

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse White S32062

fn40SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/26/10

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State of Georgia Clark County: On this 20th day of November, personally appeared in open Court, before Charles Dougherty presiding Judge of the Superior Court of said County, now sitting, Jesse White a resident of the County of Clarke and State aforesaid, aged 70 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. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: He was born January 21st 1762 in South Carolina in what was then called Clarendon County now called Sumter District about 75 miles from Charleston. He has the record of his age transferred from his Father's Bible to his own. That he lived in South Carolina near the place of his birth till he moved to Georgia about twenty-four years ago, to the place where he now resides in Clarke County near Athens. He was drafted as a militia man & served all his time in that capacity. The militia were drafted monthly so that they could relieve each other in order to cultivate their farms. He commenced his first tour under Captain William Duke a little before or after Gates defeat, he cannot recollect which & was discharged the day after the evacuation of Charleston by General Marion at Wadboo Creek, Biggin Church, near Charleston. His principle service was reconnoitering the country & guarding it against the Tories & British the latter being stationed about 45 miles from the place where he was drafted. He was under the constant command of General Marion his company being attached to his service. He performed several tours against the Tories who generally fled as the Americans would scour the country. He was in one engagement with the British near Biggin Church. They sallied out from Charleston & attacked the Americans, after making their charge they were repulsed & retreated back to Charleston -- Lord Rawdon was the British Commander in Charleston at the time. It was a constant scene of confusion & marching about, his company was often mixing with & passing Colonel Lee's horse & Colonel Washington's: He was not with Greene but recollects leaving about the preparation & orders for the battle of the Eutaw Springs, his company marched to reinforce General Greene & he would have been along with them but for sickness. His company under General Marion was marched against the Tories & crossed Big & Little Pedee & Drowning Creek & camped within the lights of General Wayne's Army who had stationed himself there to overawe the Tories -- After this the Tories came in & surrendered & were paroled -- Marion marched through out all of the lower parts of South Carolina, sometimes at one place & sometimes at another, his was a

flying service & frequently in the swamps. His marchings were principally on the Santee River -- from Georgetown to Nelson's ferry & between Charleston & the High Hills of Santee. He is informed that history states that Gates was defeated on the 16th of August 1780 & Charleston evacuated on the 14th of December 1782, if so, he served somewhere about 2 years. He never received a written discharge & knows of no person by whom he can prove his service. He will mention the names of A. S. Clayton & Jeremiah Daniel who can testify as to his veracity & their belief of his being a revolutionary soldier.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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/ C. Dougherty, JISWC

S/ Jesse White

[Jeremiah Daniel, a clergyman, and A.S. Clayton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Georgia Clark County: Came personally before me Jesse White who being duly sworn deposed & saith that it appears by the letter of J L Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions hereto annexed that the pension of deponent has been suspended upon the ground that his declaration contained among other statements the following, viz., "militia men were drafted monthly so that they could relieve each other in order to cultivate their farms" and as deponent "commenced his first tour under Captain Duke" in "August 1780 by draft & was in Marion's Brigade" & that his service "ended in December 1782 embracing a period of 27 or 28 months" upon the evacuation of Charleston, it is inferred that deponent's service was performed in alternate monthly tours & therefore amounted to no more than 14 months to the intent. Deponent states that it is true the militia were drafted as above stated and he felt bound by the directions of the Secretary of War to be particular in stating every fact he could recollect relative to his entering into service but he did not intend to convey that he deponent served in alternate months for such was not the fact & that he most solemnly avers he served the whole time stated in his declaration, without any intermission & deponent will now give the reason for it which may have been omitted in his declaration from a belief that he was sufficiently explicit as to the time of his service & that collateral facts were not required and paid of positive statements. At the fall of Charleston which was about the middle of May 1780, the British believed the southern States were subdued & Rawdon was stationed with his forces in the interior to keep down the American forces. So completely were many of the Americans convinced that they were conquered that they took the oath of allegiance to the British government & such as would not were plundered & taken prisoners & then discharge on their parole. Deponent says that between the fall of Charleston & time of his entering the service in August, to wit, in the month of June & his reasons for thinking it was in this month, the Indians corn was just jointing & beginning to tassel he was taken prisoner & paroled, near the mouth of Jack's Creek that empties into the Santee River. Deponent lived near that place & was taken by a Tory & carried him to British encampment that had stopped a few days in that neighborhood on their march from Charleston to Camden where Rawdon was stationed. As soon as he got home after being paroled he threw his parole into the fire & in August entered the service as stated under Marion & believing that if he was taken he should be hung for violating his parole & knowing that nothing would please his Tory neighbors more than to take him & carried him to the British for that purpose, he considered himself safer with Marion in the swamps than at home & therefore stayed constantly with him until discharged as stated in his declaration. If it is inferred from his declaration that he served only 14 months nothing is more erroneous for he was out all the time between August 1780 and December 1782

and it is impossible to tell & almost impossible to conceive how much he suffered in that time,  
expose as he was to all weathers & his residence chiefly in swamp.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 26 of October 1835

S/ Eliznr L. Newton, JIC CC

S/ Jesse White

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1832 for 2 years  
service as a private in the South Carolina during the revolution.]