

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Robison S21452

f25SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/18/17 & 11/12/21 & 6 28/22

[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 4]

State of South Carolina, York District} SS

On this twenty fifth day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable R. Gantt a Judge of the Court of Sessions and Common Pleas, now Sitting William Robison a resident of York District State of South Carolina aged Seventy-Three 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 the 7th June 1830 --

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and Served as herein stated. That he was born in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1760 on the 18th of March as recorded by his father which record is now in his possession that his father moved to the State of South Carolina when he was about three years of age. That he was living in York District South Carolina when called into the Service of the United States. That he has lived there ever since and lives there at this time.

That he volunteered and entered the Service of the United States on an expedition against the Cherokee Indians under Lieutenant John Brannon [perhaps a mistaken attempt to identify Capt. John Blandon] & Colonel Thomas Neal [Lt. Col. Thomas Neel], and served seven weeks and three days.¹

That in June 1780 he volunteered and served as a Lieutenant under Captain Jamieson [James Jamieson?] & Colonel Locke [Francis Locke of NC?] and went on an expedition against the Tories in North Carolina in the forks of the Yadkin River and at Ramsour's,² Joined General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] at Haggler's Branch N. C. Crossed the Catawba River and defeated the British under Captain Hook [sic, Christian Huck] at Williamson's.³ Went to Rocky Mount⁴ and attacked the British under Colonel Turnbull [Lt. Col. George Turnbull], without success – recrossed the Catawba and defeated the British and Tories at the Battle of the Hanging Rock.⁵ That in this Battle he was wounded by a musket shot through the Shoulder and was carried to the Hospital at Charlotte in North Carolina. As soon as his wounds would permit he again Joined his company and continued with his Captain to carry on a partisan warfare against

¹ Cherokee Expedition 1776:

http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

² Possibly a reference to the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, June 20, 1780. Francis Locke commanded the Whigs in that engagement but no "Capt. Jamieson" is known to have been there.

³ July 12, 1780: http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_williamsons_plantation.html

⁴ July 30, 1780: http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_rocky_mount.html

⁵ August 6, 1780: http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

the Tories until the day after the Battle of the Cowpens⁶ when Captain Jamieson was taken prisoner. That in this Service he continued six months – That before he entered on the last named tour he had served as a private in scouting parties under Captain Jamieson, and sometimes under Captain Barnett, and sometimes unofficered, and continued in this kind of Service to the best of his knowledge 11 months. That in 1781 he joined General Sumter's Army as a private and marched to Friday's Fort, below Columbia and was out five weeks. Then joined General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army, at Beaver Creek, marched to Orangeburg – was sent under Colonel Moffett, and drove the enemy from Bigham [sic, Biggin] Church⁷ – and was afterwards in the Battle of Wappoo Bridge.⁸ That he was out in this tour two months.


He further States that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot state positively the length of time he served in the revolutionary war But according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned above, that is sixteen months as a private Soldier and six months as second Lieutenant under Captain Jamieson.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim 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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ R. Gantt, O. J. in open Court

S/ Wm Robison



S/ A. McWhorter, Clk

[Silas J. Teamster, a clergyman and William Jamison gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of South Carolina, York District} SS

Personal examination of William Robison made in open Court, before the Honorable Judge of the Court of Sessions and Common Pleas for York District, March term 1833

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – according to the best of my knowledge I was born in Pennsylvania in March 1760

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer – I have my father's record of my age now in my possession

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer – I lived in York District South Carolina when I entered the Service I have lived there ever since, and live at the same place yet

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer – I was always a volunteer, was never drafted nor never a Substitute

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

⁶ January 17, 1781: http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

⁷ July 17, 1781

⁸ PERHAPS a reference to the action at Wadboo Bridge on July 17, 1781.

http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wadboo_bridge_2.html

Answer – I was commanded by Captain Jamieson, General Thomas Sumter and others, and for the General Circumstances of my service would refer to my declaration
6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer: I do not recollect ever receiving a discharge. I served as 2nd Lieutenant as set forth in my declaration but at this late day cannot recollect whether I ever had any regular Commission from the Governor of the state

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer: I can refer to all who are acquainted with me for my character for veracity, but would name in the titular Squire Jamison & Parson Feamster.

Sworn to and subscribed the 25th of March 1833

S/ R. Gantt, P. J.

S/ Wm Robison

S/ A. McWhorter, Clk

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State of South Carolina, York District} Personally came Joseph Jamieson,⁹ Robert Wilson,¹⁰ Captain James Jamieson¹¹ & Henry Rea¹² before me the subscribing Justice of quorum and being duly sworn saith upon Oath that they have seen the accompanying declaration of William Robison setting forth his services in the war of the Revolution also they state upon their oath that they believe the entire truth of said declaration from the circumstances of their personal presence at the time of the greater part of those services rendered in addition to the unequivocal believe of the community where William Robison resides that he was without doubt a Soldier in the war of the Revolution in the capacity set forth in said declaration Captain James Jamieson furthers states that the said declaration in regard to the service of Mr. Robison as a second Lieutenant he believes to be correct as he did serve under him in that capacity in different engagements with the British & Tories particularly at Rocky Mount and Hanging Rock in the State of South Carolina. Sworn to and subscribed the 23rd day of March A.D. 1833 Before me

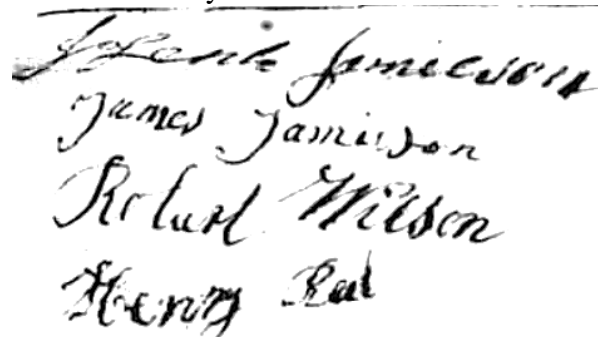
S Wm Jamieson, Q U.

S/ Joseph Jamieson

S/ James Jamieson

S/ Robert Wilson

S/ Henry Rea



Handwritten signatures of Joseph Jamieson, James Jamieson, Robert Wilson, and Henry Rea.

9 [Joseph Jamieson S9360](#)

10 [Robert Wilson W2302](#)

11 [James Jamieson S21839](#)

12 [Henry Rea W9246](#)

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State of South Carolina York District}

Additional declaration of William Robison in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the quorum for the above District and State, William Robison who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, That by reason of old age, his memory of past events is almost entirely gone, That he cannot recollect the period of the revolution in which he Served the eleven months named in his declaration, But is certain of the fact of being the constant companion in arms of Henry Rea during said Service; and would therefore prefer to his declaration, now in possession of the war department of war for proof of said Service.

Sworn to and subscribed the 9th of July 1833

Before me

S/ Wm Jamieson, Q. U.

S/ Wm Robison

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State of South Carolina, York District}

Personally appeared before me the Subscribing Justice, James Jamieson, Henry Rea, and Robert Wilson, who being duly sworn Saith that they personally knew William Robison to be wounded in the Shoulder at the Battle of the hanging Rock, that they have been acquainted with him ever since, and that they have known him to be very much afflicted by the frequent breaking out, and running of the wound, and that his affliction has been generally known to all his neighbors – and that they believe the truth of the within declaration of the said William Robison.

Sworn to and subscribed 9 July 1833

before me

S/ W. Jamieson (Q. U.)

S/ Jamis Jamieson

S/ Henry Rea

S/ Robert Wilson

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$87.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the militia cavalry for 5 1/3 months, in the militia infantry for 2 months and 8/30 days and as a Lieutenant of the militia cavalry for 3 1/2 months.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹³ relating to William Robison
Audited Account No. 6531

pp38

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/12/21

[p 23]

Petition of William Robison of York County 13th December 1794

Committee

Colonel Bratton

Colonel Brandon

¹³ 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 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.

Mr. Jenkins

[p 24]

To the honorable house of Senate of the State of South Carolina.

The petition of William Robison, of the County of York and State aforesaid. Humbly Sheweth. He was wounded in the service of this State, at hanging rock in the year 1780; and hath taken the oath prescribed by act of assembly, that entitles him to annuity: and your petitioner hath in consequence of said act, drawn from the public treasure of this State the several sums for the years 1784, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1792 and 1793. Your petitioner applied for the annuity for the years 1785, and 1786 & 1791: the (then) Treasurer, intimating that the process of application was not properly attested, or, there was not Money sufficient in Treasury, to discount the demands of the pensioners. Your petitioner, that as annual provision is made for the subjects of the states bounty, he may be instructed in receiving it, and Your petitioner will, as in duty bound ever pray

S/ William Robison

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Robison". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

November 10, 1794

[p 26]

To the Honorable the President and members of the Senate – the petition of William Robison
Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner was wounded in the defense of his Country in the year 1780 – that your petitioner is not possessed of Either Land or Negroes, to prevent him from receiving the pension allowed by law, your petitioner therefore prays you will take his Case into Consideration and grant Such relief as you see meet,¹⁴ and in duty Bound will Ever Pray

S/ William Robison

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Robison". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 27]

To the Honorable the President & members of the [illegible word] general assembly met

The memorial & petition of William Robison – Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner in the militia Service under General Sumter at the battle at hanging Rock in the year 1780 received a grievous wound by a ball from the Enemy which passed through his left Shoulder: by means whereof he passed several painful months under the hands of a surgeon, while his wound was [one or more words written over and rendered illegible] then returned to the service and though deprived in a Considerable degree of the use of his left arm continued in the service of his Country on all occasions till the End [of the] War and when he returned to domestic life found himself unable to labor, as usual, for his support – and the small pittance he has been able to Earn aided by the annuity allowed by a generous public has hitherto afforded a scanty subsistence but finding the Effects of his wound increasing as he advances in years with

¹⁴ In Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of 1755, the first definition of the word "meet" he gives is "Fit; proper...."

Johnson noted that even at that time the word "meet" was rarely so used. It must have become fairly popular in South Carolina in the early 1800's, however, as it appears in many petitions submitted to the SC Legislature.

frequent & painful Eruptions, he is no longer able to Contribute to his own support by his labor – and burdened with an expansive family who looks to him for a support which he is not able to afford them.

Your petitioner therefore Humbly prays – that you will consider his unhappy Situation, and grant him such Relief as you may think adequate to the merits of his Case by increasing his annuity or instead thereof to lend him a sum of money for Life the interest of which will be equal to the amount of his present annuity or by such other means as to your wisdom may seem meet¹⁵ which may enable him to spend the Small remains of his Declining years with some small degree of Comfort – and your petitioner shall Ever pray &c &c

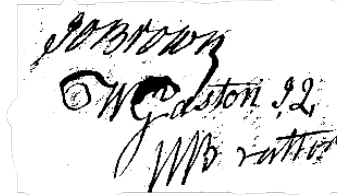
[p 28]

We the under The subscribers do certify That we are acquainted with the petitioner & can certify that the Contents of the within petition is true

S/ Jo Brown

S/ W. Gaston, J, Q,

S/ W. Bratton

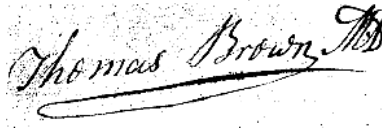
A rectangular box containing three handwritten signatures in cursive. The first signature is 'Jo Brown', the second is 'W. Gaston, J. Q.', and the third is 'W. Bratton'.

[p 30]

I do certify that William Robison of York District applied to me sometime in the course of last summer for medical assistance for a complaint which I understood was Occasioned by a wound which he received in his left shoulder in the revolutionary war he was then much swelled not only in the part where the wound was received, but other parts, so that the whole system appeared to be effected [sic]. He got a temporary relief which prevented an eruption taking place as had frequently been the case before. But do not think it probable that he will ever be able to labor for his support.

November 21st, 1811

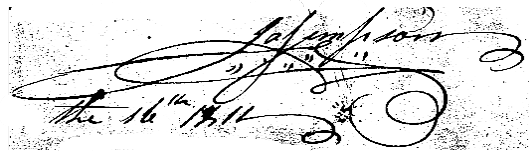
S/ Thomas Brown, MD

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Thomas Brown, MD.' with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

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I do hereby certify that Mr. William Robinson [sic] has formerly applied to me for a wound in his Shoulder which he says he received and time of the last War, when in service of his country & that said wound is yet at times breaks out & Ron's which renders him unable to labor.

S/ Ja. Simpson

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Ja. Simpson' with a date 'the 16th 1811' written below it.

¹⁵ In Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of 1755, the first definition of the word "meet" he gives is "Fit; proper...."

Johnson noted that even at that time the word "meet" was rarely so used. It must have become fairly popular in South Carolina in the early 1800's, however, as it appears in many petitions submitted to the SC Legislature.

November the 16th 1811

[p 33]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was Referred the Petition of William Robison Praying an increase in Pension

Report

That your Committee has had the case of the Petitioner under Consideration and from the Peculiar Situation of the Petitioner or of Opinion that an increase of twenty-one Dollars forty-three cents be allowed the Pensioner annually during life in addition to the Pension the Pensioner has hitherto Received – and Recommend that Provision be made in the Appropriation Bill for the same

S/ Jno McMorries, Chairman

[pp 34-38: Annual receipts, the first dated June 8, 1819 and the last dated 31 May 1834 reflecting annual payments to the veteran of \$60 as his pension.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts relating to William Robison pp11
Audited Account No. 6523

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves 6/28/22

[p 2]

No. 350 Book L

Mr. William Robinson [sic] his Account of 198 days Militia Duty

Charged £390.15

Deduct less 52.10

[old SC] Currency £338.5

Stg. [Sterling] £48.6.5

Ex^d. W. G. [Examined by William Galvan]

J. M^c. A. G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3]

State of South Carolina Dr. [Debtor] [to] William Robison
for personal Service

40 Days under Captain Barnett [probably Jacob Barnett] at 20/ ¹⁶ per day	£40.0	
As Lieut. 40 Days under Captain Jamison [James Jamieson] at 55/per Day		110.0
As Lieut. do Wounded at Hanging Rock ¹⁷ 65 days at 55/ per Day	187.15	
22 Days under Captain hilhouse ¹⁸ at 20/ per Day	22.0	
31 Days under Captain Woods ¹⁹ at 20/per Day	<u>31.0</u>	
	Carried over	£390.15
	brought over	£319.15

[p 4] Wm Robison

Deduct overcharge 105 days Pay as

¹⁶ 20 Shillings old South Carolina currency being the per diem pay rate for a mounted militia man providing his own horse and equipment

¹⁷ August 6, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

¹⁸ Either John Hillhouse or William Hillhouse both of whom served as Captains in the New Acquisition District Regiment

¹⁹ Either Frame Woods, Joseph Woods, or Thomas Woods Senior all of whom served as Captains in the New Acquisition District Regiment

Lieutenant at 10/

	<u>52.10</u>
Currency	<u>£338.5</u>
Sterling	£48.6.5

Received 25 Oct^o 1784 from the Commissioners of the Treasury an Indent No. 359, Book L for
£48.6.5 Sterling in full Satisfaction for this account

S/ Wm Robison

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Robison", enclosed within a faint rectangular border.