

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Pickens S3697

f69SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/22//09: rev'd 12/3/17 & 7/18/18

[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.]

[p 56]

State of South Carolina Abbeville District }

On this twenty third day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Richard Gantt, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting for the District of Abbeville, Andrew Pickens, a Resident of Fayette County, State of Tennessee, aged seventy-nine years, who being 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 on the 7th of June, 1832.

That he entered the service the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated. That he entered the service as a volunteer Militia man under General Andrew Williamson, who commanded on the Expedition;¹ his Captain's name was Robert Anderson, & William Riley was his Lieutenant. That he entered the service on or about the 15th of July, 1776, and marched into the Cherokee Nation, in what was called the Cherokee Expedition -- that they marched to the Beaver-damn Creek, where they made a short halt for some days -- That they then marched to Seneca River, where they were attacked by the Indians & Tories, & had a battle in which he was wounded in the knee, & carried to Fort Independence on a litter between two horses, where he lay under the Doctors for 10 months -- that as soon as his wounds would permit him, he again entered the service as a Volunteer with his wagon & team to haul Baggage for General Williamson, as he thinks in the Fall of the year 1777, and continued in that Service for three months, and got a discharge, and left his wagon in the service, which was taken by the British, near or in Augusta, Georgia.

That he again entered the service as a volunteer under the command of Captain Robert Carithers [Robert Caruthers], as a Scout to guard the Frontiers -- That he continued to serve in the character of a Guard for the Frontiers, sometimes acting with other Commanders, but generally as a guard -- That he was at the siege of Ninety Six with General Greene.² That he thinks he must have served at least four years, & was acquainted with Colonel Washington [William Washington] & Colonel Lee [Henry [”Light Horse Harry”] Lee]; & also well acquainted with Colonel Andrew Pickens who was his full cousin, and under whom he performed several Tours of service, and was with him at Sota & Chota, 2 towns in the Cherokee Indian Nation. -- That he was in the service when peace was made & was then finally discharged -- That he resided in Ninety Six District, South Carolina, when he first entered the Service, & continued to reside in the said District of Ninety Six during the whole War.

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or Annuity, except the present; and declares that his name is not on the Pension-roll of any State or Agency of any State, except the Pension-roll of South Carolina; which State has been kind enough to place him on the pension list & allow him \$60 per year, ever since about the year 1812; before which time he had five pounds allowed him as an Invalid Pensioner from near the close of the Revolutionary War; and that he has no documentary evidence in his possession, nor does he know of any person, who could testify to his Service.

Sworn to and subscribed this day & year aforesaid in Open Court
Test: S/ Jas Wardlaw, Clerk

S/ Andrew Pickens, X his mark

[Moses Waddel, a clergyman, and Hugh Mecklin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 3]

State of Tennessee Fayette County} County Court July Term 1833

Personally appeared in open Court Andrew Pickens, now residing in the County and State aforesaid, 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: He entered the service as stated in his former declaration about the first of July 1776 as a private volunteer and was in service until the first of August following, when he was wounded as before stated, and lay in that condition for ten months. In the year 1777 he served as a waggoner as stated in his former declaration for three months. After the expiration of said term he again volunteered as a Scout and served for not less than three months. He then went as a private soldier into the Cherokee Nation under General Pickens and General Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke], immediately commanded by Captain Caruthers and, continued in service not less than two months. After that he was in service under Captain Caruthers not less than one year. Sometime after he joined the Army of General Greene and was at the siege of Ninety Six and remained in actual service, not less than six months. He then went into service under General Clarke & General Pickens as a volunteer private and continued in service not less than one month. This is the time of his actual service, though he was subject to be called out at any moment and was very often called out for short periods of which he has no account and can give no distinct statement. And for the foregoing services he claims a pension. He cannot obtain the proof of any living witness within his knowledge, who can state that he did actually perform said services.

I hereby relinquish all claim to pension except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any State.

Where and in what year were you born.

I was born in State Virginia in the year 53

Have you any record of your age if so where is it

My age is record in my family Bible which is now in my possession --

Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live

I lived in the State of South Carolina when first called into service Abbeville district I live at the same place in the same State until 1806 when I removed to the State of Tennessee I now live in Fayette County Tennessee --

Were you called into service as a volunteer or were you drafted or substituted

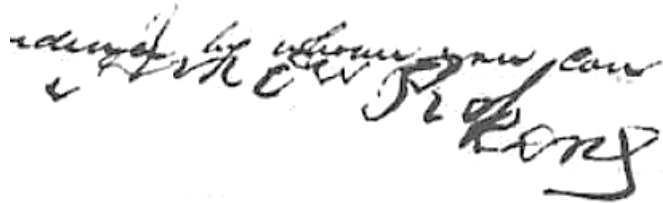
I volunteered my services and at a time when in the service was a volunteer
State the names of some of the officers who were with the troops where you served such
Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your
services

I cannot answer the last question more fully than by referring to my declarations
Did you ever receive a discharge

I never received a discharge to the best of my recollection if I did it has been lost
Have you any documentary evidence by which you can prove your services

I have none

S/ Andw Pickens

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Pickens". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Sworn to & subscribed

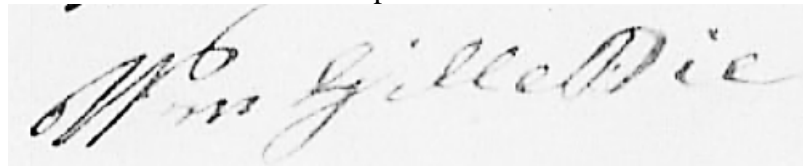
S/ Thos C. Hudson

[Milton Moore, a clergyman, Josiah Higgason & Benjamin Branch gave the standard supporting
affidavit.]

[p 37]

State of Tennessee Fayette County: I do hereby Certify that I am personally acquainted with
Andrew Pickens (who charged at the War Department with toryism) I was acquainted with the
Identical Andrew Pickens before the Revolutionary War and throughout the whole of the war I
do certify that the said Andrew Pickens was a true Whig and was wounded in the
Commencement of the war and that after he recovered was engaged in trying to gain the liberty
and freedom that we the sons of America have enjoyed ever since. I do Certify the charge is
false. Given under my hand this the 13 day of January 1836 signed sealed and sworn to before
me.

S/ Wm Gillespie³

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wm Gillespie". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

S/ B. Branch, JP

[p 50]

South Carolina Anderson District} Personally appeared John Harris⁴ for many years a resident of
the District aforesaid and being duly sworn says that he was acquainted with Andrew Pickens
late of Abbeville district South Carolina and now residing in the State of Tennessee during the
War of the Revolution. This Deponent has seen the said Pickens in service in the Whig cause
under the command of Colonel Robert Anderson both in the State of South Carolina and in

³ [William Gillespie S32267](#)

⁴ [John Harris S21808](#)

Georgia. This Deponent is not able to specify the entire services he rendered or the terms of any particular tours but he was there before the Fall of Charleston and always after as far as this Deponent knows that he was acquainted with him years after the Close of the War universally regarded as a firm undeviating Whig.

Sworn to & subscribed on the 6th 1838 before.

S/ John Harris



S/ Joseph N. Whitner, NP & QU Ex Off.

[pp 30-32: letter from Amos David referring to the accusations against Pickens that he was a Tory during the Revolution and referring to the case of Pickens vs. Shannon.]

[pp 60-69: are papers relating to an action brought in 1814 by Pickens in Giles County Tennessee for slander against one Quinton Shannon alleging that Shannon publicly and falsely accused Pickens of being a Tory doing the Revolution, which accusations allegedly cost Pickens the nomination to run for the legislature; Pickens sued for \$2,000 in damages; the case was referred to a panel of arbitrators who found for Shannon; and Pickens was assessed costs totaling \$28.51 ½. I could not find anything in the file that provided any insight into the basis or bases upon which the arbitrators found for Shannon.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁵ relating to Andrew Pickens
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 5932

AA19

[p 9: Form of Indent No. 191 Book S dated June 10th 1785 delivered to Mr. Andrew Pickens 'for the sum of twenty four Pounds, Eight Shillings & six pence, three farthings, Sterling for Militia Duty as Private since the reduction of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], pr Account Audited.']

[p 18]

South Carolina Pendleton County} Personally came Andrew Pickens and made Oath before me. That on the 1st day of August 1775 (as well as he can remember) he received a wound in his right knee under the command of Major Andrew Williamson at the Town of Seneca in the Cherokee County when Mr. Salvador was killed, by which wound he is disabled from following his farming business, by which to support his family, having no other means by which he can support them, as he has no Negroes, and only 250 Acres of Land in his own right, although he pays tax for 84 Acres more. This Deponent further saith that he never has received any Annuity, nor made application for any only for two years which was drawn on his order and paid to him

⁵ The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>.

by Colonel Robert Anderson, neither would he now apply for any, only on account of his being in necessitous circumstances, and having received a wound in defense of his Country, by which he is put under such circumstances, and as an annuity is by Law allowed to Soldiers who were disabled in the Country's service in the late war with Great Britain; He therefore thinks it his Duty to apply.

Sworn to the 25th of March 1793

before me

S/ Robert Anderson, JP

S/ Andrew Pickens

We do Certify that we believe the above Affidavit to be very Just, because we know of our own knowledge that the said Andrew Pickens did receive a wound in his knee, by which he suffered very much, being along under the Doctors care, and by which he is still disabled much. And we do also know that his own personal labor & industry is the only means within his reach by which he can support his Family. Given under our hands at Hopewell in the State & County aforesaid = this 3rd of April 1793

S/ Andrew Pickens, JP

S/ Robert Anderson, JP

I do hereby authorize & empower Robert Anderson Esquire to draw & receive for me and on my behalf whatever Annuity or Annuities may be due & owing to me by the Public agreeable to a Law in that case made & provided. Witness my hand this 25th of March 1793

S/ Andrew Pickens

Received April 13th, 1793 of William Hort Treasurer in Charleston the sum of fifteen pounds and Account of Arrears of Annuity due to Andrew Pickens

S/ Robert Anderson

South Carolina Charleston } Personally appeared before me Abraham Alexander one of the Clerks of the Treasury who being duly sworn maketh oath that the foregoing is a true Copy as taken by him from the Original.

Sworn to this 10th day of December 1793

before me

S/ Daniel Smith, JP

S/ Abm. Alexander

[p 15]

South Carolina Abbeville } SS Personally came Andrew Pickens of the County aforesaid before me and was duly sworn & saith that sometime in the [year] 1776 perhaps the month of August he this Deponent being then in the Service of his Country under the Command of General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] he this Deponent received a wound in the right knee by an Indian which have Disabled him this Deponent so that he is not able to work to gain a living as usual and being a poor man & having large family of Children and having only small Tract of Land, and no slaves he this Deponent is still an inhabitant of this County & state and was a friend of the Cause of Liberty & still remained so – & Twither saith not –

Sworn & subscribed this 19th of March 1796 (this for the annuity of 1795 as not yet drawn)

before me

S/ Jn. Linton, JP

S/ And^w. Pickens

Andrew Pickens

[p 16]

I do certify that Andrew Pickens received a very bad wound in the year 1776, went under my Command. He lay in a very languishing condition with his wound for some considerable time and under the care of Several Doctors, before he was cured. That he is still a cripple, unable to support his family by his personal labor, has no Slaves, & is rather in indigent circumstances. That he has drawn an Annuity, & is still entitled to a continuation of the same Annuity, only he was not put on the list before January 1793 which was made necessary by a Law which passed last Session of the Legislature

Certified 15th of November 1796

Pr: Robert Anderson

Robert Anderson

[p 19 contains two vouchers showing payments made to and received by Andrew Pickens for \$240, one dated January 23, 1818 and the other dated June 7, 1820; and a third voucher dated September 22, 1832 showing payment to Pickens of \$300 for 5 years pension.]