

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Archibald McHarg (McHary, McHarge, Meharg) S33066 f22SC

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.]

[Alabama, St. Clair]

On this Seventeenth day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John H. Garrett Judge of the County Court of St. Clair Archibald McHarg a resident of Asheville in said County -- & State of Alabama aged about Seventy 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 & served as herein stated -- under Capt. __ Berry [Andrew Barry] -- Joseph Parsons Major __ Brannon [Thomas Brandon] their Col. -- as a volunteer in the month of May 1781 in Lawrence County [Laurens County] South Carolina -- (then Ninety Six district). They rendezvoused at the head of Pacolet River at Col. McDowell's [Charles McDowell's] -- from thence they marched to join General Green [Nathanael Greene] at the siege of Fort Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781]¹ - - to take Col. Cruger [John Harris Cruger] -- they joined Greene who immediately retreated after his company arrived there from thence they retreated (Parsons & Berry) to Spartanburg -- after arriving there Cruger & Rawdon having gone to Charleston -- this Deponent's Company were used for the dispersing of Tories -- & guarding the frontiers against the Cherokee Indians, being constantly moving about as Rangers & horseman -- for the above stated object on the first Tour he was out something like two months -- they were discharged at Princes Fort on Tyger River by their Capt. -- within six weeks they were again called out as volunteers under the same officers -- At this time they Rendezvoused at Princes Fort -- for the purpose of going out against the Tory Capts. William Helms & Nathaniel Young -- who with their companies were killing & destroying property through Lawrence [Laurens] & Spartanburg Counties -- they pursued & overtook Young & his company at Jimmy's Creek -- head waters Enoree [River] -- they there killed Young the Capt. & dispersed his company from thence they proceeded into Lawrence after Capt. Helms who (with his company) they overtook & defeated though they killed but one of his Company named John Abercrombie -- after this they went towards Ninety Six on the waters of Saluda in pursuit of Capt. William Cunningham [William "Bloody Bill" Cunningham] but not overtaking him or Company they retreated back to Princes Fort from thence after remaining awhile they went again to the frontiers as a guard against the Indians -- This deponent's father was with him during these two tours. He & his family having been driven out from home by the Tories -- at this time they were out for near two months -- & were again discharged at Princes Fort. They

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

were out again the same year under the same officers -- & were out in the winter for about two months as volunteers -- they were used at this time merely to watch the Tories -- going from one place to another as their company & Capt. would agree was best -- & where they could best obtain forage & provisions to sustain them -- during neither of these tours or any other except when they joined Greene where they ever with Regular troops or officers -- In '82 they were out again as volunteers twice under the same Capt. in pursuit of the Tory Capt. Cunningham. In each trip they were out for one month generally ranging through this (Deponent's) district. In the same year they made another trip under one Capt. ___ Landiss who was from Georgia being one of Col. Elijah Clarke's men -- at this time they assembled at Lawney Ray's near Motley's Fort -- & from thence marched to Saluda (old town) -- They were then again in pursuit of the Tories -- & were out about six weeks -- & were then discharged near Motley's Fort. They were out again three or four times upon the same object during 1782 -- but never remained more than from one to two weeks at a time shortly after this his father in the winter or spring of 1783 was killed by the Tories under Capt. Gray -- though this Deponent was not out during that tour -- & the Deponent then closed his Services. This Deponent never received any written discharges -- & has no documentary Evidence. He knows of no person who can prove his services -- & whose testimony he can procure. He has been absent from the State between twenty & twenty-five years --

I hereby relinquish every Claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension Roll or agency of any State -- or if any only on that of the State of South Carolina.

1st the Interrogatories were propounded as required -- cannot certainly say what year he was born in -- was born in Lawrence [Laurens] County on Rabun's Creek

2nd -- has no Record of his age --

3rd -- lived in the same place of his birth when called into service -- Since the war has lived in Tennessee & Alabama -- & now lives in the County of St. Clair

4th -- Cannot state any more of officers or Regiments than have stated in Petition & declaration

5th never received a written discharge

7th I am known in the neighborhood to almost every person -- who can testify as to my character for veracity -- though known [sic, none] who knew that I actually served -- Except from Report - - Col. John Massey & Dr. Charles C. P. Farrar Representative from the County have heard from their fathers & father in law (as it regards the first) that I served with them during the war -- & this they have understood shortly after the war -- & until the time they died --

Sworn & subscribed in open court the day aforesaid

S/ Archibald McHarg, X his mark

[James L. Lewis, a clergyman, John Massey and Charles C P Farrar gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[John Massey and Charles C. P. Farrar also gave supplemental affidavits [p 11] which are very faint and almost impossible to read but which appear, from what I could make out, to be statements as to what their father (Farrar) or father-in-law (Massey—Col. H. Wood ?) told them about serving with McHarg during the Revolution.]

The State of Alabama St. Clair County

Personally appeared before the undersigned Justice of the Peace Archibald McHarg who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of

memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades; for ten months and half, I served as a private.

S/ Archibald Mcharg, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 23rd day of June 1833

S/ A. Sloan, JP

[p 16: On May 24, 1843 in St. Clair County Alabama, Temperance Meharg filed an affidavit stating that her husband Archibald Meharg departed this life January 3, 1840. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 10 ½ months in the South Carolina militia.]