

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Williams S41355

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/26/11 supp'd 5/11/15

[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.]

I do, with the advice of the Counsel, hereby certify that Robert Williams aged about 33 years late a private in the 11th Virginia Regiment appears to have been disabled in such a manner in the service of the United States as to entitle him to a continuance on the list of Pensioners, with his former allowance of 15 pounds from the first day of January 1789. Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond this 3rd day of October, 1789
Sanl. Coleman S/ Beverly Randolph

[certified as a true copy on June 5, 1807 by Wm H. Cabell, Governor of Virginia]

[the original copied from the online records of the Virginia State Library]

I do, with the advice of Council, hereby certify that Robert Williams aged about 33 years late a Private in the Eleventh Virginia Regiment appears to have been disabled in such a manner in the service of the United States as to entitle him to a continuance on the list of Pensioners with his former allowance of fifteen pounds from the first day of January one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond this 3^d day of November 1789.

Sanl. Coleman.

Beverly Randolph

[From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 42-page file

State and District of Virginia, Hampshire County Sct.

Before me the subscriber Sole and Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of law for the said County of Hampshire in the State aforesaid on the 26th day of May in the year 1818 Personally appears Robert Williams aged sixty-two years, resident in the County, State and district aforesaid, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on oath make the following declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the provision made by the late 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."

That he enlisted in the County of Hampshire in the State of Virginia aforesaid about the spring of the year 1779 as a private Soldier in a company commanded by Captain Andrew Wallace and belonging to the 11th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment. That he continued to serve in that Corps, or in the service of the United States, until the peace when he was discharged. That he was in the Battle called Blufords defeat [Buford's Defeat or the Battle of Waxhaw May 29, 1780¹].

That he is in Reduced circumstances and stands in need of the aid of his Country for support, and that he has no other evidence of his services in his power except a Copy of a certificate of his having been put upon the pension list of the United States. He further states upon oath he was wounded and disabled at the said battle – and was on account thereof put upon the pension list of the United States with an original allowance of fifty dollars which has since been augmented to eighty which pension he does hereby in consideration of receiving the benefit of the provisions of the above mentioned Act, hereby release and relinquish to the said United States.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid.

Robt White

[Hampshire County Virginia]

On this 15th day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court it being a Court of record Robert Williams aged 80 years next December resident in Hampshire County Virginia who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows. That he enlisted for eighteen months in that part of Hampshire County which now forms the County of Hardy by Colonel Hite, and was marched from thence to Fredericksburg Virginia at which place Captain Wallace [Andrew Wallace] took the command of said company and was attached to the third Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment and commanded by Colonel Abraham Bluford [Abraham Buford] that he served in said Regiment until he was discharged at Mount Airy Colonel Bluford. That he was in the Battle of Blufords defeat and was severely wounded which will more fully appear by his original declaration filed in the war Office dated the 22nd day of June 1818 on which he has obtained a Certificate of pension numbered 1040 and he did so solemnly swear that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself 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 he has not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed viz. one

¹ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/bufordsbg.htm> and http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_waxhaws.html

hundred dollars upon Interest, that he has no family, and that his old age & the wounds he received render him unable to pursue any kind of business that would produce a support.

I John B White Clerk of the County Court of Hampshire do hereby certify that the foregoing oath and the schedule thereto annexed are truly copied from the record of the said Court and I do further certify that it is the opinion of the Court that the total amount of the value of the property exhibited in the aforesaid schedule is \$100. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court this 21st day of August 1820.

S/ John B White

A Schedule of the property of Robert Williams

One hundred Dollars on Interest

\$100.00

S/ Robert Williams, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing May 26, 1818 for service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

Wick County July 16 - 66

I have this day carefully examined the Body of
Robert Williams and do Cert that he is disabled
by the following Wounds, his Skull appears
to have been fractured in 2 places, the use
of his right hand is greatly impaired by a Cut
with a broad Sword, his Wound a little
fractured, and he has a sore whereof his
below his Breast, in consequence
health is greatly impaired
Dr. Baldwin

[Note: The image above was taken from the online postings of the Virginia State Library. I have pasted two images together as best I could, but unfortunately the two images posted on the website do not

themselves match up to provide an image of the entire document. Below is my attempt to decipher and transcribe the document.]

Wick County July 1806

I have this day carefully examined the Body of Robert Williams and do certify that he is disabled by the following wounds his skull appears to have been fractured in places the use of his right hand is greatly impaired by a Cut with a broadsword, his –t arm has been fractured and he has ? Roan a little below his breast in consequence whereof his health is greatly impaired.

S/ ?? Baldwin

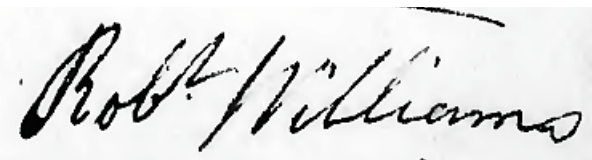
[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Hampshire County Legislative Petitions

To the Honourable the Speaker and other members of the General Assembly
The petition of Robert Williams Late a soldier in Captain Isaiah Marks's Company in the 11th Virginia Regiment Humbly sheweth.

That your petitioner served in the said Company until the 29th May 1780 when he unfortunately fell into the hands of the Enemy at the Waxaw [sic] in South Carolina at the Defeat of Colonel Blewford, but was permitted to perrowl [parole] and continued so until Discharged, that upon settling his accounts with the Auditors of Public accounts in 1783 there was a balance due to your petitioner of £34.15 for which some your petitioner obtained a Military Certificate as will appear by the Auditor's Books, that as your Petitioners was about to return to his usual place of abode he unfortunately lost the same to which he sense has made oath before the Court of the Hampshire and obtained a Certificate to that effect that he put the same into the hands of Colonel Andrew Wodrow [Andrew Woodrow] the Clerk of the said Court to enable him to Apply to the Auditors for a Duplicate of the said loss Certificate, but upon an inquiry finds that nothing has been done for your petitioner, which induces him to make this Late Application to your Honourable House for Relief.

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honors to take his Case who lost much of his Blood in his Country[']s Defense under your wise consideration, and Grant him such relief as to you shall appear to be Just – either by Directing the Auditor to Grant him a new Certificate under such restrictions as your Honourable House shall see to be most Effectual for the Public Safety, or by any other means which you in your wisdom shall point for his relief shall induce your petitioner as in duty bound ever to pray –

S/ Robt. Williams

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robt. Williams". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Reverse]

Williams's Petition
6 November 1789
Referred to Claims
rejected
Reported 6th of November 89

[another file]

To the Honorable the Speaker & Members of the House of Delegates
The humble petition of Robert Williams

Sheweth

Having received a Certificate for thirty-six pounds seventeen shillings and six pence in payment of arrears of pay due for Service as a Soldier in the Eleventh Virginia Regiment he by some Casualty loss the said Certificate whereby he has lost the reward to which he was entitled by a long and painful service – he likewise humbly presents a Copy of an oath made before and taken by the worshipful Bench of Hampshire County. Your petitioner then prays that the necessary steps may be taken for relieving his distress occasioned by such loss and alleviating the misery and painful Circumstances of a man worn out with the incidental [indecipherable word]² of long servitude and who not only is deprived of the return for such Service but also the means of present and future subsistence.

And he will ever pray

[Reverse]

Williams's Petition
2 November 1790
Referred to Claims
Rejected
found
Wilkinson
Reported 7th December

[Another file]

To the Honorable Speaker & Members of the House of delegates

The petition of Robert Williams respectfully Sheweth – That during the memorable Struggle of her colonies against the oppressions of Great Britain, your petitioner warmed with the general feeling of his Country, came forward ready & willing to give his exertions and his life to her Service – That he was attached as a private to the eleventh Virginia Regiment, and in the year 1780 then that Regiment under the command of Colonel Abraham Buford was defeated at the Waxhaws in South Carolina your petitioner having been cut down from wounds in the head and in the body by the sword & bayonet, in this state of dreadful suffering became a prisoner to the enemy. For his suffering and his services whatever they may have availed, your petitioner solemnly declares that his only retribution [sic] has been a pension of \$50 per annum transferred from the State to the general government and still received by him and a warrant from the Register for 100 acres of Land which warrant before location was unluckily consumed by fire together with most of the little peculiar belonging to your petitioner, and word that warrant retrieved he is advised it would not avail him in his infirm health & advanced years, more than

2 *Williams*

20 or \$30. Your petitioner means not to accuse the parsimony or ingratitude of his country; he believes that like himself & he cherishes with the most affectionate recollection those worthies who lowly station did not elevate them to plane of general observation but who still under the proud feelings of patriots, more for her hardships to which human nature seemed altogether incompetent. In her freedom and prosperity your petitioner acknowledges with gratitude to heaven, no small compensation for what little he may have contributed to their establishment; and but for the withering hand of inexorable necessity, of his sufferings or his services the from him had never heard: he is now 62 years old, and in aid of the infirmities of age is disabled in one hand by a sword one afflicted with an inflammation in the eyes materially affecting his vision, and subject to violent Rheumatism the consequence of great exposure. Your petitioner is apprised of the frequent & importunate applications made to the legislature by men situated as he is, but the good sense of that body will then [sic?] them that the force of these claims in naught is impaired by their number – every patriot must regret their existence & desire their relief – they are appeals to the honor & humanity of the Country – Your petitioner for himself adds only that I am old & infirm, long I cannot be a burden, I asked only that the small remnant of life be secured from indigents & the inclemency of the seasons. In consideration of what is stated herein may it please the legislature to add to the receipts of your petitioner what to them shall seem sufficient – procure for him the common comforts of life.

[Reverse]

Petition & documents Robert Williams

Received December 19th 1811

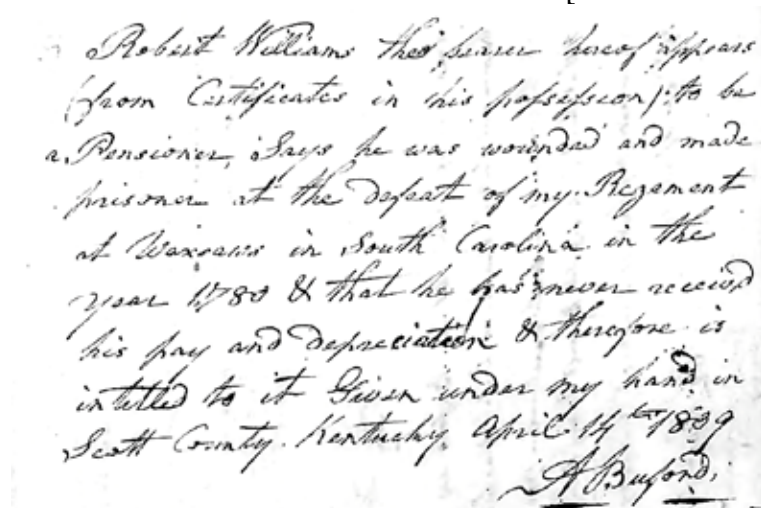
Referred to Claims

rejected January 5th 1812

reported January 6th

Robert Williams the bearer hereof appears (from Certificates in his possession) to be a Pensioner, Says he was wounded and made prisoner at the defeat of my Regiment at Waxhaws in South Carolina in the year 1780 & that he has never received his pay and depreciation & therefore is entitled to it. Given under my hand in Scott County Kentucky April 14th, 1809

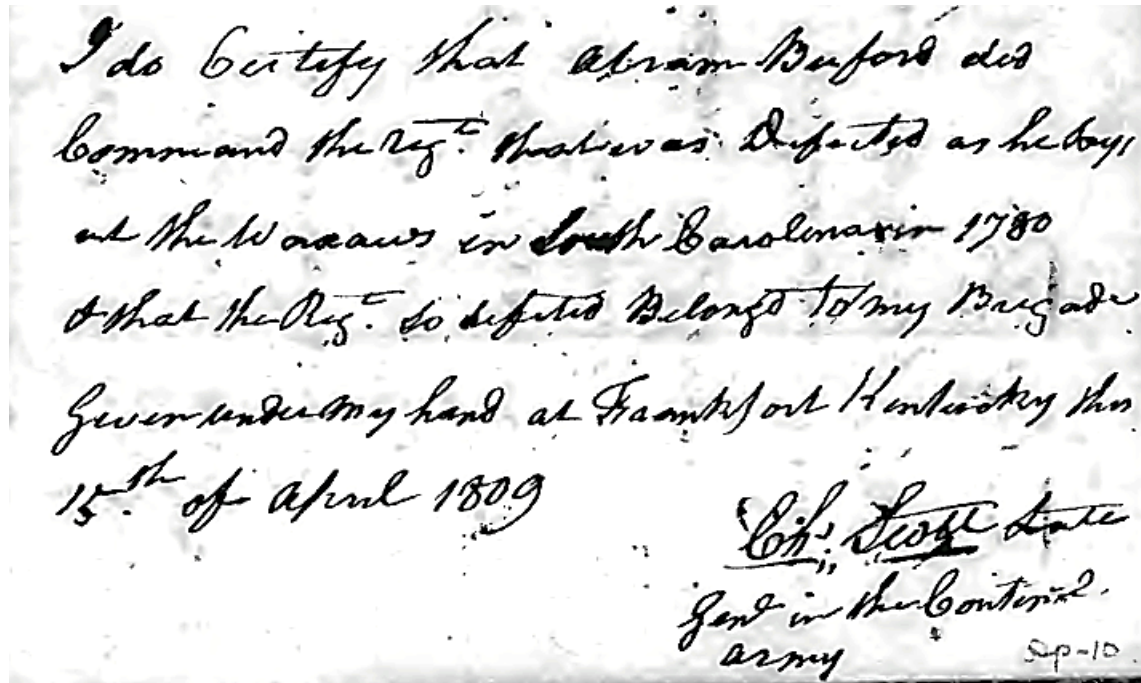
S/ A. Buford [Abraham Buford]



Robert Williams the bearer hereof appears
(from Certificates in his possession) to be
a Pensioner, Says he was wounded and made
prisoner at the defeat of my Regiment
at Waxhaws in South Carolina in the
year 1780 & that he has never received
his pay and depreciation & therefore is
entitled to it Given under my hand in
Scott County Kentucky April 14th 1809
A. Buford

I do Certify that Abram Buford did command the Regiment that was Defeated as he says at the Waxhaws in South Carolina 1780 & that the Regiment so Defeated belonged to my Brigade. Given under my hand at Frankfort Kentucky this 15th of April 1809

S/ Chs. Scott Late [Charles Scott]
General in the Continental Army



I do Certify that Abram Buford did
Command the Reg^t that was Defeated as he says
at the Waxhaws in South Carolina in 1780
& that the Reg^t so defeated Belonged to my Brigade
Given under my hand at Frankfort Kentucky this
15th of April 1809

Chs. Scott Late
Gen^l in the Continental
Army

Sp-10

[Another file]

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the house of Delegates
The petition of Robert Williams of Hampshire County & State of Virginia
Respectfully represents, that in the year 1779 he enlisted in the service of the United States under the command of Colonel Hite of the eleventh Regiment, who was authorized by Congress to raise troops. In the spring following he was turned over to Colonel Bluford under the command of General Scott of the eleventh Regiment, that in, or about the year 83 he settled his account with the Auditor (Colonel Harvey) & received a certificate for the amount of his services rendered, which is thirty-four pounds fifteen shillings as well as memory will permit (though the records will show the amount) your petitioner was induced to believe that paper money at that time was of no value & did not receive compensation for his services, Your Petitioner also represents that in or about the year 83, his papers that relate to the principal and interest of his claim on the United States, was burnt in the house of a certain George Scott in the State of Maryland, in the same year who had the charge of them, he also lost two children in the said house at the same time. Your petitioner begs leave to State he is very old and infirm, occasioned by scars on the head and other parts of his body which has very materially injured his site & also hopes that this Honorable body will interfere and permit him to receive his just rights; he is deprived of by the this misfortune of losing his papers, which sum of thirty-four pounds fifteen shillings he has earned in support of his Countries just and equitable rights, & has been

deprived of the satisfaction of a family in consequence of his wounds.

S/ Robert Williams, X his Mark

[Attested in the City of Richmond Virginia December 12, 1816]

[Reverse]

Robert Williams' Petition

from Hampshire County

Reasonable

For arrears during the revolutionary war

Reported December 17th 1816

December 9th 1817

Referred to Claims

Bill drawn

Registered