

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Benjamin McCormack S31844

f18GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

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State of Alabama Perry County: Circuit Court Fall Term 1832

On this the 23rd day of October A.D. 18 32 personally appeared in open Court before Ptolemey T. Harris [sic] Judge of said Circuit Court now sitting Benjamin McCormack a resident of Perry County & State aforesaid aged eighty-seven years & eleven months this ___ 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. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated (viz.)

That in Wilkes County in the State of Georgia I was drafted as one of the Militia of said State & entered the service of the United States under the command of Capt. James Ferrel -- Lieut. Jonathan Jones the Ensign's name not recollected Col. Benjamin Few & Lieut. William Few, in the summer of 1774 or '75 [sic, based on his claimed service, he probably entered the service in 1776]; Elijah Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] was my commanding General: for the term of three months service on an expedition against the British in East Florida & marched to Florida for that purpose I was taken sick about 40 miles West of St. Mary's River & discharged.¹

In a short time I recovered & returned home: in the course of a few weeks there was a call for Militia; I determined to volunteer and did so; and the same year and in the service of the United States under the command of Capt. Samuel Alexander -- the names of the Lieut. & Ensign not recollected & about the first of October of the same year -- my Col. was Benjamin Few & my General John Twiggs; during the space of four years I was principally engaged as a Ranger, spy & in reconnoitering the Country on the frontiers of Georgia to prevent the incursions of the Indians & Tories during which time I was in many skirmishes & small engagements with the Indians & Tories, the principal Battle with the Creek Indians was at the little cow Ford on the Oakmulgee River [Okmulgee River] and another with the Cherokee tribe on the head waters of the same River in Georgia. The British Army during the time had taken possession of Augusta, I with the rest of the militia on the frontier was called to aid in repulsing the British Army marched to Augusta² & was there under the command of General Elijah Clarke Colonels Benjamin & William Few -- & was there engaged 3 days & nights in fighting the British armies -- a reinforcement of the British & Tories on arriving from the State of South Carolina I with the Militia was forced to retreat through the upper parts of Georgia to the town

¹ Perhaps the First Florida expedition: Fall of 1776

<http://www.ourgeorgiahistory.com/wars/Revolution/revolution09.html>

² Probably a description of the Siege of Augusta (first/Clarke) [September 12-18, 1780]

<http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/>

of Washington in Wilkes County & being pursued by the British Tories & Indians from thence retreated to the mountains on the head waters of Broad River from thence to NoleChucky [sic Nolichucky] & Watauga rivers in the then State of North Carolina now Tennessee; after resting & recruiting I with the other militia returned to Georgia; -- and express came to Col. Few that the British & Tories were assembled at Burke Court House in Burke County Georgia to which place I with the troops marched & was in a short time after arriving engaged in a Battle with the British & Tories for the space of 3 or 4 hours & repulsed the enemy (which was called the Burke Joil Battle [sic, Burke Jail Battle?]) during which battle my Blanket closely girt about me & my clothes were perforated by 7 balls. After this period I was engaged as a ranger on the frontiers of Georgia to prevent the incursion of the Indians & Tories for the space of one year being in frequent skirmishes with them. I was also at the last siege of Augusta Georgia³ which was about the end of my volunteer service; I there enlisted for the space of one year in the State Troops of Georgia under Buggy Buggy Capt. of dragoons & Lieut. Hicks -- Ensign's name not recollected and was myself appointed first Sgt. of the dragoons & entered the service of the United States as such. After the last siege of Augusta was raised I was engaged in reconnoitering the frontiers & in frequent skirmishes with the Indians & Tories -- & afterwards stationed 3 miles below the city of Savannah & there remained until the close of the war and obtain my discharge from Col. James Jackson having served in all about 6 years after the close of the war I made a trip to the State of North Carolina & in crossing Pedee River which was very high I lost my horse saddlebags & horse & pocket book containing my discharge.

This affiant further states that he has no documentary evidence, & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. I 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.

S/ Benjamin McCormack, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year above written. S/ D. S. Cowan, Clerk

To the first interrogatory this affiant answers & says I was born in the latter part of the year 1744 or early in the year 1745 according to the best tradition he has.

To the 2nd interrogatory he answers & says that the family Bible containing the record of his age was consumed with his father's house which was burnt by the British during the war.

To the 3rd Interrogatory he answers & says that he lived in Wilkes County Georgia as stated above from thence I moved to Jasper County in said State in 1816 I emigrated to Montgomery County Mississippi Territory now State of Alabama remained 2 years and thence removed to Perry County where he now resides & has resided ever since --

To the 4th Interrogatory this affiant states he can state nothing more than he has already stated in his declaration above.

To the 5th Interrogatory he states that he has answered to the best of his recollection in his declaration

To the 6th Interrogatory he answers that he has stated in his declaration the answer he would make here.

To the 7th Interrogatory this affiant answers & says I am known to my neighbors & refer you to them generally and more particularly to James Morgan & John Blackburn who are now present, and as to my services during the revolution no person within my knowledge can testify.

S/ Benjamin McCormack. X his mark

³ Siege of Augusta (second/Clarke) [May 22-June 6, 1781] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/>

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ D. S. Cowan, Clerk

[John Tubb, a clergyman, James Morgan & John Blackburn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$90 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the Georgia militia.]