

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Scott S32508

f66SC

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.]

[p 4]

State of Missouri, County of Miller } SS

On this the 29th [could be 24th] day of February 1838, personally appeared in open court before the circuit court of the County of Miller now sitting, John Scott, a resident of the county aforesaid State aforesaid, 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.

This applicant states that he volunteered as a private soldier in the militia in the year 1776 in Fairfield District South Carolina; that he was commanded by Francis Marion, as colonel, John James, major, and Peter Horry, Captain. That he marched from Winnsboro in Fairfield District South Carolina to Sullivan's Island (between 12 and 15 miles from Charleston) and was engaged in the battle that was fought in June, 1776, under the command of William Moultrie. The British were commanded by Sir Peter Parker, and this applicant thinks the fleet consisted of 26 or 28 vessels. He remained there two or three weeks and returned to Charleston, where the troops commenced scouring the country between the Pee Dee [Pedee] and Santee [Rivers], cutting off the Tory parties. The applicant remained under Captain Horry until Horry was promoted in which he thinks was the year 1778 or 1779. In 1779 or 1780, this applicant was elected Lieutenant of a volunteer rifle Corps -- there was no Captain, the company consisting of only 30 or 32 men. His commission was signed by the Colonel. This applicant marched with his men to Purysburg and there joined General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] Army and proceeded thence to Savannah in the year 1780 or 1781. They there made the attack on the port of Savannah in possession of the British; the South Carolina militia under Lincoln and the French fleet commanded by D'Estaing; the Americans were defeated and retreated to South Carolina. Thence continued scouring the country, keeping the Tories and refugees under. The general rendezvous was at Snow Island -- sullied out frequently from that place, and among their excursions followed Colonel Watson [John Watson Tadwell-Watson], under the command of Marion -- got to Sand pit bridge [Sampit Bridge] about 20 miles from Georgetown. There this applicant was stationed with 32 rifleman, near the bridge, with orders to fire when the enemy advanced, but retreated, being outflanked [March 20, 1781 or March 28, 1781].¹ The next general battle which

¹ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_sampit_bridge_1.html or https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_sampit_bridge_2.html

this applicant was present at was at Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781],² where he commanded his riflemen on the extreme right of Lee's Legion [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee]. The British commander was Stewart [Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Stewart]. General Greene [Nathanael Greene] commanded the Americans. After that battle, part of our officers went on to Georgetown. This applicant under command of Colonel Joh [document torn and text missing] Williams [sic James Williams] [went] to Kings Mountain. Col. ~~Lacey~~ William Campbell commanded the Americans—forgot the day [October 7, 1780]³ but recollects that Col. Williams [James Williams] was killed & Col. Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson]. After that battle, the applicant marched between the Pee Dee and Santee [Rivers] to Snow's Island and there remained scouring the country with short furloughs not exceeding several days. Several skirmishes took place, until spring of 1783, when this applicant was discharged. This applicant had thus served six years during about three of which he acted as Lieutenant.

This applicant further states, in reply to interrogatories propounded by the court, that he was born in Antrim County, Ireland in the year 1754 as he was told & believes, but has no record of his age that is accessible. That he landed in Charleston South Carolina in the year 1770, and lived in Fairfield District South Carolina until he volunteered. After the close of the war this applicant lived in Williamsburg and Fairfield districts in South Carolina until the year 1791 when he removed to Baldwin County Georgia where he lived 10 years. Thence he removed to Carver County Tennessee, and lived there about two years. Thence he moved to Wythe County Virginia where he lived about three years, and thence to Botetourt County Virginia where he lived 14 years. From Botetourt County Virginia he joined Lewis and Clarke and accompanied them and their expedition across the Rocky Mountains where he was about over two years and returned to Botetourt. After this he removed to Highland County in Ohio, where he lived about a year and a half and moved to Illinois and from thence went to Texas in 1832 and returned a year ago. He now lives in Miller County Missouri.

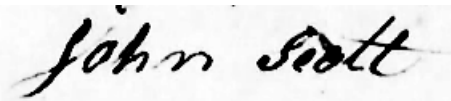
This applicant further states that he received a commission from Colonel Francis Marion, but took no care of it and has lost it.

He further states that he has no documentary evidence and those of no person who can prove his having been in the service.

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 & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Scott



[Andrew Bilyen, a clergyman, and Jacob Wimmarr gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[pp 59-66: Note: a legible copy of this veteran's second application can be found on the Ancestry.com website. The image of this document posted on fold3.com is essentially illegible.]

State of Missouri County of Miller } SS

On the Sixth day of May personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Miller County now sitting, John Scott a resident of Osage Township in the County of Miller and State

² https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

³ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

of Missouri, Aged eighty-five years by tradition 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated:

I entered the first tower [tour] as a Volunteer private under Captain Peter Horry and Major John James in the latter part of February or the first part of March 1776 at Williamsburg, S. Car., and marched to Sullivan's Island, and there we commenced building Fort Moultrie under the Command of Colonel William Moultrie, we were also there joined by Major F. Marion and his detachment of Volunteer Troops from Fort Johnston. We remained there until the 28th of June 1776 on the same morning the British Cast anchor and commenced bombarding which they continued until late in the afternoon at which time they hauled off and gave up the contest. Governor John Rutledge and a number of Ladies and Gentlemen came over from Charleston the next day to Fort Moultrie for the purpose of congratulating the brave and gallant Moultrie, and his brave and worthy Companions in Arms on the happy – [indecipherable word]⁴ of the day previous and gave us a splendid dinner, also presented us with a stand of Collars [?]⁵, which Sergeant Jasper died under in Georgia we still remained at Fort Moultrie, until the latter part of September or the first of October 1776 we then marched over to Charleston, and remained there until about the 25 of December 1776 which ended said tower of nine months.

I then obtained a permit from Captain Peter Horry to go up to Williamsburg District, and remained there one week then returned back and joined the same Company (Captain Peter Horry) the first of January or thereabouts as near as my recollection serves at present, which was the Commencement of my Second Tower we then marched up through Williamsburg District South Carolina between the Pedee and Santee Rivers scouring the country, watching the movements of the Tories taking, and bringing them down to Charleston, this tower was six months ending the first of July 1777 as near as recollection serves.

About the first of July 1777 Major Marion was promoted to a Colonel, and Captain Horry, to that of Major, and near as my recollection serves me at present, at the promotion of Captain Horry, I was Attached to Captain John Snipes' Company of Volunteers we were from this time (the 1st of July 1777 the Commencement of my third tower) continual scouring the country in the vicinity of the Pedee and Santee Rivers under the command of Colonel Marion until about the 1st of January 1778 which ended my third tower of six months. Sometime in February 1778 my fourth tower commenced as well as I can recollect in Captain John Withers Company of Volunteers under the command of Colonel Marion and Major Horry. We were in actual Service of the United States, until the latter part of 1778 or the beginning of the year 1779 (and still continued in the service) about this time Colonel Marion was promoted to a Brigadier General, and Major Horry to that of Colonel, and myself to a Lieutenancy without any Captain, in my Company which was composed of only thirty-two men rank and file. I was commissioned by General Marion and Colonel Horry and about three months as near as I can recollect, it was countersigned by Governor Rutledge, soon after I was Commissioned we had a battle with Major Weymes [Major James Wemyss], Marion Commanded in this engagement near the black Mingo

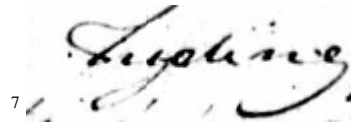
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bridge⁶ – this battle was fought in 1779 the precise time I cannot say. The next battle that I was in was on the little Pedee in 1779 any of the date I cannot recollect the day and month having slipped my memory.

We remained here from this time or in and about Snow Island and Britons neck [Brittons Neck in present Marion County, SC] until about the 1st of August 1780, as near as I can recollect about this time General Gates [Horatio Gates] took Command of the Southern Army, ordered Marion and thirty men or thereabouts to destroy all the boats on the Santee River, after destroying all the boats we marched to Join General Gates but before we got there we met Captain Harrison of Colonel Lee's Legion who informed us that General Gates was defeated [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] and General DeKalb slain and the whole of the American or rather the Southern Army was routed, after hearing said news we returned to Briton's Neck under Command of General Marion and Colonel Horry, Some time in the beginning of the winter of 1780 we marched from Britain's neck in order to intersect Colonels Watson and Daye and overtook them in the night on the same day and harassed them until the next evening, Colonel Horry was then order[ed] to march to Sand Pit Bridge [Sampit Bridge] and destroy it, after destroying it Colonel Horry ordered myself and thirty-two privates (Riflemen) to defend the opposite shore from the enemy, likewise with orders to fire on them at their first appearance, but being nearly surrounded by the British Army before I discovered their approach, I was compelled to retreat to save my life and men from immediate destruction. A few days after this transaction we captured a British Major and his guard at the blue house two miles from Santee River we then returned to Snow Island our [indecipherable word]⁷ place. Some time in 1781 we were ordered to join General Lincoln at Purrysburg in the south part of South Carolina near Savannah River and not far from the [word too faint to discern] Swamp within twelve or fifteen miles of Ebenezer where the British was encamped. We remained there five or six weeks, we were then ordered to Savannah and met the fleet Commanded by Count De Rochambeau after remaining there some time, early one morning we were ordered to attack the British from Spring hill by the South Carolina Troops commanded by General Marion and Count Pulaski but was forced to retreat with loss of two hundred of the South Carolina troops likewise the brave Count Pulaski was mortally wounded and [one or more words too faint to discern] four days after the Battle was fought,⁸ The Militia returned home and the volunteers returned to Snow Island on the Santee River South Carolina which ended the Georgia expedition; some short time afterwards myself and Company of thirty-two privates volunteered our service to march under Colonel John Williams [sic James Williams] to Kings Mountain near the edge of South and [word too faint to discern] North Carolina, near the Mountain we were joined by Colonels Shelby [Isaac Shelby], Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], and Campbell [William Campbell] commander on that day. The Tories Army that was encamped on the Mountain we met next day and gave them battle immediately Colonel Cleveland commanding on the right, Colonel

⁶ IF the veteran is referring to the action at Black Mingo, that action occurred on September 28-29, 1780. See, https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_black_mingo.html Major James Wemyss is not known to have been at this action.

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⁸ The veteran appears to be referring to the Siege of Savannah, September 16-October 9, 1779. <https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/> in which general Benjamin Lincoln was the commanding officer and Count Pulaski was killed.

Campbell on the center and Colonel Williams on the left shortly after the onset of the battle Colonel Ferguson the Commander of the Tories fell and a great number of his men shared the same fate the remainder gave themselves up prisoners of war to Colonel Campbell who marched them to North Carolina on the same day the brave Colonel Williams fell with some few other [one or more words too faint to discern] we then returned back (myself and company) and joined General Marion near Santee River.

A short time afterwards we marched with General Marion to join General Green [Nathanael Greene], about twenty miles from the high Hills of Santee River on his route to Eutaw, south or southwest of Charleston, about sixty-five miles on the road leading from Augusta in Georgia to Charleston South Carolina where we met a part of the British Army commanded by Colonel Stewart, and encamped near the spring at Eutaw, the action Commenced soon after we arrived, the Americans were victorious, the British losing about seven hundred men killed wounded and taken prisoner, of war, the Americans only lost about three hundred killed and wounded in said action. At this time Myself and company were Stationed on the extreme right wing or flank of Colonel Lee's Legion the British on this occasion took shelter in a large brick dwelling near the springs at Eutaw Colonel William Washington undertook to dislodge from said house the enemy and in so doing his horse was shot under himself wounded and taken prisoner by the enemy before any relief could be offered him or his Company on Command, after the Battle was over we marched with General Marion back up between the Pedee and Santee Rivers, watching the movements of the enemy and held ourselves in constant readiness to march whenever duty demanded or required our services, in the spring of 1783 we marched down near Charleston under the Command [of] General Green, Huger and Marion and remained there some time, until the British evacuated [the] town [the British evacuated Charleston South Carolina in mid December 1782] which day we took possession of [word too faint to discern] and City and remained there until the latter part of August or the first of September 1783 at which time the Army at Charleston was ordered to be disbanded.

I then returned home to Williamsburg District South Carolina naked and penniless thus ends the fourth tower as a private and my first tower under my Commission which Continued without intermission after then at small intervals of three or five days at a time, the whole number of towers making not less than six years actual service.

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present; and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Scott

[Jacob Wimmer and James M. Wimmer gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories

1. Where and in what year were you born

Ans. I was born in Antrim County Ireland and by tradition in 1754

2. Have you any record of your age; and, if so, where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age whatever

3. Where were you living when called into service

Ans. Williamsburg District South Carolina

Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War; and where do you now live?

Ans. I moved from Williamsburg District to Kershaw County in the same State, South Carolina from thence to Baldwin in the State of Georgia there I lived ten years from thence to Carter County Tennessee where I lived two or three years from thence to Wythe County State of

Virginia where I lived two years from thence to Bototort [Botetourt] County in said State where I lived fourteen years from thence to Tazwell County and the last mentioned State where I lived eighteen months from thence to Highland County State of Ohio where I lived near three years from thence to Crawford County Indiana where I lived two years from thence to Wayne County Illinois where I lived one year from thence to Sinclair County same State where I lived two years from thence to Sangamon County same State where I lived ten years from thence in the Spring of thirty two I started to Texas where I remained four years from thence to Miller County Missouri where I now live and have lived eighteen months

4th How were you called into service: were you drafted did you volunteer

Ans. I was called as a Volunteer I was not drafted I volunteered

5 state the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troop where you Served such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. Regular officer General Gates, General Huger and Colonel Henry Lee, Captain Rudolph, Lieutenant Maning, Captain Harrison, Colonel Thompson and Colonel McDonald. The first and second Regiments of the South Carolina troop. See declaration for the general circumstances of my service.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans. I was discharged in the latter part of 1778 or the beginning of 1779 and given by Peter Horry I have lost my discharge. In regard to my Commission See Declaration which I have lost since I left the service the Commission [this document ends here]

[p 56]

An Amended Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832

State of Illinois County of White: SS

On this 21st day of October 1841 personally appeared before me James Ratcliff Probate Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Scott aged eighty-six or seven years and made oath in due form of law that in addition to the services rendered by him in the Revolutionary War as set forth in a declaration made by him in Miller County Missouri in May 1837 or 1838 he served 449 days in Captain Brown's Company General Marion's Brigade from the 1st of December 1780 to the 16th of December 1782 alternately and he also served as a private horseman 40 days in Captain Green's Troop General Marion's Brigade in 1782 and further this deponent sayeth not except that he served from first to last in the Revolutionary War six years or more under many different officers – and he gives as a reason why his service under the above captains was not set forth in his former declaration that it was written in the midst of much confusion being done in a store house where there was fiddling and dancing going on in the house and quarreling and fighting out of doors so that much may have been omitted in that declaration which might have been of service to him if set forth.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written.

S/ John Scott

[pp 16-17: certificate from the South Carolina Comptroller showing indents payable to a John Scott for militia service one as a private horseman in the militia in 1782; another for 40 days duty as a private horseman in Captain Green's Troop of General Marion's [Francis Marion's] brigade

in 1782; another for 449 days service as a private in Captain Brown's company of general Marion's brigade from December 1, 1780 to December 16 1782.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$49.32 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]