

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Oliver McHaffey (Mehaffy) S38941

f12SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/22/09: rev'd 10/19/16

[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.]

South Carolina Kershaw District

On the 17th of April 1826 Personally appeared in open Court being a court of record for the District of Kershaw Oliver Mehaffy [Oliver Mahaffey?] resident in said District aged sixty-four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820 that he the said Oliver Mehaffy enlisted for the term of eighteen months in January 1779 in the State of South Carolina in the Company commanded by Capt. Samuel Taylor in the Regiment commanded by Col. Henderson [William Henderson] in the line of the State of South Carolina, in the Continental establishment -- That he continued to serve in the said Corps until he was taken prisoner at Savannah [Siege of Savannah, September 19-October 6, 1779],¹ from which place he made his escape into the interior of South Carolina, and was unable afterwards to see his officer who was in the hands of the British so as to obtain a regular discharge -- that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present that his name is not on the roll of any State except South Carolina and the following is the reason for not making earlier application for a pension -- That for the reasons just above stated he did not procure a regular discharge and being under the impression that without it a certificate of service would be insufficient -- from ignorance withheld urging his claim until he was informed that a regular discharge was not necessary provided other testimonials of a faithful Service could be adduced. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed the declarant also states that he is by occupation a farmer but in consequence of old age is deprived of the means of subsistence that his family consists of three exclusive of himself viz. -- his wife Lucy aged about fifty years his step son William Tolbert aged about nineteen years and Oliver Mahaffey Junior aged about fifteen years and that the above named William Tolbert resides with declarant but labors to support himself so that he contributes but little if any

¹ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

to declarant's support -- declarant also swears that the following is a schedule of his Estate -- necessary clothing & bedding excepted -- one flax wheel -- 6 pewter plates -- one dish -- 12 spoons -- one iron Kettle -- one small pot -- one set of knives & forks -- one hair sifter -- one old flour barrel -- one old Box -- 2 wagon bells -- 4 cowbells -- 2 old saddles and bridles -- 2 old guns -- 2 shot bags -- one pistol -- 3 weeding hoes -- one grubbing hoe -- one iron wedge -- 3 ploughs-- 3 chisels -- one auger -- one old cart -- 4 chairs -- one old water pail -- one old piggin -- one meal sieve -- one gallon keg -- 4 old axes -- one shoe hammer -- one pair of pinchers -- one shoe knives -- 4 awls -- valued all at about \$40 -- the declarant also swears that since the 18th of March 1818, no change within his recollection worthy of notice has been made in his property he is convinced that there have been none which could in the least affect his claim he has ever since the revolution been in reduced circumstances and this together with old age have for some years past rendered him unable to support himself without the aid of charity or of his Country. Sworn to and declared on the 18th day of April 1826 before

S/ Thomas Gailliard

S/ Oliver Mehaffy, M his mark

Camden September 11, 1838

J L Edwards

Sir.

Oliver McHaffey late a Pensioner in this District as by his Certificate bearing date at the War Office 11 May 1826 & Signed by James Barbour Secretary of War & J. L. Edwards Commissioner of Pensions and numbered 19.620. Oliver McHaffey sometime last Winter died his Widow a very old and infirm Lady wishes to know if she can draw half of his Pension. If so you will please to let me know, together with all the particulars how to proceed in the matter. Old McHaffey was a Private & entitled to receive eight dollars a month. Your early compliance will much oblige.

Respectfully

Geo. Q. McIntosh

Clerk of Court Kershaw District South Carolina

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 18th, 1826, for service as a private for 18 months in the South Carolina Continental line.]