

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Sion Odom S21035

Transcribed by Will Graves

f20NC/SC

9/21/17

[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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South Carolina Marlborough District } Court of Common Pleas Fall Ms [?] 1832

On this the 2nd day of October A.D. 1832 Sion Odom of the District & State aforesaid appeared before me, Bayless J Earle, Judge of the said Court, 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 Halifax County North Carolina on the Roanoke River 22nd day of April 1755 – & was moved into South Carolina Marlborough District by his Father in the year 1779 where he has lived ever since, to the present time. He enlisted in March 1776 in the Service of the United States under Captain Samuel Wise of the United States Army & marched down to the Ten Mile House north of Charleston South Carolina which was made Head Quarters until the men received further orders. The Regiment Stationed there was under the command of Colonel William Thompson [William Thomson], Colonel James Mason [James Mayson], Samuel Wise was there promoted to the office of Major, & the Command of deponent's Company devolved under Captain John Carr. Smith [John Carraway Smith]. The Regiment he was in, was Styled the 3rd Regiment. It was Stationed at the Ten mile House about a month. Orders here reached Colonel Thompson to march to Charleston forthwith as news had arrived that the British fleet under the Command of the British Admiral Sir Peter Parker was sailing to that place. They reached Charleston between first daylight & sunrise in the morning, went aboard of a Schooner & landed at Fort Moultrie. A few days after they landed, the British fleet under the Command of Sir Peter Parker came in Sight. General Clinton [Henry Clinton] landed his forces on Long island & threw up a bank of Sand on the point of that island to Ward off the balls of the Americans, whilst the latter did the same on Sullivan's Island. The 3rd Regiment being that which Deponent Served, was detached to repel the land forces of the British under General Clinton. The British General made two or three attempts to drive the Americans from their fortifications. He drew out his men from behind their embankment & marched them in Platoons towards the Americans but they were so mowed down that Clinton had to retire discomfited. The British fleet Suffered Severely. The main mast of the Admiral's fleet was cut down – it was either an eighty-four or an hundred gun Ship & lay in front of the Battle. After the Battle was over, the Admiral Sent over to Charleston for a main Mast. This was refused him, but they sent to him a Supply of fresh meat for the wounded Soldiers, with an answer that if he wanted a mast he should go to England for it. The fleet lay there, out of the reach of Guns for about two weeks. Whilst there, deponent heard them firing over there Dead, Seven or eight times a day. One of the British Ships was sunk, but not over the Guns. In This Situation She was fired on by the Fort & returned a broadside. After that the men left her. Some of the American Soldiers were proceeding to plunder this vessel, when one of the American officers, seeing a Smoke rising from her, said "Boys, don't you go for the vessel is on

fire near the magazine.” This proved to be the fact, for on the morning of that day, her magazine caught fire, & shew [sic, she?] blew to pieces. Clinton moved round between the Island & the Shore. At least a part of his forces did so & whilst there the American floating Battery took one of his Ships Commanded by a Tory Captain whose name was Cunningham. Deponent knew at Fort Moultrie about the time of that engagement [June 28, 1776] the following named officers in the United States Army, Generals, Moultrie [William Moultrie], Marion [Francis Marion], Colonel William Thompson, Lieutenant Colonel James Mason, Major Samuel Wise, Captains John Donelson, John Carr Smith, Uriah Goodwin [Uriah Goodwyn], & Captain Perry muff [sic, perhaps a mistake attempt to identify Captain John Lewis Peyer Imhoff, then an officer in the South Carolina 3rd Regiment]. The battle at Fort Moultrie was fought by the 2nd & 3rd Regiments. After the British left the neighborhood of Fort Moultrie, there was an order for half of the 3rd Regiment to march on to storm the Fort at St. Augustine. Deponent was in the half which marched on for that purpose. They were to be joined by the Georgians. The Americans had proceeded as far as Savannah when they received orders to march up to Augusta. The detachment was under the command of Lieutenant Colonel James Mason; Stayed there about ten days – the men then got a furlough for twenty days with orders to meet at Friday’s Ferry on the Congaree River in South Carolina – They did so & about a month afterwards were ordered to march to Eutaw Springs. The other half of the 3rd Regiment met them at Friday’s Ferry & the whole under the command of Colonel William Thompson marched up five miles above the Eutaw Springs a little above Nelson’s Ferry on the Santee River. At this place they remained about nine months. They were marched to Charleston & half of this 3rd Regiment was ordered to guard and number of Wagons to the Cherokee nation to make a treaty of peace with them. In this detachment was this Deponent. They conducted the Wagons to Tugaloo River on the Boundary of South Carolina & Georgia. They were met by about six hundred & sixty-six Indians & after having conducted the Treaty they marched back to Nelson’s Ferry & from thence to Charleston with the other half of the Regiment. They stayed at Charleston until the time they were enlisted had expired. Deponent received his discharge signed by James Mason & quit the United States Service on 16 June 1779, having served altogether upwards of three years. Deponent returned to Marlborough. He now corrects a mistake in the first part of his Declaration as to his residence. When he received his discharge at Charleston he returned to Marlborough & found that his father had moved to Richmond County North Carolina to which place Deponent went. He was there authorized by Colonel Charles Medlock & Captain Nicholas Green [sic, probably Nicholas Greers] to capturing deserters & those who were drafted in the militia & would not serve. He thinks he spent about six months in this business. He then volunteered in a Regiment of Light Horse commanded by Colonel Wade & spent his time in pursuing the Tories in Richmond County North Carolina. About this time, either General Cornwallis or some part of his army came to Cheraw, the officers Commanding the Regiment of Light Horse gave up there command & the men went where they pleased. After this he never was in any regular Service, but from that time until the close of the war, turned out whenever called upon to suppress the Tories who were plundering & murdering all over the Country. At one time, he was obliged, together with his brother Richard Odom to hide himself in the Swamps of Crooked Creek in Marlborough District. He came out one morning very early to get some provisions which were to be brought to him at the Cowpens by his Sisters, when before he knew it he was surrounded by the Tories under one Captain Matthew Terry & taken prisoner. They carried him over Gum Swamp in Richmond County. One of the Tories, named John Turner, who had had a previous quarrel declared he would kill him. He however appeased them by promising to be their guide in a Scout they intended making to plunder the Whigs houses. He started with them & as they were marching along on a very dark night he lagged behind them & before they knew it made his escape. The Deponent recollects nothing else worth mentioning. As to his age, it was written

down by his father but was lost with his other papers after the death of his father. He thinks his discharge is now in Washington City. It was carried there by Colonel John Campbell who represented the Congressional District of which Marlborough is a part about two years ago: it was sent there by him as the basis of a petition of this Deponent to Congress for a pension. He had been informed that it was passed the House of Representatives but was rejected in the Senate. He has not seen his discharge since & believes it is now somewhere among the Public Records in Washington. He is known to Robert B Campbell, John Campbell, George Bristow, James C Thomas & other gentlemen of respectability who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his Services as a Soldier of the Revolution. He hereby relinquishes all claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State. Joshua Ammons¹ who is now alive and served in the same Regiment with Deponent can testify to his services as a Revolutionary Soldier. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Sion Odom, X his mark

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I, James C Thomas Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for Marlborough District State aforesaid do hereby certify that I find on the public Record in my office a Record of which the following is a Copy

“State of South Carolina

Sion Odom of the third Regiment of the said State in the Service of the United States of America Commanded by Colonel William Thompson is hereby discharged, the same having fulfilled the Term of his enlistment & discharged himself like a good Honorable Soldier.

Given under my hand at Charleston this 16th June 1779.

S/ Jas. Mason

Lieut. Col.[”]

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

Another version

Pension Application of Sion Odom, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 1838, Application #S21035

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Marlboro District, SC, 2nd day of October 1832, Sion Odom, aged 77 years:

“...He was moved into South Carolina, Marlboro District by his father in the year 1779?, where he has lived ever since, to the present time. He enlisted in **March 1776** in the service of the United States under Captain Samuel Wise of the United States army and marched down to the Ten Mile House north of Charleston, South Carolina, which was made headquarters until the men received further orders. The regiment stationed there was under the command of Colonel William Thomson, Lt. Colonel James Mason. Samuel Wise was there promoted to the office of major, and the command of deponent’s company devolved on Captain John Carr Smith.”

“The regiment he was in was styled the 3rd regiment. It was stationed at the Ten Mile House about a month. Orders here reached Colonel Thomson to march to Charleston forthwith as

¹ [Joshua Ammons S21045](#)

news had arrived that the British fleet under the command of the British admiral, Sir Peter Parker was sailing to that place. They reached Charleston between daylight and sunrise in the morning went aboard a schooner and landed at Fort Moultrie. A few days after they landed, the British fleet under the command of Sir Peter Parker came in sight. General Clinton landed his forces on Long Island and threw up a bank of sand on the point of that island to ward off the balls of the Americans, whilst the latter did the same on Sullivan's Island."

"The 3rd regiment being that in which the deponent served was detached to repel the land forces of the British General Clinton. The British general made two or three attempts to drive the Americans from their fortifications. He drew out his men from behind their embankment and marched them in platoons towards the Americans, but they were so mowed down that Clinton had to retire discomfited. The British fleet suffered severely. The main mast of the Admiral's fleet was cut down. It was either an eighty or an hundred gun ship and lay in front of the battle."

"After the battle was over, the Admiral sent over to Charleston for a main mast. This was refused him, but they sent to him a supply of fresh meat for the wounded soldiers, with an answer that if he wanted a mast he should go to England for it. The fleet lay there, out of reach of guns for about two weeks. Whilst there, deponent heard them firing over their dead, seven or eight times a day. One of the British ships was sunk, but not over the guns. In this situation, she was fired on by the fort and returned a broadside. After that the men left her. Some of the American soldiers were proceeding to plunder this vessel when one of the American officers, seeing a smoke rising from it, said 'Boys, don't you go for the vessel is on fire near the magazine.' This proved to be the fact, for on the morning of that day the magazine caught fire and she blew to pieces."

"Clinton moved round between the island and the ?ship? At least a part of his forces did land. Whilst there, the American floating battery took one of his ships commanded by a Tory captain whose name was Cunningham. Deponent knew at Fort Moultrie about the time of that engagement, the following named officers in the United States army: Generals Moultrie, Marion (who commanded Col. William Thomson), Lt. Colonel James Mason, Major Samuel Wise, Captains John Donaldson, John Carr Smith, Uriah Goodwin and Captain Perrymuss? [*Paramus?*]."

"The battle at Fort Moultrie was fought by the 2nd and 3rd regiments. After the British left the neighborhood of Fort Moultrie there was an order for half of the 3rd regiment to march on to storm the fort at St. Augustine. Deponent was in the half which marched on for that purpose. They were to be joined by the Georgians. The Americans had proceeded as far as Savannah when they rec'd orders to march up to Augusta, the detachment was under the command of Lt. Col. James Mason. Stayed there about ten days. The men got a furlough for twenty days with orders to meet at **Friday's Ferry** on the **Congaree River**, SC."

"They did so and about a month afterwards they were ordered to march to Eutaw Springs. The ___ and the 3rd regiment met there at **Friday's Ferry** and the whole under the command of Colonel William Thomson, marched up five miles above the Eutaw Springs a little above **Nelson's Ferry** on the Santee River. At this place they remained about nine months. They then marched to Charleston and half of the 3rd regiment was ordered to guard a number of wagons to the Cherokee nation to make a treaty of peace with them. This detachment was this deponent's."

"They conducted the wagons to Tugeloo River on the boundary of North Carolina and

Georgia. They were met by about six hundred and sixty six Indians and after having concluded the treaty, they marched back to **Nelson's Ferry**, and from thence to Charleston with the other half of the regiment. They stayed at Charleston until the time they were enlisted had expired. Deponent had his discharge signed by James Mason and quit the United States army on the **14th of June, 1779**, having served altogether upwards of three years."

"Deponent returned to **Marlboro**. He now corrects a mistake made in the first part of his declaration as to his residence. When he rec'd his discharge at Charleston, he returned to **Marlboro** and found that his father had moved to Richmond County, North Carolina to which place deponent went. He was there authorized by Colonel Charles Medlock and Captain Nicholas Greers? in catching deserters and those who were drafted in the militia and would not serve. He thinks he spent about six months in this business. He then volunteered in a regiment of Light Horse commanded by Colonel Wade, spent his time pursuing the Tories in Richmond County, NC."

"About this time, either General Cornwallis or some part of his army came to **Cheraws**. The officers commanding the regiment of Light Horse gave up their commands and the men went where they pleased. After this, he never was in any regular service, but from that time until the close of the war, turned out whenever called upon to suppress the tories who were plundering and murdering all over the country."

"At one time he was obliged together with his brother Richard Odom, to hide himself in the swamps of **Crooked Creek** in **Marlboro** District. He came out one morning very early to get some provisions which were to be brought to him at the cowpens by his sisters, when, before he know it he was surrounded by the Tories under one Captain Matthew Terry, and taken prisoner. They carried him over Gum Swamp in Richmond County. One of the Tories named John Turner, who had had a previous quarrel, declared he would kill him. He, however, appeased them by promising to be their guide in a scout they intended making to plunder the Whig houses. He started with them and as they were marching along on a very dark night, he lagged behind them and before they knew it, made his escape. The deponent recollects nothing else worth mentioning...Joshua Ammons who is now alive and served in the same regiment with deponent can testify to his services as a Revolutionary soldier."