

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Melson S18124

f12SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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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.]

State of South Carolina Greenville District:

On this eighth day of July in the year while Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Chancellor of the Court of Equity now sitting Samuel Melson a resident of Greenville District and State of South Carolina aged ninety-seven 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 -- The first time he entered the service of the United States he was drafted for six months in March 1776 under Captain Drury Pace Lieutenant Barclay Martin [Barkley Martin] and left the service in September 1776 -- was stationed at Sullivan's Island near Charleston during the greater part of this tour -- was in the Battle on Sullivan's Island [June 28, 1776] -- under the command of General Moultrie [William Moultrie] -- the second tour he substituted himself in the place of one Benjamin Redman for three months under Captain Natty Whitcomb [Natley Whitcombe] marched into Georgia on the Ocany [sic, Oconee] River at a place called Montpelier was under the command of Colonel Foster this tour was served in the Fall & winter of 1776 & 1777 -- The third time he was drafted for six months in 1777 under the command of Captain Bartley Martin marched down to Ebenezer at Savannah River the whole six months -- the fourth tour he took the place of James Randall for 2 weeks at Round O—under Captain John Randall -- The fifth time he substituted himself for three months in the place of Thomas Owl under Captain Thomas Jones was marched to the hanging Rock -- He then volunteered and was in the service twelve months under Captain Key [Thomas Key] principally - - He served again about three weeks at the taking of Brown [Thomas “Burn-foot” Brown] out of Augusta¹ -- He cannot recollect the particular dates when he entered the service and when he left it each tour -- He was in the Battle on Sullivan's Island -- was in the Battle of Stono [June 20, 1779] -- was in the Battle of Stony Point -- was at the siege of Savannah² when an attempt was made on that place by the United forces of the French and Americans -- was in the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] -- was in the Battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] and the Siege of Augusta -- he recollects General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] -- General Greene [Nathanael Greene] -- General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] -- Pulaski -- Colonel Washington [William Washington], Middleton, Clark [Elijah Clarke] and others -- was wounded in the hip at Stono -- He is confident he served two years and he claims pay for such service as a private. He

¹ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/>

² <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

has no documentary evidence and knows of no one whose testimony he can procure as to his services.

1st was born in Connecticut in the year 1736 -- 2nd has no record of his age -- 3rd was living in Edgefield District South Carolina when he was called into Service & has lived in Edgefield District and Greenville District where he now lives ever since the revolutionary war -- 4th he was twice drafted and volunteered and substituted several times -- the names of the persons for whom he substituted have already been mentioned -- & he was with General Sumter, Pickens, Greene, Colonel Washington, Colonel Cleveland, General Clark, Colonel Middleton and others -- 6th he wants received a discharge from Captain Drury Pace, but it has been lost -- 7th he is known in his present neighborhood to Colonel Robert Cox -- and Reverend LeRoy McWhorter who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Choice, Commissioner & Register

S/ Samuel Melson, X his mark

[LeRoy McWhorter, a clergyman, and Robert Cox gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Greenville District:

Personally came Samuel Melson and being duly sworn makes oath in consequence of his extreme old age (ninety-seven years old) and the consequent loss of memory he is unable to state so fully as he otherwise might all the particulars of his revolutionary services, but to the best of his recollection & belief he did serve as long as is stated in his declaration and that he was twice drafted for 6 months and served the tours as mentioned in his Declaration -- the first on Sullivan's Island and in and near Charleston in the 2nd on Savannah River at Ebenezer, Sisters Ferry & Brier Creek under the officers already mentioned in his declaration.

He did continue in the service at one time for twelve months, but it was by taking the places of four different persons -- the first was the place of James Orrick for two months -- the second Abraham Rederick [?] for four months -- the third William Harvey for three months -- the fourth Lot Warren for three months, making twelve months he continued in the service at one time -- these services were rendered in different parts of the State and under different captains, but the whole time he was attached to the Main forces of the United States.

Sworn to & subscribed -- this &c [indecipherable word]

S/ J. McDaniel, C. C. P.

S/ Samuel Melson, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina militia.]