

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Sample S32505

fn31SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/28/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[Note: the pages in this files were scrambled in both the Footnote and HeritageQuest versions. I have tried to unscramble them, but as a safeguard, I've numbered the pages as they are posted on Footnote.com so that users can decide for themselves if the unscrambling was a success.]

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State of Alabama Marengo County: County Court of said County held on the 4th Monday of January 1833. –

On this the 28th day of January 1833 being the 4th Monday of said month personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable William J Alston Judge of said Court presiding John Sample a resident of the County of Marengo in the State of Alabama aged about 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 June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Andrew Pickens was Colonel of the Regiment to which he belonged – Armstrong Heard was Captain of the company to which he belonged when he first entered the service. He entered the service when he was between 14 and 15 years old – he lived in Abbeville district in South Carolina when he entered the Service. He entered as a substitute in the first instance and place of one Robert Griffin. The first battle in which the Regiment to which the claimant belonged was in was between Colonel Pickens who commanded the Whigs and a Colonel Boyd who commanded a party of Tories at Kettle Creek.¹ This affiant states that he was at the Siege of Savannah where General Williamson commanded the Brigade he was in Colonel Reed commanded the Regiment and Armstrong Heard commanded the Company to which

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he regularly belonged, but at the storming of the Fort or the attempt to do so, this affiant was in a Company commanded by Captain Burrow, he believes. The next battle this affiant was in was the Battle of Stono where General Lincoln commanded. Andrew Pickens commanded the Regiment to which this affiant belonged at Stono and he saw the horse of Colonel Pickens shot from under him in the battle. Captain Samuel Moore commanded the company to which this

¹ February 14, 1779 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/kettle.htm> and http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_ford.html

affiant belonged at this time – The next principle engagement that this affiant was in was at the Siege of Ninety Six in South Carolina where General Greene commanded the American forces. At this Siege this affiant was again in Captain Samuel Moore's Company. At the raising of this Siege we were marched by Colonel Pickens across Broad River (General Greene with his forces having separated from him) and afterwards fell in the rear of the British at a place called Boggy Gully and killed some of them and took some prisoners. We then returned home and afterwards this affiant joined a six months volunteer Company raised by the same Captain Samuel Moore and was engaged for some time against the Tories. In about two months after I joined Captain Moore's volunteer Company

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he was killed by the Tories near Swanseys Ferry on the Saluda in South Carolina. This affiant then joined Captain Robert Maxfield's Company and served with him against the Tories. After this the affiant was assigned to Captain John Calhoun's company and served with him in endeavoring to hold the Tories in check – This affiant continued to serve with Captain Calhoun till after peace was made with Great Britain & until the Tories were finally subdued. He was in many fights with the Tories which he will not take the trouble to mention. At the close of the war a return of the service of this affiant was made by Captain Calhoun as he believes and he subsequently drew what was called an indent and afterwards what was called special indents which were for the interest of the principal debt for services – The indent received by him he sold to a merchant in Charleston and believes it was afterwards paid by the Government. This affiant served from the beginning to the end of the war & thinks he was four years or more in the service. He thinks it likely from the facts before stated that his name will be found upon some of the records of the war Department. He has no documentary evidence now in his possession to prove his services nor does he know of any person now within his reach

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by whom he can prove his services, but he can show by the most satisfactory proof that his character for truth and honesty in the Country where he now lives is beyond suspicion. This affiant removed from Abbeville district in South Carolina and settled in Washington County in this State in 1818 & in 1819 removed from Washington County to Marengo where he now lives. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to an annuity or pension except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

To the Questions propounded by the Court the applicant states that he was born in Ireland the year he does not know. He has no record of his age. He was living in Abbeville district in South Carolina when called into service. He has before stated where he lived during the revolutionary war, and where he now lives. He was between 14 & 15 years old when he went into service and joined as a substitute as before stated. He has already mentioned the names of several of the officers under whom he served. He never received a written discharge. I am known in my neighborhood to William C Lipscomb, Daniel J Johnson, the Reverend John Collin and many others who can testify to my good character.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 28th January 1833

S/ Geo. Cunningham, Clerk

S/ John Sample

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Sample", written in a cursive style.

[James Yarborough, a clergyman, and William C Lipscomb and Daniel J Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Alabama Marengo County: SS: Before me John Schirm a justice of the peace in and for the County and state aforesaid, on this 21st day of June 1834 personally came and appeared John Sample Senior a citizen of said County who being first duly sworn according to law deposes and says that on the 28th day of January 1833, he this deponent, made in open Court, before the Honorable the Judge of the County Court of Marengo County in said State a declaration on oath in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, granting pensions, – which said declaration together with the proceedings thereupon had in said Court are hereto annexed. This affiant further says that the declaration so made by him as aforesaid, with the certificates thereto annexed were forwarded to the Honorable William R. King Senator in Congress to be laid before the Commissioner of Pensions, and that the same were returned to and received by him on the 10th day of last month with certain objections to the allowance of a Pension – This affiant further says that since the said papers were returned to him and for many months before he has been in feeble health and unable to travel to the Court House of Marengo County – that he is now from the effects of old age, bad health and extreme debility unable to

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travel from his home to the Court House of his County so as to make in open Court an amended declaration of his right to be placed upon the Pension roll and he therefore avails himself of the presence of a justice of the peace to reassert and explain the facts and circumstances relating to his service, during the revolutionary war. This affiant as he has before stated has no record of his age, nor can he undertake to state with positive certainty the date at which he entered the service of his Country. He will not do violence to his conscience by stating a precise date which he cannot remember with distinctness. The length of time which has intervened, and the effects of old age upon his memory, and the want of written papers by which to refresh his recollection will account for his inability to remember dates correctly & distinctly – but according to the best of this affiant's recollection he entered the service in 1773 or 1774. He arrived at this conclusion from a belief that he is now about seventy-four or seventy-five years of age, and he remembers that he was between fourteen and fifteen years old when he entered the service. He lived when he entered the service in Abbeville district in South Carolina as stated in his first declaration – He entered as a private and as a substitute in place of one Robert Griffin. He served in a Company commanded by Armstrong Heard as before stated – and was under Colonel Andrew Pickens as before

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stated. In his first service mentioned this affiant served six weeks as the substitute of Griffin and was engaged in guarding the frontiers of Abbeville against the Cherokee Indians – when this term of service was out this affiant again went as a substitute for a man whose name he does not now recollect for six weeks or two months he would not be positive which. In this second service this affiant was again upon the frontiers against the Indians – When this Service was out this affiant went into the service of his own account and was in the Battle at Kettle Creek under Colonel Pickens and fought against the Tories who were commanded by a Colonel Boyd. A large number of Tories were taken in this Battle as prisoners and were sent to Orangeburg and this affiant was sent as one of the guard that went with them – This term of service lasted six weeks or more. After this service was ended the affiant went as a private in Captain Armstrong Heard's Company to the Siege of Savannah. He belonged to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Reed and was in a Brigade of Militia commanded by General Williamson. After the attempt to storm the Fort this affiant was in a company Commanded by Captain Burrow as well as he

remembers. This affiant was absent on this service eight or nine weeks. After this was over this affiant joined a Company commanded by Captain Samuel Moore and was
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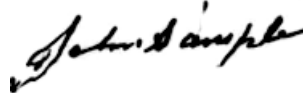
at the Battle of Stono where General Lincoln commanded. Colonel Pickens commanded the Regiment to which this affiant belonged. He saw Colonel Pickens' horse shot from under him in this battle. In this Service this affiant was engaged two months or more. The next service this affiant was engaged in was the Siege of Ninety Six where General Greene commanded the American forces. At this Siege this affiant was again in Captain Moore's Company. At the raising of the Siege we were marched by Colonel Pickens across Broad River (General Greene with his forces having separated from him) and afterwards fell in the rear of the British at a place called Boggy Gully and killed some of them & took some prisoners. We then returned home and afterwards this affiant joined a volunteer Company raised by the same Captain Samuel Moore for six months and was employed against the Tories. In about two months after joining Captain Moore's volunteer Company he was killed by the Tories near Swansey's Ferry [?] on the Saluda [River]. This affiant then joined Captain Manfield's [sic, Maxfield's?] Company and served with him against the Tories. After this this affiant was assigned to Captain John Calhoun's Company & served with him against the Tories. This affiant served with Captain Calhoun till
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peace was made, and until the Tories were finally subdued. He was in many fights with the Tories which he has not enumerated – He was in the vicinity of Bill Cunningham who commanded the Troop of Tories & of General Robert Cunningham who also commanded a Brigade of Tories, and the history of the times when the test the difficulties, dangers and hardships encountered by the Whigs. This affiant was almost constantly in the service from the time he entered it until the close of the war. He scarcely slept at home in his father's House during the whole continuance of the war in South Carolina, was constantly upon the alert, either in watching & fighting the Tories or upon the service enumerated. He served as stated and devoted the time mentioned to the service of his Country.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 20 June 1834

S/ John Schirm [?], JP

S/ John Sample



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service in the South Carolina militia.]