

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Morgan Griffin S18844

SC

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 20 July 2014.

“To the Hon’b the President and Members of the Senate” of the State of South Carolina. The humble petition of Morgan Griffin sheweth that your petitioner voluntarily enlisted as a [sic] in the revolution for three years in the third Regiment of Rangers commanded by Col. William Thomson and in Captain Littles [sic: George Liddell’s] Company– was made prisoner by the British on Sullivan’s Island at the fall of Charleston [12 May 1780] – his time was expired before his captivity– That your petitioner obtained an honorable discharge for which services your petitioner rec’d only four months pay– he humbly petitions your Honorable body to take his deorable situation into consideration and grant his arrearage of pay– and further prays your hon’b body to place him on the pension list under such circumstances you may deem just and proper (signed) Morgan Griffin”
“Columbia Nov 25th 1819”

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the petitions of Mesheck Rozar James Hamilton and Morgan Griffin praying to be placed on the Pension list Report that your Committee have had the under their consideration the petitions here referred to and are of opinion they ought to be granted & recommend that Mesheck Rozar James Hamilton and Morgan Griffin be placed on the list as pensioners (signed) John N Davis

In the Senate Dec’r. 3rd 1819 Resolved that this House do agree to the Report – Ordered that it be sent to the Ho. Rep’s. for concurrence

By order of the Senate/ (signed) Wm. D. Martin C.S.

In the House of Representatives Dec’r. 17 1819 Resolved that the House do concur with the Senate in the foregoing Report Ord’d. that it be returned to the Senate

By order of the Senate/ (signed) R. Anderson C.H. R

[The preceding are from copies certified by the Clerk of the South Carolina Senate on 2 April 1850.]

State of South Carolina }
Richland District } SS

On the twenty second day of November in the year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and forty nine personally appeared in open court before the Court of Ordinary now sitting, Martha Coon aged fifty five years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832: That she is the daughter and heir at law of Morgan Griffin deceased who entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated: That said Morgan Griffin was a regular Continental soldier: That he enlisted under Colonel William Thomson in the third Regiment of South Carolina on the Continental Establishment in the company commanded by Captain George Liddell and probably a part of the time in Captain Rich’d Brown’s [Richard Brown’s] company in said Regiment– That said Morgan Griffin deceased was engaged in several of the most important battles in South Carolina during the War of the Revolution– That among said battles were those of Savannah, Georgia [siege 24 Sep - 19 Oct 1779], Stono [Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779], Monk’s Corner [sic: Moncks Corner SC], Cowpens [17 Jan 1781], and Eutaw Springs in South Carolina [8 Sep 1781]. That he was also in Charleston [siege, spring 1780]. That he was taken a prisoner at the battle of Sullivan’s Island– was discharged having been in said Continental Regiment three years. The above battles this Declarant recollects having heard his father said Morgan Griffin dec’d speak of being in– That as to the particular country through which he passed the Declarant cannot speak certainly: That he recollects hearing him say that he served seven years in said War. That he served out his time & was discharged but the Deponent

cannot now produce said Discharge: That her father the aforesaid Morgan Griffin dec'd was wounded in said war seven times & had lead in his body when he died: That he left no widow this Declarants mother having died upwards of forty years ago & said father Morgan griffin dec'd never afterwards married: That in the year 1819 said Morgan Griffin was pensioned by the Legislature of South Carolina which he continued to receive and died March twenty eighth day Eighteen hundred and thirty seven: That he was almost entirely disabled from getting a subsistence, otherwise than by said pension, for the last Eighteen months of his life: That from the earliest recollection of the Declarant said Morgan Griffin dec'd had lived in Richland District South Carolina where he died: That the Declarant relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that the name of said Morgan Griffin dec'd is not on the Pension Roll of any state except only as above stated. Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Before me }

James S. Guignard }

Judge of Court of Ordinary

Martha herXmark Coon

NOTES:

The 1830 federal census for Richland District SC lists Morgan Griffin as a "Free Person of Color" age 55-100.

Martha Coon's claim that her father served in all the battles listed is not credible, since the SC Third Regiment was captured and dissolved at the surrender of Charleston on 12 May 1780. Morgan Griffin's own petition suggests that his three-year enlistment expired during the siege at Charleston. He would then have been either a prisoner for the rest of the war, or, more likely, paroled as a civilian. See also the pension applications for Allen Jeffers (S1770), Gideon Griffin (W8877), Berry Jeffers (W10145), and Edward Harris (R4649). An application by Stephen Griffin, son of Gideon Griffin, on the same day in the same court, is almost identical to that of Martha Coon.

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/12/21

[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.]

[p 2: Printed form of Indent No. 76 Book L dated September 22, 1784 “delivered to Mr. Morgan Griffin this our Indented Certificate for the Sum of Twenty Eight Pounds Sterling for Eighteen Months Duty in Continental Service as per Account Audited.”]

[p 3: Reverse of the above Indent containing numerous endorsements among which are the following:

Received 8th November 1784 One Years Interest on the within
S/ Morgan Griffin, X his mark

I do acknowledge to have Received the within amount of John [undeciphered name] full
Charleston this 1st November 1784

S/ Morgan Griffin



[p 8]
Petition of Morgan Griffin Praying compensation for Revolutionary services
Comptroller General
Pensions
Rejected
W J. Myddelton

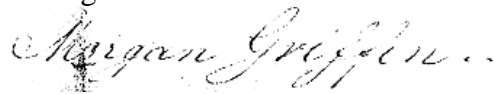
[p 9]
To the Honourable House of Assembly, Now Sitting in the Town of Columbia
The Humble Petition of Morgan Griffin
Sheweth

¹ 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 "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. 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.

That your Petitioner, Voluntarily enlisted as a Soldier in the Revolution for 3 years in the 3rd Regiment of Rangers commanded by Col'l Tompson [William Thomson], and in Captain Little's [George Liddell's] Company – was made prisoner by the British on Sullivan's Island at the fall of Charleston [May 12, 1780]. His time was expired before his Captivity – But still remained with his Regt. by which means he lay.

That your Petitioner obtained an Honorable Discharge for Three Years (now [?]) in his possession) for which Services your Petitioner received but four Months pay – He humbly Petitions the Honourable House to take his deplorable situation into Consideration and Grant him the Arrearage of pay that by reason of old age, and Wounds he received at the Siege of Savannah [September 16-October 9, 1779] render him Incapable of Earning His Living. – He humbly Solicits his Beloved Countrymen Assembled, to Grant him his Petition, and in their Wisdom will consider him an Object [text too faint to discern] of Commiseration and Redress – And your Petitioner as in duty Bound will ever Pray.

S/ Morgan Griffin



[p 10]

Report of the Comptroller General on the petition of Morgan Griffin praying compensation for Revolutionary services
Mr. Myddelton

[p 11]

To the Honorable James R Pringle President and the other members of the Honorable the Senate.

The Comptroller General to whom was referred by the Senate in December last the petition of Morgan Griffin praying Compensation for Services rendered during the Revolutionary war respectfully reports, that in Consequence of the fever Prevailing in the City of Charleston, he was prevented from returning there before the meeting of the Legislature. That the Books which alone could furnish him with information respecting said claim are in Charleston and he is unable to furnish the Senate with any information thereon during the present Session. He therefore recommends either that the said petition remain over until the next Session of the Legislature to give the Comptroller General an opportunity of investigating the said claim & reporting thereon or of making provision for the payment of said claim upon condition it should appear to the Comptroller General that the said claim still remains unpaid Should the Senate be otherwise satisfied of the justice thereof.

Respectfully submitted by

S Robert Creswell

Comptroller General

[p 12]

Report

of the Committee on Claims on the petition of Morgan Griffin praying Compensation for Military Services during the Revolutionary War.

In the Senate December 9th, 1817

Resolved that this House [undeciphered word] to the report ordered. That the Same be Sent to the House of Representatives for their concurrence.

By order of the Senate
S/ J Murphy, C S

[p 13]

The Committee on claims to whom was referred the petition of Morgan Griffen [sic], and the Report of the Comptroller General on the same subject.
Report.

That your Committee have taken into consideration the claim of the petitioner, and the Report of the Comptroller General thereon, and recommend that provision be made in the appropriation act for the payment of said claim, upon condition it shall appear to the Comptroller General that the said claim still remains unpaid.

December 8th, 1817

S/ John Gaddis, Chairman

[p 14]

Report of the Committee of Claims on the petition of Morgan Griffen [sic]

In the House of Representatives

December 11th – 1817

Resolved that the House do agree to the Report Ordered that the same be sent to the Said it for their concurrence.

By order of the house

R Anderson, C. H. R.

In the Senate December 12th 1782

Resolved that this House do concur in the house of Representatives in the foregoing report.

Ordered that the Same be returned to the House of Representatives

By order of the Senate

J Murphy, C. S.

Tomorrow

[p 17]

South Carolina

To the Honorable Robert Y. Hayne Speaker and the other members of the Honorable the House of Representatives.

The Comptroller General to whom was referred the petition of Morgan Griffin praying compensation for Revolutionary Services.
Reports.

That he has carefully examined the books in which claims of this kind have been entered and cannot find any claim in favor of the petitioner. He is unable to report the amount due the petitioner or to furnish the legislature with any information respecting said claim.

Respectfully submitted

S/ Robert Creswell

[p 19: Same report of the Comptroller General but addressed to the Senate]

[p 22]

The Committee on Claims to whom was referred the Petition of Morgan Griffin, praying payment for Revolutionary claims –
Report

That they [paper damaged and text messaging] under consideration, and recommend that the prayer thereof be not granted.

S/ Thomas Carr, Chairman

[p 24]

To the Honorable the President and members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina

The Humble petition of Morgan Griffin

Sheweth That your petitioner voluntarily enlisted as a ___ in the revolution for three years in the third Regiment of Rangers commanded by Colonel William Thomson and in Captain Littles company was made prisoner by the British on Sullivan's Island at the fall of Charleston – his time was expired before his Captivity – that your petitioner obtained an Honorable discharge – for which Services your petitioner received only four months pay – he humbly petitions your Honorable Body to take his deplorable Situation into consideration and grant him his arrears of pay – and further prays your honorable body to place him on the pension list under such circumstances you may deem just and proper –

Signed Morgan Griffin

Columbia

November 25th 1819

[p 26-- Same petition again addressed to the Senate of South Carolina]

[p 29]

The Committee of Claims to whom was referred the petition of Morgan Griffin

Report,

that they have had under their consideration the prayer of the petitioner and the evidence in support thereof & recommend that the prayer thereof be not granted. Your Committee however recommend that the said petitioner be placed on the pension list.

S/ John M Felder, Chairman

[p 30: receipt dated December 11, 1820 indicating payment to the veteran of \$20 as his annual annuity to March 1821. He signed the receipt with his mark. Additional receipts the first of which is dated November 23, 1824 and the last of which is dated January 10, 1832 reflecting annual payments to Morgan Griffin of \$60.]

[p 33]

To the Honorable President & Members of Senate

The Petition of Morgan Griffin

Sheweth

That your petitioner served two years and eight months in the Third Regiment of Continentals of South Carolina, commanded by Colonel William Thomson, and under the immediate command of Captain Richard Brown. That your Petitioner has never received any pay for his faithful services during that time, that he received four wounds at the Siege of Savannah, and is now a very old Man, unable to support himself and family any longer by his own exertions, and he has no other means but the small pittance allowed by his pension, and if he could obtain his pay, he

would be enabled to pass the short remnant of his days in some degree of comfort – Your
Petitioner hopes your Honorable body will take his situation into consideration,

And your Petitioner will ever pray

December 4th, 1823

S/ Morgan Griffin, X his mark

[p 38]

To the Honorable the President & other members of the Senate

Upon the petitions of Morgan Griffin & Jacob Haigler,² the Comptroller General, reports
– that said petitioners claims are barred by Act of the legislature.

That if they be not barred, that the United States and not this State are liable, under the
Treaty entered into between them during the Revolutionary War

Respectfully

S/ B. Elmore, Comptroller General

² [Jacob Haigler S21797](#)