

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Dawson S17920

f31SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/14/09 rev'd 1/2/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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 Edgefield District

On this the 1st day of November in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open court before me Richard Gantt one of the Judges of the said Court now sitting in and for the District aforesaid, William Dawson a resident of the District & State aforesaid, aged seventy four years, less a few days 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 in July 1776 his first tour of military service being against the Cherokee Indians within the chartered limits of this State, as a volunteer in a militia company under the command of one Captain Jefferson Williams of said District -- the Expedition was commanded by Colonel Andrew Williamson who commanded a [paper torn, text missing] of South Carolina militia. We encountered [paper torn, text missing] in considerable force at the Tugaloo River, and again a few days subsequently at a place called Tomassee or Sugar Town near the last mentioned place -- where several of the Enemy were slain.

In the early part of 1779 the applicant having repaired to his native place Cumberland County in North Carolina he then and there was drafted for three months and served in a company commanded by Captain Nathaniel King, attached to Colonel Johnson's [Jonas Johnson's] Regiment and General Butler's [John Butler's] Brigade of North Carolina Militia. We rendezvoused at Cross Creek and from thence we were ordered to the South and we effected a Junction with the Army under the command of Colonel Andrew Williamson near Augusta. The applicant was at the defeat of the Army of General Ash [John Ashe] (which was a detachment from General Williamson's Army) at Brier Creek in Georgia in March 1779 [Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779]. In April or may following, the Army which was defeated at Brier Creek, now under the command of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] commenced its march to the defense of [paper torn, text missing] section of this State, and engaged the enemy at the Battle of Stono which was fought in June 1779 [June 20, 1779]. After this the applicant having a discharge from the said Captain King to whose company he was yet attached & which discharge has long since been lost, he returned to his home in Edgefield.

In June 1780 the British having obtained possession of all of the strong parts in the interior & up country of South Carolina, General Williamson ~~acted treasonously to his Country~~ & surrendered all the men (whom he could) under his command near Cambridge -- the applicant having been paroled remained in this situation till the fall of the same year, when he volunteered in the service and joined an Expedition under the command of General Elijah Clarke and __McCoy of Georgia, which eventuated in an engagement with a detachment of the Enemy from the Fort of Cambridge at Cedar Creek -- which was commanded by William Cunningham a Tory Colonel. Several were killed and wounded among the latter of whom was General Clarke. In

May succeeding, the applicant [word written over and indecipherable, but I think the word is "joined"] the Army under the command of Colonel Clarke & General Pickens [Andrew Pickens], which United with a detachment of General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Cavalry under Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] at Augusta [Siege of Augusta, May 22-June 6, 1781], and was actively engaged at Fort Brown at said place when Colonel Brown [Thomas "Burnt-Foot" Brown] surrendered the Garrison [paper torn, text missing] command. -- from thence we repaired to head [paper torn, text missing] in the vicinity of Cambridge, and formed a Junction with General Greene's Army which was then lying before the Fort at Ninety Six attempting its reduction [Siege of Ninety Six, May 22-June 19, 1781]. The Garrison was commanded by Colonel Cruger [John Harris Cruger] -- the sudden appearance of Lord Rawdon in the vicinity of that place, forced us to retreat from our position and make a movement towards the low country in this State. At Eutaw [Eutaw Springs] Army encountered a considerable body of the Enemy, in September 1781 [September 8, 1781] who after a pretty severe engagement retreated. In this last Expedition the applicant was attached to a company under command of Captain Maxwell (then a resident of this district). The officers engaged in that battle were General Greene & Pickens -- Colonel Martin, Colonel Moore &c -- the last were those he had more acquaintance with. After this the applicant returned home to Edgefield where he will now resides and attached himself to a militia company under the command of Captain Henry Key of Colonel LeRoy Hammond's Regiment -- from the fall of 1780 till the termination of hostilities in South Carolina the applicant was frequently actively engaged in scouts and reconnoitering parties against disaffected provincials usually called Tories. The applicant never received a discharge except the one from Captain King above referred to. In the above declaration the applicant has stated some of the possible events of his military campaign and has omitted the detail of his minor services, which would nearly fill up the inter-[word or words obliterated by Scotch tape blackout] of time between the more prominent events above [Scotch tape blackout] those periods of time when he was not actually engaged [Scotch tape blackout] in the service were comparatively short and there a very small proportion in point of time to those periods when he was so engaged in the military service and acted together it would greatly exceed 2 years.

This deponent has no documentary evidence to abuse for the verification of his declaration, but would refer to the accompanying certificate of Colonel Samuel Hammond¹ who was an active and efficient officer in the Revolution as a corroboration in part of the said declaration.

The applicant 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 except [Scotch tape blackout], which pension he hereby relinquishes on the establishment of his claim now presented.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Richard Gantt, PJ

S/ Willm Dawson



[William Garrett, Senior and David Richardson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 8]

Amended Declaration of William Dawson

¹ [Samuel Hammond S21807](#)

South Carolina Edgefield District:

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the District & State aforesaid William Dawson who deposes & saith that in his original Declaration, he omitted many material facts as to his revolutionary services, which he now sets forth: That in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians in July 1776 as set forth in his original declaration, that he volunteered for three months and was in actual service for that time. The applicant further states that on the return of Captain Williams to the Fort on the Seneca River in this State that Captain Benjamin Tutt, who was attached to Colonel Isaac Hughes Regiment was there stationed, with his company & after being discharged from his Williams company, he substituted and took the place of one Peter Scott, who was enlisted in the said Captain Tutt's company and served out his time which was [six ?] months and was then give him a written discharge by said officer (which is now lost). He refers the department to his declaration for his services at Stono. In the same year he substituted in Captain ___ company (in place of John Reid) which company was attached to Colonel LeRoy Hammond's Regiment for three months, and marched with said Regiment to the siege of Savannah and was actively engaged in said siege until the close of the action, or dispersion of the militia. And explanation of his service from [indecipherable, either June or January] 1780 he states that he volunteered under Captain David Maxwell of this District for three months at the expiration of that time he again volunteered for three months and served out both periods but received no written discharge. That he was also under said Maxwell as a volunteer for three months during the Battle of the Eutaw Springs, that he was engaged in said Battle. That he was discharged, but received no written discharge. In the month of October or November after the Battle of Eutaw 1781 the deponent volunteered under Captain John Cain, whose company was attached to Colonel LeRoy Hammond's Regiment, in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians and Tories General Andrew Pickens commanding the expedition. In this expedition the deponent states that he was selected with nine others from the different companies as an advance guard said that they succeeded in capturing & killing four Indians who were supposed to be acting as [paper torn, word missing]ies from those who had embraced [?] at [several indecipherable words, looks like 'there town sorties']. That in this expedition he was a volunteer but for what period, he does not recollect, but believes that at that time he was not in actual service more than one month.

The applicant further states, that he was in the Florida expedition in 1778. That he was drafted in a company commanded by Joseph Dawson attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel LeRoy Hammond. The Brigade commanded by General Williamson. That the company to which he was attached was discharged in Georgia. That he was drafted for 6 months. That he remained in actual service with the company until they were regularly discharged but received no written discharge that he now recollects and the applicant states that owing to old age & consequent loss of memory, that he is unable to state any further facts to the Department.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 25th day of January 1841

S/ Aaron Dill, Magistrate

S/ Wm Dawson

[p 15]

State of South Carolina Edgefield District: Personally appeared before me a justice of the Peace in and for the District aforesaid Abner Corley² aged 83 years and now a Pensioner of the State of South Carolina for Revolutionary Services, who after being duly sworn as the law directs, saith that he knew William Dawson Sr. now an applicant for a pension from the General Government during a part of the Revolutionary War. That he first saw him, in actual service, at the siege of Augusta. That he again met with him at the Siege of Cambridge or Ninety Six, where he was in active service. And that he believes all the statements set forth in his declaration as to his

² [Abner Corley S21707](#)

services to be just & true.

Sworn to before me this 25th day of January 1841.

S/ Aaron Hill, Magistrate

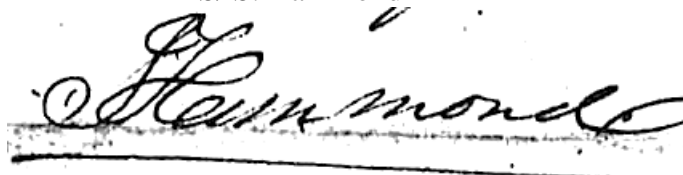
S/Abner Corley, X his mark

[p 19]

State of South Carolina Edgefield District:

I do hereby Certify that I was acquainted with William Dawson in the year 1779 and saw him frequently during the year in actual service, in General A. Williamson's Brigade South Carolina Militia, his Rank if any I do not now recollect but he was an active soldier & on several detachments with which I served -- I saw him at the Siege of Savannah commonly called the French Siege -- he was also in what is called the Stono campaign in the latter part of 1779 & 80 I saw him in actual service, but at this distance of time & dates & particularly Circumstances, not connected with his own Command are imperfectly recollected. I have however recollection enough to state that he was commonly in service from February 1779 to May 1780 -- after which I know nothing until the siege of Ninety Six & Augusta in 1781 -- when I saw him again in actual service until my joining General Greene in the neighborhood of Bacon's Bridge near Charleston after which I know nothing of his services, but believe he still continued in active & [indecipherable word]³ officer in the Militia, & Was generally as far as my memory serves me considered an active & [indecipherable word]⁴ soldier.

S/ S. Hammond



[p 21]

State of South Carolina Edgefield District:

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the District & State aforesaid, Henry Timmerman,⁵ said to be aged 84 years, and as a Pensioner of the General Government who after being duly sworn as the law directs saith that he saw William Dawson Senior (who now applies for a Pension from the General Government) in the action at the Battle of Stono in this State in 1779. That he also saw him in active service at the siege of Cambridge in this State and that he also saw him in the engagement at the Battle of the Eutaw Springs. And that he believes all the facts set forth in his original and amended declaration is just & true.

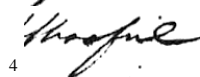
Sworn to before me this 25th January 1841.

S/ Henry Timmerman, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia militia.]



3



4

⁵ [Henry Timmerman S18247](#)

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁶ relating to William Dawson
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1835
Transcribed by Will Graves

AA21

5/15/20

[p 2]

No. 50

No. 315

Lib. [Book] U July 18th, 1785

Mr. William Dawson his Account of Militia Duty as Private since the reduction of Charlestown
[Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] Amounting to

[old South Carolina] Currency £46.0.0

Stg. [Sterling] £6.11.5

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

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

[p 3]

State South Carolina

Dr. to Wm Dawson

for Duty per Colonel Anderson's [Robert Anderson's] return [not extant] £46.0.0

Stg. £6.11.5

Received 18th of July 1785 full Satisfaction for the amount of the within account in an Indent No.
315 Book U by virtue of an Order

S/ Benj. Tutt [Benjamin Tutt]



[p 5]

Gentlemen

Ninety Six District December 6 178 [last digit obliterated]

Please to deliver to Mr. John Barkley my Indent for my Public Account rendered into the
Auditor General

Edward Blake & Peter Bocquet Esqr.

S/ William Dawson



[p 6]

The petition of William Dawson praying to be placed upon the pension List
on Reconsideration [undeciphered word]

Pensions

S/ J. S. Glascock

⁶ 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. The "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

[p 7]

To the Honorable the House of Representatives –
The Petition of William Dawson Sheweth

That he was a revolutionary Soldier, that he served during the revolutionary War in many Companies which were engaged in active service – He was in several hard-fought battles i.e. the battle of Stono, Eutaw &c all of which the documents herewith submitted will show – he has become very poor & is aged & infirm & prays your Honorable body to place him upon the pension list & your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

S/ William Dawson

[p 8]

South Carolina

Edgefield District} Personally appeared before me Matthew Barrett and made oath that he was acquainted with the bearer William Dawson before the American revolution and was with him in different Companies in the time that Tried men's Souls, he Served with me under the Command of Captain Benjamin Tutt as a Continental Soldier – I always viewed him as a Very brave man and as a Very active one in the defense of his Country – I have also been acquainted with him ever since the American Revolution and he is in Very Indigent Sircumstances.

Sworn to before me

this 26 November 1822

S/ William [undeciphered surname], JQ

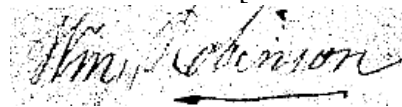
S/ Matthew Barrett, X his mark

[p 9 – illegibly faint document]

[p 10]

To all of whom it may Concern this is to Certify That the Bearer William Dawson was an Active Soldier in our revolutionary war and in particular I recollect his Being with me in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians and he Being chosen as one of the advanced party I loaned him my sword with which he slew an Indian. He now appears to be unable to get his living and appears to be an object of Public Compassion. November 24th 1822

S/ Wm Robinson [William Robinson]

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

Mr. Glascock States the above signed to be a Respectable Man

[p 12]

South Carolina

Abbeville District} Before me the Subscribing Justice personally came and appeared Elias Gibson who being duly sworn Saith that he was acquainted with the Bearer William Dawson in our Revolutionary war and knows him to have been a very active man in defense of his country, and that he was frequently with him in Campaigns at the Stono and others.

Sworn to this 22nd November 1822

before me

S/ Patrick Gibson, JP

S/ Elias Gibson

Shos ydson

[p 13]

South Carolina

Richland District } Personally appeared before me William Dawson who being duly sworn
deposeth & saith that he served upwards three years in the Continental & militia service during
the Revolutionary War that he was in the battle at Ashes [John Ashe's] defeat [Battle of Briar
Creek, March 3, 1779, Stono [Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779] Eutaw [September 8, 1781, Augusta &
Cambridge & was in two Expeditions against the Cherokee Indians

Sworn to before me this 2nd December 1822

S/ D. J. McCord

Intendant of

Columbia & J. P.

Ex Officio

S/ Willm Dawson

[p 14]

Committee on Pensions on the Petition of William Dawson

Report in favor

In the House of Representatives

December 21, 1822

Resolved that the House do agree to the Report – Ordered that it be sent to the Senate for
concurrence

By order of the House

S/ R. Anderson

No. 20

Reconsidered & report in favor from December 1822

[p 15]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of William Dawson, praying to be
placed on the Pension List, Respectfully Report, that your Committee have Considered the same
and recommend the prayer thereof be Granted, and that the said William Dawson be put on the
Pension List at the rate of Sixty Dollars per annum December 1822

[pp 16-21: further administrative papers reflecting payment of \$60 per annum to the veteran from
June 11, 1825 through June 8, 1834.]