

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Abbott S30239

f38SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

42810: rev'd 1/15/18

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

[p 4]

State of Mississippi Wilkinson County} On this 11th day of October A.D. 1835 Personally appeared before me John McCrea a Justice of the Peace in and for said County William Abbott a resident of Wilkinson County and State of Mississippi aged seventy-five years who by reason of bodily infirmities [is unable] to appear in open 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 Provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered in the South Carolina Militia in the year 1778, under Captain James Clark, the Lieutenant's name was Clark also under the command of Colonel M. Singleton [sic, Richard Singleton], it was a General call for all the militia and we marched off to Augusta in the State of Georgia General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] commanded there some days after our arrival at Augusta, a draft took place for a company to go on an expedition down the Savannah River. I was one that was drafted, Colonel Eli Kershaw commanded said company, we took possession of a Fort which the Enemy had left and destroyed the same. On our return to Augusta we were attacked by Colonel Sharp & Major Spurgeon, the latter was killed and the former was mortally wounded & died next morning about day light, a Captain McCormic was taken prisoner. In the month of May I returned home, having been out from February say four months soon after that this Captain Clark died the Company was for a short time without a Captain, and some confusion ensued, in fact the County in that section being overrun with British soldiers & Tories I was told if I did not join them I would be hanged at my own door, this I refused to do and went off to General Marion's [Francis Marion's] Army and attached myself to Captain Armstrong's [John Armstrong's] Company for a few days until Richard Singleton was appointed Captain of the company formally commanded by Captain Clark, the Lieutenant was by the name of Kields. In all I served 8 months, and 14 days under these officers having been in several skirmishes, and at the Battle of Watbow [sic, Wadboo?]<sup>1</sup> and one at Parkers Ferry,<sup>2</sup> at the time of the Battle at Eutaw [Eutaw Springs]<sup>3</sup> I was sick & unable to be there being about 8 miles off the officers belonging to Marion's Army which comes within my recollection at present were Colonel Horry<sup>4</sup> Colonel Joseph McCanty Colonel Coakly, Colonel Mayham [sic, Hezekiah Maham], Major Mulean [?] who was brigade Major a Frenchman, Captain Hill Captain Armstrong Captain Draukes [?] Lieutenant Bradley of Colonel Armstrong's Company Captain or Lieutenant Joor not positive which,

---

<sup>1</sup> An engagement occurred on Wadboo Bridge on January 31, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/wadboobr.htm>; another action occurred at Wadboo on August 29, 1782 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/wadboo.htm>

<sup>2</sup> August 31, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/parkers.htm>

<sup>3</sup> September 8, 1781.

<sup>4</sup> Both Lt. Col. Hugh Horry and Lt. Col. Peter Horry were at Eutaw Springs. Hugh was wounded there.

Captain Simons Lieutenant John Richburgh, Major Benson<sup>5</sup> who was surprised and afterwards killed at Santee River by some British dragoons. I was in camp near Charleston at the time the enemy evacuated that place. I recollect the following who were in the Camp of General Marion Captain Snipes, Sergeant McDonald also the following Privates Reddin McCoy, William Pringle, Roger Bradly, Nathan Maply, Benjamin Hodge, Francis Richardson who belonged to the Dragoons, Jasper Harrell, Jas. Dickey, Josiah Firman, Henry Haynesworth, Colt Simmons, Fed L. Sam, Peter Mashow, John Canty, Capt. Jas. Gaulden, Josiah Gale, John Malam, Thomas Bradford, Thomas Neile, William Baglin, William Mitchell, John Candle, William Russ, Randall Singleton, Benjamin Guess, Shadrach Inman the 3 were with me in the first Campaign Ambrose Gayle, John Singleton, Abram Pool, John Wheeler, Adval Atkinson, John Odell, Horrice Mitchell [Horace Mitchell?], John Chany, W. P. Brown, Jacob Felder, Able Bagdell, Henry Bates, James Bates, John Molet & William McConico. I William Abbott do hereby relinquish every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John McCrea, JP

S/ William Abbott, X his mark

Interrogatories the first

Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in South Carolina on the High of Santee Clarramont County Sumter District

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

Answer -- it was in a Family Bible and left with some of my Family in South Carolina

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

Answer Where I was born at which place I lived until the year 1818 since that time where I now live.

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

Answer The whole of the militia were called out

5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Answer. Colonel Maham and Colonel Horry commanded the Cavalry under General Marion

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer At the time a troops were troops discharged a Sergeant & Fourteen were sent about fifteen miles on Black River to guard some Boats to prevent the British from getting provisions at that place we received a message from our officer to go home that is all the discharge I ever got --

7<sup>th</sup> 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.

[p 13]

William Gaulden being duly sworn says that he has known William Abbott ever since he deponent was about 8 years of age with the exception of about 5 years. I know that the said William Abbott was raised in Sumter District in South Carolina where I was also raised. I also know that the said William Abbott was a soldier under the command of & attached to the Company of Captain Richard Singleton who was an officer under the command of General Frances Marion. I do not know the precise length of the time of the service of Mr. Abbott but I know that it was for a long time for he was in service off and on from the first to the close of the war I was at the time a boy it being about 7

---

<sup>5</sup> Majors John Benson, William Benison and Thomas Benison were all killed in the action at Wambaw. See, [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_wambaw\\_bridge.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html). I will not speculate as to which of these officers the affiant intended to name.

years young then Mr. Abbott once I went down to the camp to fetch his horse back. This I did for Mr. Abbott as I was well acquainted with him & only lived about a mile & a half from him. I know that he was in that neighborhood always spoken of as a good soldier of the Revolution. I now live about 7 miles from Mr. Abbott's residence in this State & County & now believe & always have believed Mr. Abbott to be a man of the strictest veracity & I believe that his word has never been doubted by any one that is acquainted with him & I believe him to be a man of strict veracity and as any that I ever knew & I have known him for near 60 years as I am myself near 68 years of age.

S/ Wm Gaulden



[William Winans, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 23]

The State of Mississippi County of Williamson

William Abbott who by reason of bodily infirmity is unable to appear in open court & who wishes to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832 in relation to & making provision for pensions for certain surviving officers & soldiers of the Revolutionary War makes the following declaration – viz.

He was born in South Carolina in Sumpter [Sumter] District on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1760. From about the year A.D. 1778 when he was about 18 years of age he first entered the service under one Captain James Clark he thinks the Lieutenant was of the same name. Matt Singleton was their Colonel he says that this was a general call for all the militia & that they marched off to Augusta. Williamson he says was general there. He says that they were sent on an expedition down Savannah River in Georgia under Colonel Eli Kershaw that they there took and destroyed a fort which the enemy had left. On their return from this fort to Augusta they were attacked by Colonel Sharp & Major Spurgeon whom they defeated & killed & took Captain McCormick prisoner.

He speaks in very unfavorable terms of General Williams [Andrew Williamson?]. After this campaign which lasted from February until May they returned home. Shortly after which Captain Clark died. They then remained a while without any officer as the country was overrun by the British & Tories who in fact enrolled the militia & required them to fort & do duty which he refused to do until they sent him word that if he did not they would come & hang him at his own door. After this he went off to General Marion's camp & remained about two months until the country was in some measure liberated when Richard Singleton was appointed there Captain. He says that he thinks Kields was the Lieutenant. He says that the company was dived [divided] into two divisions & that they served alternately & that he was always with the Captain & knew but very little about the lieutenants. He says that after this when he was out he was always under Captain Singleton & General Marion. He says they went for tours of one month at a time and that he thinks that he served eight or nine months or more. He says that the battles & skirmishes which he was in under Marion were Wybaw, Parker's ferry, at the battle of Eutaw he was in camp but he was sick & unable to attend he was about eight miles off. He says that the Officers whom he knew in Marion's camp were Colonel Horry, Colonel James, Colonel McCauley, Colonel Cokely, Colonel Maham, Maj. Mullin who was brigade major he was a Frenchman – Captain Hill, Captain Armstrong, Captain Dukes, Samuel Bradley was Lieutenant and Captain John Armstrong's company also a Captain Simons was then there was a Mr. Joon who was a Captain or Lieutenant who was the father of General John Joon now living in this County. John Righboungh was a Lieutenant. Major Benson was killed at Santee River by the British horse who surprised him. He says that he was in camp near Charleston at the time the British evacuated that place [December 1782]. He says that he also knew in Marion's Camp

Captain Snipes, Sergeant McDonald, Sergeant Jasper, Reddin McCoy, Mr. Pringle, Rayer Bradley, Nathan Maples, Benjamin Hodge, Francis Richardson was in the horse. Jasper Harroll, James Dickey, Josiah Forner, Henry Hanesworth, Cato Simmons was an officer he thinks aid to the general & Mitchell the other Catan [?] was also there Frederick La Sane & Meshow Captain John Canty, James Gaulden, Josiah Gale, John Maham, Thomas Bradford, Thomas Niell, William Raglin, William Mitchell, John Caudle, William Reese, Randall Singleton, Benjamin Guess, Shadrach Inman, he says were with him in the 1<sup>st</sup> campaign. Ambrose Gale, John Singleton, Abraham Pool, John Whalen, Adville Atkinson, John Odle, Harris Michael, John Chaney, William P. Brown, Jacob Felder, William McCorico, Abel Baynell, Henry dates, James Bates & John Molett are other who he recollects to have been acquainted with while in service.

I William Abbott do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the Pension roll of the Agency of any state.

Witness

S/ G. D. Boyd

S/ William Abbott, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 6 months service in the South Carolina militia.]

---

[Note: I think the following relates to this veteran but I can't be absolutely positive]

South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>6</sup> relating to William Abbott  
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 4

AA8

[p 5: form Indent dated August 31, 1784 issued to William Abbott for Eighteen pounds ten Shillings and four pence Sterling for provisions provided for use of the Continental army "and fifty nine days Militia duty served in One thousand seven hundred and Eighty two in General Marion's Brigade...."]

[p 4]

high hills 6<sup>th</sup> April 1785

Gentlemen

Please deliver to Captain John Malone or Order such Indent or Indents as may appear due to me from the State of South Carolina or the United States and this shall be a Sufficient Receipt for the Same.

To the Commissioners of the Treasury  
of South Carolina

done in presence of me

S/ William Murrell, JP

S/ William Abbott, X his mark

---

<sup>6</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. The "SC" file number has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.