

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Maxwell S21358

f23SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/18/09: rev'd 7/17/16

[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.]

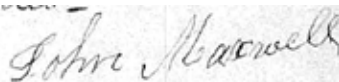
[p 4]

State of South Carolina Anderson District

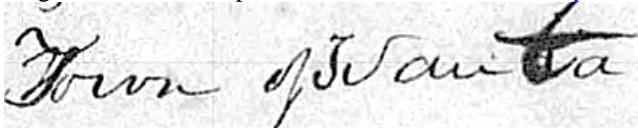
On this fifth day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Court of Sessions and Common Pleas in the State aforesaid and for Anderson District now in Session John Maxwell a resident of the said State & District, who being duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

This Deponent was born in Ireland about the year 1761 -- being about 72 years of age -- he came to America as he thinks in about three years old -- he landed in Charleston South Carolina. He entered the service he thinks about the year 1779 or '80 -- about three years before the close of the war -- he volunteered in Captain Jones's [Adam Crain Jones'] company General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] and went on an expedition on the Savannah at which place he was when it was besieged¹ & in all the engagement during this expedition he served two months -- he again volunteered in Robert Maxwell's dragoons in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians during which expedition he was in an engagement at the Town of TSanta[? or Wanta?]² and several other slight skirmishes -- in service this tour about seven months. After his return he again attached himself to Robert Maxwell -- Than he served nearly the whole of the time from that till the close of the Revolution -- being about two years or more -- during which time he was in a number of skirmishes with the Tories -- The times and places he does not recollect. The Deponent believes that he served three years and has neither received any compensation for his services -- nor has he any written discharge -- he has no documentary evidence of the facts here stated -- nor has he any other proof than what is here submitted 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 this ___ day of March 1833. In open Court 5th March 1833

S/ John Maxwell



¹ Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

² 

S/ Van A. Lawhon, CC

[William Magee and Christopher Orr gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 7: On May 20, 1852, C. C. Maxwell wrote a letter to the Pension Commissioner in which he states that John Maxwell died in 1836 "...my mother lived till 1850...." in which he seeks information as to how to claim the money his mother should have received as the widow of John Maxwell.]

[p 18]

The State of South Carolina Pickens District

John Chapman³ makes oath in due form that he was intimately acquainted with John Maxwell (now living in Anderson District and applying for a Pension) during the War of the Revolution. Said Maxwell and a man by the name of Prater were the 2 persons to whose care he was confided by Colonel Pickens [presumably Andrew Pickens] when he was wounded.

This Deponent knows that said Maxwell was a Dragoon and he served for eighteen months under the command of Captain Robert Maxwell and that he was a faithful and active soldier during the Struggle -- He has always considered him a man of good character and regards his statements as entitled to him the said release.

Sworn to & subscribed October 7th 1834 before

S/ W. L. Keith, C. C.

S/ John Chapman, X his mark

John Chapman who has subscribed the foregoing attestation is a man of good character and his statements are entitled to full belief. He has himself the reputation of having been a soldier of the Revolution and I understand has made satisfactory proof thereof to the Department.

October 7th 1834. In testimony whereof I have subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the Court of Sessions & Common pleas for Pickens District day & year aforesaid

S/ William L. Keith, Clerk of the Court of Pickens District

[p 19]

South Carolina Abbeville District

I James Wardlaw was about fourteen years of age in 1781. I recollect well that I frequently saw Captain Robert Maxwell's company of Rangers at my father's about in that year -- and that John Maxwell, brother of the Captain, was under arms as a member of the said company. I have known John Maxwell ever since and knows that he (as indeed all his Brothers) has always been reputed to have been a good Whig who did service in the war of the Revolution.

Sworn to 27th September 1834 Before

S/ Moses Taggart, JQ

S/ James Wardlaw

[attested by the same James Wardlaw as Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas]

South Carolina Abbeville District: I John Hodge⁴ do certify that I was well acquainted with John Maxwell your petitioner during the Revolutionary War. That he was a private in Captain Robert Maxwell's company. That he was at the Siege of Ninety Six⁵ May 22nd 1781 -- that he remained

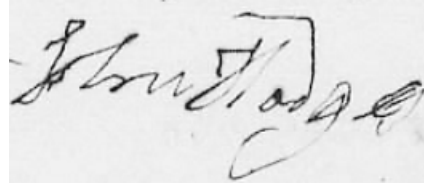
³ I could not find a likely federal pensioner by this name.

⁴ This man was pensioned under the name [John Hodges W10117](#)

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

a soldier until the Close of the Revolution -- has always been reputed to have been a good Whig also certify that Captain Robert Maxwell commanded a company of Rangers under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] -- & under General Pickens.

S/ John Hodge

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Hodge". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

Sworn to before me this 29th of September 1834

S/ John Buchanan, JP

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State of South Carolina Anderson District

Personally appeared before me John Maxwell and being duly sworn makes the following declaration by way of amendment to that already submitted to the War Department for the benefit of the Act of Congress June 7th 1832. His tour in Captain Jones's company was in the year 1779 and commenced in September and continued two months including the Siege of Savannah -- His tour of service against the Cherokee Indians under Captain Robert Maxwell was commenced just as the Siege of Ninety Six was raised in June 1781 when he continued in actual service for seven months --

His tour mentioned as his second under Captain Maxwell was entered upon within one month after his return which must have been February '82 and with him he continued actively employed in various services, skirmishes until the City of Charleston was evacuated in December 1782 -- at least nine months -- he has given in his first declaration an answer to the first Interrogatory of Department

To Second Interrogatory -- He has no record of his age but has a very distinct recollection of being told by his mother in what year he was born.

Third -- Lived in Abbeville South Carolina during the war -- shortly after the war spent a few years in the West but has been living for the last 27 years in this District

Fourth -- always a volunteer

Fifth -- Captain he was with General Greene at Ninety Six and was himself attached to Colonel Pickens Regiment --

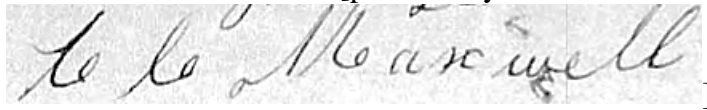
Sixth -- Never had a written discharge --

Seventh -- Knows of no person living who was personally acquainted with him during the war and whose affidavits he can procure except those forwarded herewith James Wardlaw Clerk of the Court at Abbeville and Major John Hodges -- His family is well known in this District -- one of the sons of Captain Maxwell knows by reputation no doubt of his service and who is now a member of the legislature. He is very well known to Colonel Robert Anderson (Clerk of the House of Representatives & Son of old General Anderson with whom he was in the War) -- General Earle Adjutant General of the State is acquainted with him. He is slightly known to the member in Congress from this District Honorable W R Davis and very many private citizens who would willingly testify to his character for veracity to whom he would cheerfully refer -- to wit -- Hezekiah Rice, Burwell Magee, Michael Magee -- John Shirley -- WF Clinkscales -- a large family of Kay's -- Colonel A. Rice (member of the Legislature) Colonel J W Norris, A. N. McFall (present Sheriff of the District -- Major Aaron Broyles (for 40 years) Samuel J.

Hammond and the whole neighborhood around him --
Sworn to & subscribed October 1st 1834 Before me
S/ Joseph N. Whitner, NP & Q Ex Eff.

S/ John Maxwell

[p 7: Letter dated May 20, 1852 sent by C C Maxwell to James Heath, Commissioner of pensions, in which the correspondent refers to his mother who died in 1850 the widow of a veteran who died in 1836 [presumably the veteran and the father of the correspondent].

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "C C Maxwell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent "C" at the beginning and "Maxwell" at the end. The signature is enclosed in a small rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 18 months in the South Carolina militia.]