

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Conn (Coln) S17891

f31SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/31/11: rev'd 11/31/19

[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.]

State of South Carolina Chester District: SS Court of Common Pleas Fall Term 1832

On this 25th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared, in open court before me William D Martin one of the Circuit Judges of the Court of common pleas for the District aforesaid, now sitting, George Conn, a resident of Chester district in the State of South Carolina, at the time of the Revolutionary War, and have resided in the same District ever since, aged seventy-eight 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 was born in the State of Virginia on the 2nd day of October 1758 according to a record of his age which he has in his possession and has always thought was correct. That he entered the service of the United States a few days before the Battle at the Fish Dam Ford¹, in Craven County, now Chester District, which is said to have been on the 12th day of November 1780, and he believes it to be true, as a private volunteer Soldier, under Colonel Edward Lacey in Captain Thomas Robins' Company, was marched under Captain Robins to the Fish Dam Ford and was in that engagement, both sides claim the victory, but he is inclined to think the Americans most successful, some months after which he was called upon and marched under Captain Robins to Buck Head² and was in the Battle at that place, at which time we took a prize under Colonels Lacey & Winn a few days after the Battle at Buck Head he was marched under the same officers to Rights' Bluff [Wrights Bluff³] and was in the Battle fought at that place, which he thinks was early in the Spring of the year 1781. –

After the engagement at Wrights Bluff he returned home having served at least five months but never got a written discharge he always considered himself in the United States service until the end of War, being always ready at a minutes warning and was one of those who in them days was called "minute men"; he was about twenty-two years of age when he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the service of the State of South Carolina as a militia soldier. I refer to Mr. James Anderson⁴ and Mr. Robert Cowley⁵ who was my companions in arms and fought with me in some of the Battles before mentioned. I also refer to Reverend R B Walker and ___ as to my veracity and character.

¹ The engagement at Fishdam Creek is usually dated as having occurred on November 7 or 8, 1780. See, http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fishdam_ford.html and

² Fort Motte May 8-12, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fort_motte.html

³ Fort Watson February 24, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_watson_1.html

⁴ [James Anderson W9699](#)

⁵ [Robert Cowley S39336](#)

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 any agency of any States, only on that of the agency of the State of South Carolina.

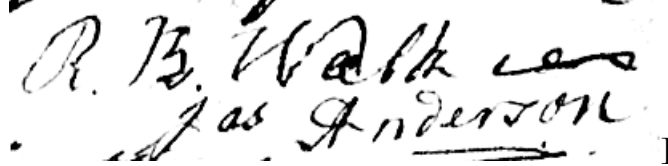
Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

In Open Court October 25, 1832

S/ R Roseborough, Clerk

S/ George Conn, X his mark

[Robert B Walker, a clergyman, and James Anderson gave the standard supporting affidavit



Handwritten signatures of Robert B. Walker and James Anderson, enclosed in a bracketed box.

In addition to the facts set forth in the above certificate the said James Anderson further certifies that the said George Conn served as a private volunteer in Captain Thomas Robins company under him the said James Anderson as Lieutenant from the Battle at the Fish Dam Ford on or about the 12th day of November 1780 until the end of the War when called on that the said Conn was with him at the battles at the fish dam Ford and Wrights Bluff. Sworn to & signed the day & year aforesaid

In open court October 25, 1832

S/ J. Roseborough, Clerk

S/ Jas Anderson

Robert Cowley appeared in open court and after being duly sworn according to law, saith: That he is well acquainted with George Conn who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing Declaration, that to his own certain knowledge he served with him as a private volunteer in Captain Thomas Robins company in the Revolutionary War, that he served with him in the Battle at the fish dam Ford and continued in the United States service from that time to the end of the war when called on and that the said Conn is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed 25th of October 1832 in open court

S/ J. Roseborough, Clerk

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

Interrogatory: Where, and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the State of Virginia, on the 2nd day of October 1758 and was about 22 years old when I entered the service of the United States as a volunteer militia soldier, in the service of the State of South Carolina.

Interrogatory 2nd. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Ans. There was a record made of the time I was born which I have now in my possession at home, which states I was born on the 2nd day of October 1758.

Interrogatory 3rd. Where were you living when called into service, where he you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in South Carolina, then in Craven County now Chester District, I lived in said District now and have lived there ever since.

Interrogatory 4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I was a volunteer under Captain Thomas Robins

Interrogatory 5th. State the names of some of the officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Service Western Mark

Ans. I performed militia service under Captain Thomas Robins, Colonel Edward Lacey & General Sumter, and was in active service in the Battle at the Fish Dam Ford in the fall of 1780 and also at the battle at Buck Head under the last engagement I was in that I now recollect.

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

Ans. I never received a written discharge, but during my service I was permitted to return home but continued in service to the end of the war.

Interrogatory 6. Did you ever receive a Commission, if so, by whom was it signed and what has become of it?

Ans. I never received any Commission, I perform the whole of my service as a private.

Interrogatory 7th 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 of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution?

Ans. I refer to Mr. James Anderson and to Mr. Robert Cowley as to my being a soldier, and to Mr. Robert B Walker and the said James Anderson as to my character & veracity.

Sworn to in open court October 25th, 1832

S/ J. Roseborough, Clerk

S/ George Conn, X his mark

State of South Carolina Chester District: SS: Personally appeared before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary of said District George Conn who being duly sworn Deposeth & 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. Joined General Sumpters Army a few days before the Battle at Fish Dam Ford and was at that Battle, continued in service until the Battle at Blackstocks⁶ was there and assisted to carry General Sumter off the ground when wounded at that place. Still continued in service and in consequence of his Captain Robins being sick was transferred to Captain John McCool's Company and under Colonel Brandon [Thomas Brandon] & thinks about three days before the Battle at Cowpens⁷ joined General Morgan's Army and was at the Battle of the Cowpens & then in a few days was dismissed and returned home having served at least 2 months and 8 days. Then in 4 or 5 days entered the service again in Thomas Robins' Company as a Substitute for William Love & marched from Craven now Chester District down to the Congaree River and attempted to take Fort Granby⁸ or Friday's Fort then marched down the River & took some prisoners and a small prize which was retaken this was at a place called Wrights Bluff General Sumter then attempted to retake the prize but failed in the attempt, then continued with General Sumter during what was called Sumter's Rounds, deponent saith that he continued in service as a substitute for the aforesaid William Love & for John Love till after the Battle of Eutaw Springs⁹ which battle deponent was in, and about a month after returned home

⁶ November 20, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_blackstocks.html and

⁷ January 17, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html and

⁸ February 19-21 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/fortgranby.htm> and

http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_granby_1.html

⁹ September 8, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

having served at least 8 months & 15 days having been in service in all at least 10 months & 23 days, besides a great deal of scouting still being ready for service when called on to the end of the war, for which service I claim a pension, deponent further saith that he did receive a pension from the State of South Carolina which was taken from him in consequence of the provision made by Congress & further saith that when his declaration first failed he thought of abandoning it then but necessity compels him to make this amendment in hopes of obtaining relief not as a charity but as justly due him for the above services.

Sworn to & signed this 14th day of November 1840 in open Court before me
S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

S/ George Conn, X his mark

[p 24: on March 23, 1841 in Chester District South Carolina, Jane McCool gave testimony that she heard William & John Love say that George Coln [sic] served as their substitute in 1781 or 1782, 4 months for William Love and 4 months and 15 days for John Love.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jane McCool". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent initial "J".

[p 28]

South Carolina Chester District: Personally appears Robert Cowley & made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with George Coln [sic] during the time of the Revolutionary war that they were raised within one mile of each other & that he the said George Coln commenced this service of his Country at the Battle at Fishdam on Broad River in the district aforesaid & this deponent further saith that George Coln still was in the service at the battle of Blackstocks on Tyger River Union district & also at the battle of at the Cowpens in North Carolina [sic, South Carolina] after the battle at Cowpens we all came home. And after the said Coln had been home a short time there was a call for the militia again & he then went as a substitute for William Love for the term of 2 months & some days when he was relieved from the service for William Love he still stayed in the service for John Love 2 months & some days & that the said Coln still continued in the service until after the Battle at the Eutaw Springs when we were ordered home to reconnoiter the Country between Broad River & the Catawba River.

Sworn to before me this 24th of July 1841

S/ Thos. J. Cowley, M. C. D.

S/ Robert Cowley, X his mark

[p 29: On August 2nd, 1841, Joseph Robins, Esquire, son of Thomas Robins gave testimony as to what he recalled his father saying about the services of George Conn during the revolutionary war.]

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

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹⁰ relating to George Con [sic] AA5
 Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1403
 Transcribed by Will Graves 10/31/19

[p 2]
 [No.] 1292 No. 120
 [Book] Y 11 June 86 [1786]
 George Con [sic] for 184 days Militia duty as horseman from 5th November 1780 to 1st of
 October alternatively at 20/[20 Shillings] per day
 [old South Carolina] Currency £184
 Stg. [Sterling] £26.5.8 ½

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3: very faint image: use with care]

The State of South Carolina to George Con
 from ye 5th
 November

1780	To 117 days horseman's duty	£	S	d
	20/ per day			117.00.00

from ye 1st

March 1781

from [illegible]

of April

1781	To 38 days Horsemen's duty			
to the 21 st	at 20/per day			38

May

from July

ye 3d 1780[?]¹¹

to August

the 1 st	To 29 Days Horsemen's Duty			
	184 at 20/per day			<u>29</u>

Total				£184.00.00
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George Con being duly Sworn Declares on oath that the above account is Just & true & no part
 paid

Sworn this 30th May 1786 before

S/ Jos Brown, JP

rec'd 8th June 86

[p 5]

The Within duty a proven of and Certified by me S/ Thomas Robins, Capt.

¹⁰ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) 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.

¹¹ last digit very faint

under D. Hopkins [David Hopkins] Lt. Col.

The within copy approved of
and certified by me: Thomas Roberts
Capt.

under D. Hopkins Lt. Col.