”] Lee], Colonel Washington [William Washington], General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] who was the field Officers in the regular Army and that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person at present whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his Service and he hereby relinquishes Every Claim whatever to a pension or annuity Except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Ct. November 14, 1832.

S/ George Ross



S/ Wm B. Turley, Judge &c.

Questions propounded by the Court

Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born the 15th of July 1780 upon the South branch of the Potomac River in Virginia but do not know the name of the County

Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

I have a record of it at home which complies with the statement above--

Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: I was living in South Carolina in what is now called York district and remained in York district a few years after the War and removed then to Pendleton district in South Carolina where I lived about five or six years and moved then to Montgomery County in Tennessee about the year 1793 and lived there two years, moved thence into Dixon [sic, Dickson] County Tennessee where I lived about something like 13 or 14 years or longer cannot recall how long moved thence to Maury County, Tennessee about the year 1816 lived there about two years, Moved thence to Hardin County Tennessee where I now live.

How were you called into service?

Answer: I was drafted in February 1780 for three months in the South Carolina Militia infantry I served that time out accordingly and immediately after the expiration of that time volunteered in the light horse and served until the end of the War in that corps 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.

Answer: I have stated in my declaration above all the officers and Regiments that I can now recollect also the general circumstances of my services as particularly as I can recollect. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer: I received a discharge from service at the end of the first three months I served, but have long since lost or destroyed it, it was signed by Lieutenant Col. William Bratton 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.

Answer: I am known to Thomas Gray, William Allison & Gibson Hardin and many others but do not know of any one whose testimony I can procure to will testify as to my actual service as a Soldier. There is no clergyman living in my neighborhood whose testimony I can procure.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Ct. November 14, 1832.

S/ George Ross

S/ Wm B. Turley, Judge &c.

[Thomas Gray, William Allison & Gibson Hardin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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South Carolina, York District

Personally appeared Captain James Martin⁶ of the District and State aforesaid and made oath that he was a soldier of the Revolutionary war that George Ross then of the State of South Carolina now of the State of Tennessee entered the service of the State of South Carolina as a militia Whig soldier in a militia company commanded by this deponent in a Regiment commanded by Colonel William Bratton deponent thinks in October 1780, that the said George Ross in the company and Regiment aforesaid in the spring of 1781 joined General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], near Winnsboro and from thence marched and besieged fort Friday on the Congaree which we were compelled by a reinforcement of the enemy from Camden to raise from thence we marched down the Congaree River and attacked a party of the British at Colonel Thompson's near McCord's ferry from thence we continued down the River to a place called the Big Savannah⁷ where we took 12 or 15 the wagons loaded with arms and clothing for a Regiment of Horse and the British Guard consisting of about 20 or 30 more which said prisoners and stores were put on board boats and retaken by the British at Rights Bluff [sic, Wrights Bluff⁸] on Santee River (a Fortification at that time unknown to us). We continued down the River to near Nelson's ferry⁹ and brought off General Sumter's family and part of his property. We then returned to this District and remained embodied and kept the Tories and scouting parties of the British in check until the evacuation of Camden we then marched to Friday's fort again and assisted General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] to reduce it, all of which service the said George was in which continued about eight months. The said George Ross then, deponent thinks, returned home and remained about a month or six weeks and then rejoined deponent's company in the Regiment aforesaid then under the command of General Greene at Russell's ferry¹⁰ on the Congaree River and marched to attack the British at Orangeburg,¹¹ the said George Ross was one of a party of eight men who under the command of Colonel Hampton defeated a party of British at the Quarter House¹² after that he was under the Command of deponent as guard, scouting parties &c until some time after the Battle of Eutaw [sic Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781]¹³ which service continued about three months and he then returned home. This said George Ross served two tours of two months each in 1782 in company commanded by deponent during which time we were employed as scouting and foraging parties under the direction of General Henderson, intercepting scouting and foraging parties of the British and

6 [James Martin S9391](#)

7 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/bigsavannah.htm>

8 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/watson.htm>

9 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/nelson.htm>

10 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/russellsfy.htm>

11 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/orangeburg.htm>

12 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/quarterhouse.htm>

13 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

keeping the Tories in check. This deponent is now nearly 78 years old.

Sworn to before me March 7, 1833.

S/ James Martin, M his mark

S/ J. M. Ross, Q U

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State of Tennessee, Hardin County

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the peace in Hardin County George Ross who being duly sworn, deposes and saith, that by reason of old age & 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 three months in the foot as a private & after that he served not less than 12 months as a private in the horse service up to the year 1782 and for such services he claims a pension.

He further states that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, at the time of being Examined in the circuit court of Hardin County before the circuit Judge of said County on the 14th day of November 1832, he could not recollect the different captains' companies he served under in the revolutionary war, but since that time recollects that he served three months as a private in militia foot companies in Captain Millar's company in Colonel William Bratton's Regiment was called out regularly sometime in the month of February 1780 & returned home sometime in the month of May 1780 & recollects being called out again (to the best of his recollection) in the month of October 1780 in the Horse service as a private in Colonel William Bratton's Regiment in the company commanded by James Martin in the State of South Carolina who will Testify of his services in the Army & who he have since found out is still alive & that he served in said Company not less than eight months & then returned home & after sitting [?] five or six weeks we joined the said Regiment (in the said Martin's company) the Regiment then under the command of General Greene at Russell's ferry on the Congaree River & marched to attack the British at Orangeburg & also recollects being one of a party who was sent under the command of Colonel Hampton [Wade Hampton] & defeated a party of the British at the quarter house [July 15, 1781]¹⁴ & after that Service two tours more in said James Martin's company of two months each tour in the year 1782 in which time they were employed as scouting & foraging parties, under the direction of General Henderson [William Henderson], intercepting scouting & foraging parties of the British &c further saith that when he was not immediately in the Army he was continually in readiness to march against the British or Tories at any Notice & that his memory has become so much impaired by old age and infirmities that it is out of his power to recollect near all the occurrences which took place during his Service in the revolutionary war, & that he has suffered much in the Service, and do believe that from the Hardship & Exposure in the Service he has become blind & incapable of attending to any business whatsoever -- & that he is 73 years old on the 15th day of July 1833.

S/ George Ross, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 3 day of August 1833.

S/ Jesse Blackshar, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina militia cavalry for one year.]

¹⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_quarter_house.html