

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Fletcher S32249

f47NC

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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[Note: The pages of this file as posted on Fold3.com are not in order. The page numbers I have inserted indicate the page of the file on which the transcribed text appears.]

[p 10]

Original Claim

State of Alabama Jackson County

On this third day of October 1832 personally appeared before me William S. Compton Judge of the County Court of Jackson County Alabama now sitting at the courthouse in Bellefonte for said County, the same being a court of Record, William Fletcher a citizen of said County and State, aged seventy-four 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 seventh of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the year 1778 or thereabouts, in the County of Wilkes and State of North Carolina, he entered the service of the United States as a Captain of a militia Company which was raised near Wilksbury [Wilkesboro] in said County That he marched with his said Company under the command of Colonel Benjamin Cleaveland [Benjamin Cleveland] and Colonel Joseph Herndon both of said County for the Hollows of the Yadkin River in pursuit of some Tories who were embodied there but before he reached that place the Tories had dispersed and they marched in pursuit and continued in search of the Tories until the time for which they had been called out had expired which was three months they were then marched back to Wilkes County and discharged, and some time afterwards, he was again called out as a Captain of a company to march with his company to Colstons [Colson's Ferry?] on the Pedee River against some Tories who had embodied there, he marched with his company [p 9] for said place under the command of Colonel Joseph Herndon and Colonel E. Isaacs, and on the evening before the militia reached the place of the light horse belonging to their Regiment defeated and dispersed the Tories and he with his company and in company with the Regiment reached the place early on the next morning. They remained in search of the Tories until the term of three months for which the militia were called out had expired we were then marched back to Wilkes County and again discharged. And some short time afterwards he again raised a militia company for three months of which he was Captain to go to Ramsour's Mill¹ against a body of Tories which had embodied there, he marched with his company under his command

¹ June 20, 1780. <http://gaz.irshelby.com/ramsours.htm>

again under the command of Colonel Joseph Herndon for that place and just before we reached that place a battle was fought [June 20, 1780] and a great many of the Tories killed we then again remained in search of the dispersed Tories until the term of service for which we were called out had expired and we were then marched back to Wilkes County and discharged, and in the year 1780 as he thinks or thereabouts he again raised a company of which he was Captain and marched under the command of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland for Kings Mountain against the British and Tories, and before he reached the place he was sent back by his Colonel to bring on some more men who had been called out and to direct a certain blacksmith to have some horse shoes in readiness for the purposes of the Regiment on their return and just before he reached Kings Mountain on his return to his Regiment the battle of Kings Mountain² had been fought and the troops marched off the ground from thence they marched on with the prisoners to Moravian Town, they remained with the prisoners until they had served out their time of three months [p 8] when they were again marched back to Wilkes County and discharged, he was some time afterwards again called out with his company, under the command of Major Lenore [sic, William Lenoir] & Colonel J. Herndon and were marched against the Tories who had embodied at Crider's Fort [also spelled Cryder's Fort] and when they reached the Fort the Tories had left it, he was then sent out with his company in pursuit of a body of Tories and not far from the Fort he overtook them and took a number of the Tories prisoners and carried them to the Fort, they continued in their service until their time of three months service had expired and then returned to Wilkes County and were discharged, and a short time afterwards he was again called out with a company of men of which he was Captain and were marched under the command of Colonel Francis Lock [sic, Francis Locke] for the Eutaw Springs,³ but before he could reach the Eutaw Springs battle had been fought and they met a body of men with the prisoners when the Tory prisoners were placed under his And he with his company took them to Salisbury in North Carolina where he remained until his term of service had again expired and was discharged, by General McDowell and he with his men returned home, and after he reached home he was again called out with his company to march against a body of Tories who were embodied near the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River and marched for that place under the command of Colonel B. Cleveland Colonel Jos. Herndon and Major Lenoir [p 7] and before they reached that place the Tories had been attacked and defeated by another body of men, they then marched on to Moravian Town and after marching through the Town they encamped at some little distance on the other side of the Town on the route they were going and on the next morning they were attacked and dispersed by the British light horse and he himself and three of his company were taken prisoner and on that same night following he a little after dark made his escape, and returned home to Wilkes County, he again raised a company and went on again as Captain to join General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army, but before they reached Greene's Army they joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel Francis Locke from thence under the command of Colonels Locke & Herndon they were marched to the High Rock Ford on Haw River and after they had crossed the River some distance he was ordered with an express from the field officers to Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] and directed not to sleep until he returned, he reached Colonel Lee remained until he mounted his mare [?]⁴ and was then ordered by Colonel Lee to return to my own Regiment which I did and some days after they joined Greene's Army at

² October 7, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/kingsmtn.htm>

³ September 8, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/eutaw.htm>

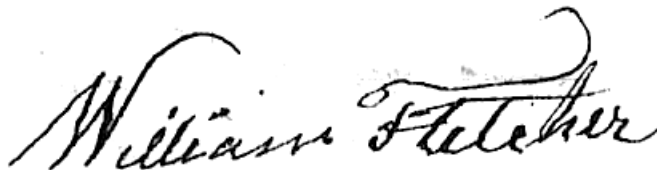
⁴ 

a little distance from that place, they were then ordered to go in pursuit of the Tories and remained in pursuit until their time of service had expired, he was out in several other little tours, during all of which time he lived in Wilkes County. He removed from thence to Georgia and from Georgia he removed to South Carolina and thence to Kentucky he removed from Kentucky to Tennessee and he removed to Jackson County Alabama in the year 1818 where [p 6] he now lives, he was born in Stratford County in the State of Virginia in the year 1758 agreeable to his father's register of his age. I have no record of my age. I had a discharge for a part of my service. I sometimes did not get written ones, but I have lost those I did get. I do not recollect who assigned them all one was assigned by General McDowell, I am acquainted with Thomas Cargile⁵ of this County who was one of my soldiers and who can testify as to the times I was in actual service when he was along whilst I was in the revolutionary war and who will testify to the same, there is also a Nicholas Mitchell⁶ of this County who can testify to the same. Will

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to in open court

S/ William Fletcher



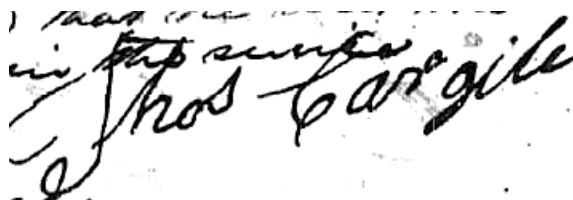
[p 6-5, sic: pages reversed in file]

I Thomas Cargile of Jackson County do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Fletcher who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration and that I was well acquainted with him in the revolutionary war that I believe him to be 74 years of age that I served under him two or three of the tours mentioned by him in his declaration, and that I well recollect that I was attached to his company at the time he declares he was taken prisoner and that he was actually taken prisoner as he States. I have been acquainted with him several years since and from my knowledge of his character I believe his statements to be entitled to credit and that he was the Captain of a company whilst I knew him in the service.

Sworn to and subscribed.

S/ Thomas Cargile

Before me



S/ Wm S. Compton, JJCC

[p 5]

I Nicholas Mitchell of Jackson County Alabama do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Captain William Fletcher who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration. That I saw him in the actual service of the United States during the revolutionary war and that I have known him in South Carolina and Alabama and from my knowledge of his character I believe his statements are entitled to credit and I believe he served as he states.

⁵ [Thomas Cargill \(Cargile\) W6896](#)

⁶ No federal pension application could be found for someone of this name who claimed to have served in NC.

Sworn to and subscribed before me.

S/ Nicholas Mitchell, X his mark

S/ Wm S. Compton, JJCC

[p 25]

Alabama

In the Circuit Court of Jackson County, held at Belle fonte on the second day of October 1833, the Hon. William J Adair, Judge thereof presiding – William Fletcher, of this County, produced in Court the original declaration made by him for a Pension on the 3rd day of October 1832 before the County Court of this County (the times of holding this Court & the said County Court having been since changed by the General Assembly –) to which declaration are added the affidavits of Thomas Cargill & Nicholas Mitchell as to his the applicant's service &c, the Certificate & signature of the Judge of said County Court and the certificate signature & private seal of the Clerk of that Court – & all of which are contained upon seven pages of a letter paper & are to be hereto annexed & are now shown in Court to be perfected by the supplementary affidavit of the applicant & by further authentication the same having been transmitted to the War Department of the United States & remanded to be so perfected.

Whereupon the said William Fletcher, being now duly sworn, on his oath declares that although aged & infirm & his memory in consequence much impaired as to many incidents of his life, yet it is still sufficiently vivid to enable him to declare that he served the United States during the revolutionary War seven distinct tours in succession, with short intervals between each in all one year and nine months as a Capt. in all & each tour commanding companies of detailed militia of the State of North Carolina; that the term of each tour of service is mentioned in his declaration aforesaid, except the two last therein named, each of which was for three months – that he thinks he mentioned them also to Judge Crompton, who drew his declaration, but supposes he by accident omitted to insert them: that the last period, during which he was taken prisoner, escaped & brought into the field another company, as stated in the declaration was in fact greater than three months, but because he cannot say precisely how much more he only claims for three months therefore. He cannot, from age & failure of memory mentioned better than he has mentioned in his declaration the dates of the commencement of his tours – having kept no journal thereof. He states that he cannot procure a clergyman to certify touching his credibility &c in his own neighborhood as seems to be required in the rejection of his declaration – because some two years before said declaration was made the Rev. William Clapp, the Minister of his neighborhood departed this life & since that event no clergyman has settled in that neighborhood in his place. He knows of no person or persons living by whom to prove the revolutionary Services stated in his declaration except Thomas Cargill & Nicholas Mitchell, whose certificates are annexed to his declaration & Elijah Tribble who he has since discovered & whose affidavit will follow this supplement.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court

S/ G. W. Higgins, clerk

S/ William Fletcher

Elijah Tribble⁷ appeared in open court & on his oath declares that he is now in his 79th year – that he himself was in some four or five of the tours mentioned by William Fletcher, whose

⁷ [Elijah Tribble R10700](#)

declaration has been read to him: that he as early as the period of those tours knew said Fletcher personally – & met with him & recognized him some ten years since in this County – that although he has no distinct memory of seeing said Fletcher whilst he was engaged in the revolution service, yet affiant was out in several of the tours from the same County of Wilkes & during & presently afterwards often heard it mentioned & never heard it doubted or contradicted that said Fletcher was engaged in the Service as a Capt. from that County – heard it often mentioned that he was out in all or nearly all of the tours – & that he was an intrepid officer & patriot – Affiant well knows the reputation of said Fletcher also in this County, & certifies that he is here believed not only to be upright & credible but to have been engaged in the revolution as he states.

S/ Elijah Tribble [sic], X his mark

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Thomas Cargill, whose affidavit is annexed to the declaration of said William Fletcher, on his oath states further, that he is the same man who signed & verified that affidavit, & that he is now in his 72nd year of age.

S/ Thomas Cargill

[p 14: In August 23, 1838, in Jackson County Alabama, Patsey Fletcher filed notice that she is the widow of William Fletcher; she did not give her age, her maiden name or other details. She signed the document with her mark. In another document she states that her husband died November 27, 1837 in Jackson County Alabama where he had lived for 23 years and that prior to that time he was a resident of Robertson County Tennessee.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$420 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Capt. for one year and 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]