

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Robertson S21951

f41SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/13/08: rev'd 8/23/17

[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.]

[p 4]

State of South Carolina, District of Fairfield

On this twentieth day of July in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable Henry W. DeSaussure Chancellor of the State of South Carolina, at the Court of Equity now in Session at Fairfield Court House for Fairfield District, William Robertson a resident of the District of Fairfield in the State aforesaid, aged seventy-two 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 June 7th, 1832.

Deponent was born in Little River in Fairfield District on the 27th April 1760. His age is recorded in his Father's family Bible. The deponent was living on Jackson's Creek when called into service (Fairfield District) that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Was drafted from the Militia.

His first tour of duty was under Captain Robert Ellison, Colonel John Winn commanded the Regiment, marched to Dutch fork after the Tories under one Fletcher [sic, Thomas Fletchall].

2nd tour, under Captain John Ellison John Winn commanded as Colonel. Went into Georgia and discharged by Colonel Winn in this tour Robert McCreight¹ and David Hamilton² along, called the Florida Campaign.

3rd tour to Orangeburg, David Hamilton and Robert McCreight along. Captain John Ellison commanded the Company.

4th to Purrysburg, David Hamilton was along. Captain John Ellison commanded the Company.

The deponent out in other tours; to Orangeburg twice in all and to Charleston once where he saw Major Henry Moore there an officer in the Regular Army Artillery. His memory is bad being afflicted with palsey [palsy] and he begs leave to refer to the accounts given by Robert McCreight and David Hamilton in their depositions for a pension for the particulars of the tours to Orangeburg & Purrysburg. The deponent is certain that he served more than 9 months in all during the different terms of militia duty he performed as a private Soldier in the War of the Revolution. He once could have given a more particular and detailed account of his services, but for his loss of memory much impaired since he was afflicted with palsy. Never had but one written Discharge and that was when he was discharged in Georgia by Colonel Winn in the Florida expedition. This discharge has been lost, was given to [indecipherable word] he had

¹ [Robert McCreight S21881](#)

² [David Hamilton S21804](#)

liberty to return, some others discharges. No written discharges given to privates [indecipherable word] under the Colonel for reasons assigned by David Hamilton and Robert McCreight in their declarations.

Major Henry Moore,³ Captain Hugh Milling,⁴ David Hamilton, Robert McCreight can testify as to part of the services rendered.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an 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 20th July 1832 in open Court.

S/ William Robertson, X his mark

S/ Jno. Buchanan

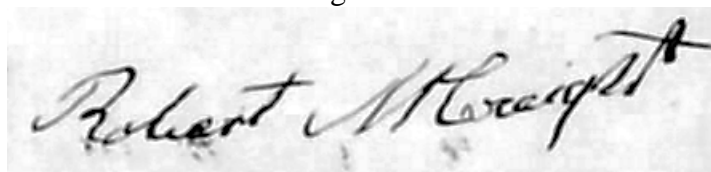
[p 6]

I Robert McCreight a resident of Fairfield district in the State of South Carolina, aged 70 years do hereby testify on oath that I have been acquainted with William Robertson who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be 72 years of age, that I have been well acquainted with him ever since before the Revolutionary War, was in service with said William Robertson in militia in several tours of duty, was with him at one time to Orangeburg, at one to Florida, said Robertson was discharged in this tour before it was finished, men never being called out than was judged it necessary, was with him in a tour to Charleston when we saw Major Henry Moore there an officer in Regular Army in year 1779. Said Robertson was out several tours when deponent was not out. He being drafted and part of the Company only taken at one time.

That deponent is fully satisfied that William served more than 9 months in the Militia during Revolutionary war, such has being the belief of the neighborhood and never questioned. Said Robertson is now and has for many years been a presiding elder in the Presbyterian Church and entitled to full credit. His memory is said from the effect of palsy.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this 20th July 1832.

S/ Robert McCreight

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert McCreight". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

S/ Jno. Buchanan

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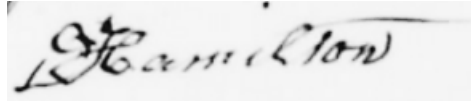
I David Hamilton a resident of Fairfield District aged 73 years, hereby certify that I am and have since before the Revolutionary War been well acquainted with William Robertson who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be 72 years of age, that I served several tours of Militia Duty with said William during the Revolutionary War that I am fully satisfied from my own knowledge that he served more than 9 months in all, and that such has been the belief of his neighborhood, and that he is an acting elder in the Presbyterian Church and has so acted for many years and entitled to full credit. That in one tour we served together at Charleston in 1779 when we knew Major Henry Moore above mentioned that said Robertson's

³ [Henry Moore S46010](#)

⁴ [Hugh Milling S46394](#)

memory is bad, he being afflicted with palsy.
Sworn to & subscribed in open Court July 20, 1832.

S/ D. Hamilton

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Hamilton".

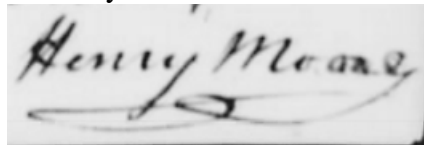
S/ Jno. Buchanan, C.E. F. D.

[p 8]

I Major Henry Moore, residing in the District of Fairfield, about 2 miles of the Town of Winnsborough in the State of South Carolina, aged 78 years hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Robertson, who has subscribed and sworn to the declaration to which this Certificate is annexed, and that I believe him to be 72 years of age. That deponent served as an officer Captain Lieutenant in the Continental Army in the Revolution, and [is] now receiving a pension from the United States 11th Artillery Regiment Colonel Roberts. His name will be found in the Army Rolls. That deponent knew said William Robertson ever since a boy. That said William went to school to deponent before deponent entered the Army, and deponent has lived a near neighbor for many years. That deponent saw said William serving as a soldier in the militia at Charleston South Carolina in the year 1779 when General Prevost was before the lines and had summoned the Town to surrender. Saw him frequently during this time. That the deponent belonging to the Regular Army had no opportunity of knowing the extent of said William's services as a soldier in the Militia. That deponent has ever understood from the neighborhood, and fully believes that said William performed several tours of duty as a soldier in the militia during the War of the Revolution and has no doubt from these reports that he served more than 9 months in the whole during said Revolutionary War. The said William is now very weak and very infirm being afflicted with palsy. That he is a presiding elder in the Presbyterian Church and has been in Elder for many years, and is a man of veracity and high standing in society.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court July 20, 1832.

S/ Henry Moore

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Henry Moore".

S/ John Buchanan

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State of South Carolina, District of Fairfield

I William Robertson of Fairfield District in the State aforesaid being the same William Robertson who made his declaration in open Court at Fairfield Court House before Chancellor DeSaussure on the 20th day of July 1832 in order to obtain a pension under the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 Do hereby Certify and on his oath depose and say that by reason of old age and a severe affliction from a general palsy which extends through the whole system, and the consequent loss of memory, which is greatly impaired since he became palsied he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than 12 months as a private soldier in the Militia in the revolutionary war in tours of duty some of which he has dated but without precision as to time or other circumstances in his

declaration. That deponent belonged to a Company of Militia first commanded by Robert Ellison and afterwards by John Allison and after the fall of Charleston by Edward Martin. That the Company always considered themselves as volunteers, they having at all times (with one exception) whenever orders came for a draft, repaired [?] to stand the Draft, and having went out in whole company. That the exception mentioned arose from a [indcipherable word] order to divide the company into 3 divisions, the first to march then; and the other 2 in succession afterwards. That deponent may be considered as Drafted so far as orders for a draft, in the militia being called into service by virtue of the draft will give his services that character. That he served in the terms for which he claims a pension in this Company organized as a Company, and acting under orders from the Governor of South Carolina through the Colonel of the Regiment, and always attached to and [several indcipherable words] regiment also in service in a regularly organized. That owing to his loss of memory deponent is not able to name his commanding officers with but few exceptions.

Deponent is informed by David Hamilton that the order in which he has been enumerated the terms of duty is incorrect as to time, and would refer to his account of the terms they performed jointly for more particular information.

Deponent has produced the evidence of no Clergyman. His pastor about 2 years since died (the Reverend Mr. Yrugen?) who if living could have testified as to neighborhood reputation. Mister Boyd his successor is a young man not originally of this District, who does not live in Deponents neighborhood, and the only Clergyman (Reverend Mr. Blearly?) who lives near the neighborhood, has not been settled here and is not originally of this District nor State. Deponent was not employed in any civil pursuit during the time he performed the terms of duty mentioned, but was entirely occupied with his military duties. Deponent claims a pension for 12 months service as a private soldier performed in the Revolutionary war in the regular tours of duty as stated before.

Sworn to & subscribed before me

S/ William Robertson, X his mark

June 11, 1833

S/ J. Elliott, QU Ex Off.

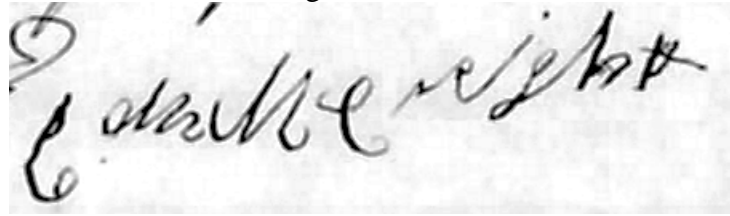
[p 26]

State of South Carolina, District of Fairfield

I John McCreight of Fairfield District in the State aforesaid do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Robertson who has made and subscribed the foregoing Certificate. That we have lived near neighbors since the year 1773. That deponent was born in the year 1765 and was old enough to recollect of said Robertson being called out in several tours of duty in the revolutionary war. He was on duty as well as deponent can recollect as often as either the deponent's Brother Robert McCreight or David Hamilton who have applied for a pension, and who have proved 18 or 20 months service, of the correctness of which deponent has no doubt. That the service rendered by said Robertson was of the same nature and description and sometimes performed at the same periods and in the same company with said McCreight and Hamilton. That deponent has no doubt from his personal knowledge that said Robertson served at least 12 months as a private soldier in the revolutionary war as he states. That his memory is very much impaired from age and palsy. That his afflictions from the palsy are so great that it is with difficulty in apparent pain that he can sit, walk or speak, and appears unwilling to fix his thoughts on any subject.

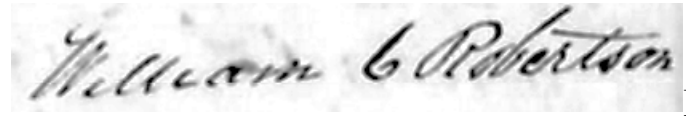
Sworn to & subscribed before me this 11 June 1833.

S/ John McCreight

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John McCreight". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

S/ J. Elliott, QU EX. O Clk.

[p 13: On May 13, [year not given, but probably 1835] in Fairfield District, SC, Martha Robertson filed for a widow's pension saying she was the widow of William Robertson who died June 15, 1834, in his 75th year of age and while a pensioner of the US for his services in the revolution. She signed her application with her mark. P 14: William C. Robertson, filed a supporting affidavit dated May 30, 1835, saying that he was the son of William and Martha Robertson.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William C. Robertson". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the South Carolina militia