

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Morton S21380

f35SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/6/09 & 6/1/15

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of South Carolina, Greenville District: SS

On this ninth day of October 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting, David Morton, resident in the district of Greenville and State aforesaid, aged Seventy-two years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare or make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he was born in Ireland on the 28th February 1761 and removed to this country on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1769. That he entered the service as volunteer in Spartanburg district & State aforesaid, during the year 1780. That he was at the Battle of Blackstocks [November 20, 1780]; was then in the company commanded by Captain James Smith and attached to the Army of Genl Sumter [Thomas Sumter]; was also at the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] where Col. Campbell [William Campbell] commanded assisted by Col Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], Col Shelby [Isaac Shelby] & Col. Williams [James Williams] which latter was there killed as was also the British Colonel Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson]; was also under General Morgan [Daniel Morgan], commander of the regulars, & Col Andrew Pickens who commanded the militia at the Battle of Cowpens [January 17, 1781], at which place Colonel Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] the British commander was defeated. That he served until the conclusion of the War in one capacity or another; was with frequent scouting parties. That he never received any regular discharge, but after the restoration of Peace, he [was] with others when the Armies were disbanded & returned to their homes. His name is not on any pension roll and he hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present. He has no documentary evidence of his service and is unable from the absence of a witness to offer further proof of the service as above stated. This deponent further saith that the aggregate of his services were about 18 months or two years and that James Alexander is the witness above alluded to.

S/David Morton

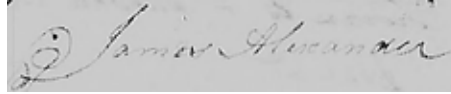


S/J. McDaniel, CCP

[Thomas Hutchings [as signed, but spelled Hutchins in the body of the documents], a clergyman, and Micajah Berry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of South Carolina Greenville District: Personally appeared James Alexander<sup>1</sup> before me the subscribing Justice of the district and State aforesaid and being duly sworn on his oath saith that he is well acquainted with the petitioner David Morton, and that he served with him during the Revolutionary War, was with him at the battle of Blackstocks and the Battle of the Cowpens. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of October 1832  
S/ Alexander Thompson, JP

S/ James Alexander



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State of South Carolina Greenville District: Personally appeared before me the undersigned Justice of the peace in and for the district aforesaid, David Morton who being duly sworn, on his oath makes the further declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of June 7th, 1832 -- that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to his recollection, he served not less than one year and six months in the Revolutionary Or as a private and for such service he claims a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed this 4th day of April A.D. 1833.

S/ Alexander Savage, JP

S/ David Morton

[p 13: South Carolina Comptroller General's certificate of payments made to David Morton for military services.]

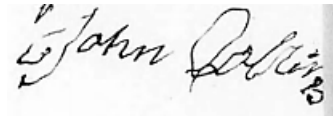
[p 15]

State of South Carolina Greenville District: Personally appeared before me John Collins<sup>2</sup> Esquire and being duly sworn saith that he was well acquainted with David Morton during the War of the Revolution. That the said Morton was with and under General Sumter at the Battle at Blackstocks on Tiger River in said State from thence the said Morton went and was at the Battle at the Cowpens as a private soldier. This deponent does not recollect that the said Morton was in any other Battle. This deponent distinctly recollects to have seen the said Morton frequently after the Battle at the Cowpens with General Pickens and his party.

Sworn to before me this 18th of September 1834

S/ Josiah Kilgore, JQ

S/ John Collins



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South Carolina Greenville District: Personally appeared before me William Caldwell<sup>3</sup> & being duly sworn saith on oath that he was well acquainted with David Morton during the War of the

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<sup>1</sup> [James Alexander W9327](#)

<sup>2</sup> [John Collins S8248](#)

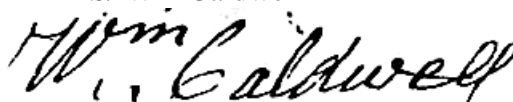
<sup>3</sup> [William Caldwell W22727](#)

Revolution, that the said Morton turned out as aforesaid soldier the 18th or 19th of August 1780 -  
- the said Morton continued out & was at the Battles at Blackstock's on the Tyger River & then at  
the Battle at the Cowpens both in the said State: General Sumter commanded at the former &  
General Morgan at the latter -- this deponent has been well acquainted with the said David  
Morton ever since & he has always esteemed him as a man of strict veracity.

Sworn to before me this 18th September 1834

S/ Josiah Kilgore, JQ

S/ Wm Caldwell



[p 21]

South Carolina Greenville District: Personally came before me James Alexander being duly  
sworn and saith on said oath that he was well acquainted with David Morton in the  
Revolutionary war and that he entered the service of his Country about the middle of August  
1780 and that he served a Tour of duty under Colonel John Thomas and that he knew him to  
serve a Tour of duty under Colonel Benjamin Roebuck in the year 1781 and that he knew the  
said David Morton to serve under Colonel Wright and other officers until the spring of the year  
1782 and that the Deponent further saith that the said David Morton served about one year and 6  
months in the service of his Country in the Revolutionary war and that he was with said Morton  
in two engagements against the British one at Blackstock's on Tyger River the other at the  
Cowpens Both in Spartan [sic] District and that he was well acquainted with the said Morton  
ever since and that he is a Respectable man and a man of Truth.

Sworn to and subscribed the 15th of September 1834.

S/ Alexander Savage, JP

S/ James Alexander



[p 22]

South Carolina Greenville District: Personally came before me Alexander Peden<sup>4</sup> and being duly  
sworn says on oath that he was well acquainted with David Morton and his youth and was with  
him when he entered the service in the Revolution in the year 1780 under Colonel John Thomas  
and also knew him to be in the service in the year 1781 but does not recollect the precise length  
of time. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of September 1834

S/ Alexander Savage, JP

S/ Alexr Peden



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<sup>4</sup> [Alexander Peden S21417](#)

[p 29]

State of South Carolina Greenville District: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the district aforesaid David Morton who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, nor give all the particulars of his service as minutely as he could wish, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following manner as a private in the War of the Revolution.

He first entered the service in the month of August 1780, in Spartanburg District South Carolina, where he then lived. It was a few days after the battle of "Musgrove's Mills". He volunteered under the command of Lieutenant James Peden, and he thinks under Captain Thomas Hanna. They marched from Spartanburg District to North Carolina Mecklenburg County and there joined the General Sumter where they remained some time. General Sumter there heard of a British Army coming on him from Camden and not deeming his forces sufficient to engage with them crossed over the Catawba [River] at the Island Ford. The company to which this applicant belonged left General Sumter's Army at the Island Ford and crossed the Catawba twice and then the Broad River and joined Colonel Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] and he thinks Colonel Shelby, at the Cowpens and from thence marched to Kings Mountain where the battle was fought. This deponent does not now recollect the cause of General Sumter's small Army being divided at the Island Ford, and the corps to which he belonged being sent to join the forces under Shelby & Clark & other colonels -- But such was the fact. He joined their forces at that place afterwards distinguished for the battle field of the Cowpens & from thence marched with their forces to King's Mountain. He was in the battle & fought under the officers above mentioned. The battle commenced in the latter part of the day & it was about dark when the American forces found out how they had all [indecipherable word]. From King's Mountain this deponent went a short distance with a guard of the prisoners, but does not recollect much about it. Thence he marched to join General Sumter's forces somewhere between the Enoree & Saluda River rivers, but does not recollect the particular place. He remained with Sumter in what is now called the "Dutch Fork" until the Battle of Blackstocks. He was in the battle of Blackstocks under the command of General Sumter. The British and Tories were driven off the ground and a good many of them killed. Of the Americans none or very few were lost -- General Sumter was wounded in this battle -- From the battle at Blackstocks the corps to which this deponent belonged marched up the Country and were camped between Forest Creek and Tyger or Pacolet rivers. This applicant understood that General Sumter and the greater portion of his forces marched over towards North Carolina, but this applicant never met with Sumter afterwards. Whilst this applicant was encamped with the troops between Forest Creek & Tyger or Pacolet River there came the news that 90 or 100 Tories were in the neighborhood. The American forces were about the same number and they proceeded to give the Tories a battle or a race. They pursued the Tories on by a place called the Block House for one or 2 days, but did not overtake them. From thence we marched to join General Morgan at Grindal Shoals on Pacolet River. This deponent does not however recollect how long it was before they joined Morgan's forces. He was then under the command of Colonel John Thomas under whose command he first marched to join General Sumter in Mecklenburg. He did not remain long at Grindal Shoals before Morgan marched up between Broad River and Pacolet in order to avoid the British forces. He came to the Cowpens and was there overtaken by Colonel Tarleton. This applicant was in the Battle of Cowpens under the command of General Pickens who had charge of the militia. The battle commenced about sunrise but does not recollect how long it continued. It was a hard

fought battle. The troops to which this applicant belonged were mounted men -- they rode until an engagement or battle and then dismounted and fought. After the battle they mounted and rode home with the other forces.

After the battle of Cowpens he entered the service in the Regiment of Colonel Roebuck and remained in the upper country guarding the frontiers against the Indians and scouring & patrolling the Country. He served 6 months but nothing important happened during this time he was in no battles of any consequence.

He then entered the Regiment commanded by Colonel White about the middle of the summer of 1781. He served 6 months under Colonel White pretty much as he had served under Colonel Roebuck but does not recollect the particulars as they were all pretty much alike.

This affiant left the service in February or March 1782 having served 18 months and 3 tours under Colonel Thomas, Colonel Roebuck and Colonel White -- during his service he was under different captains as exigency required. From the time he entered the service first in August 1780 he continued steadily and constantly in actual service until they left in February or marched 1782. This applicant cannot state all the particulars of his services from loss of memory and old age. He was not during the time employed in any civil pursuit or employment. He had no home but with the American Army.

He became acquainted with General Morgan, & Colonel Washington but does not recollect the name of any Continental regiments -- He here with sends the affidavits of John Collins, William Caldwell, Alexander Peden and James Alexander, as to his services in the revolution.

Has no record of his age -- He has they have been South Carolina ever since the Revolutionary War where he now lives. He volunteered every time he entered the Army. He never received a regular discharge. He is known in his present neighborhood [by] Esquire Alexander and Esquire Savage and many others who will testify as to his character for truth and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

This applicant claims a pension for 18 months services as above stated as a private.

Sworn to and subscribed this September 25 [last digit unclear], 1834

S/ Jno. Daniel , C. C. P. & Ex. Off. J. Q.

S/ David Morton

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$75 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina cavalry (militia) for 18 months.]