

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Littlefield S4560

fn19SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/28/10 rev'd 7/19/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Carroll County: County Court December Term 1832

On this tenth day of December A.D. 1832 personally appeared in the County Court, now holding for said County William Littlefield Senior a resident of said County and State aged seventy-six years on the 16th day of May last, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of and Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

The declarant was born, in the Province of Maryland and County of Frederick on the 16th of May A.D. 1756, where he resided until he was about 17 years old, when his father's family removed to South Carolina; on Fair forest Creek, which is situated in the now County of Union, where he resided until after the close of the Revolutionary War.

This declarant states that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the month of July 1776, This deponent was drafted into a company of Militia to serve a tour of six weeks, on the frontiers of South Carolina, in order to protect them from the Cherokee Indians. The Company to which this declarant belonged was commanded by Captain William Plummer. There were several other Companies drafted at the same time, and for the same service. The Colonel commanding the Regiment was by the name of John Thomas, and the Lieutenant Colonel was by the name of William Worfford [sic, William Wofford]. The declarant states that they rendezvoused at Prince's Fort, South Carolina, shortly after a division of the company to which he belonged was marched up the mountains on the frontiers commanded by Lieutenant Renny Blew,¹ for the before mentioned purposes. Declarant further states that after their term of service was expired, they were relieved by another detachment, when they returned home, having been dismissed by their Officers, until they should again be called upon.

In the month of October, same year, declarant states he was again called out, to march higher up, to the protection of "Earle's Fort," under the command of his aforesaid Captain William Plummer; He states that they were stationed at this Fort, where he served a tour of one month; after the expiration of its which time they were dismissed by their Captain, and returned home. This Declarant further states, that about two years afterwards, he was again drafted to go,

¹ Bobby Moss lists this man as Reney Belieu in his *SC Patriots* book. Marcia McClure points out that this man signed his name "Renney Belue" in several documents signed by him. Marcia provided the following example of Belue's signature.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renney Belue". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right. The signature is written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

into the State of Georgia for the protection of it against the Creek Indians to serve a tour of two months. The Company to which this declarant was attached was commanded by Captain Thomas Blassingam,² and there Colonel was John Thomas. They were marched out of South Carolina (now Union County) into the State of Georgia, "Philips' Fort" on the frontiers, where they joined a Regiment of Georgia troops commanded by Colonel Benjamin Few. They then marched out on the Oconee River, in Georgia, against the Creek Indians, but met with none. They were then ordered to return to the Fort, after having remained here a short time they were marched back into South Carolina, their term of service being out, they were dismissed by their respective Officers. This declarant further states, that in the month of April 1781, he was again drafted to go down, to Orangeburg South Carolina; on the Edisto [River], to serve a tour of 2 months against the British and Tories. They were marched down under the command of Colonel Benjamin Roebuck, and Captain George Roebuck. They here joined three Regiments Commanded by Colonels Fair, Hammond and Beard. This deponent states that they remained there until their term of service was expired, when they were marched back home by their respective Officers and dismissed.

This Deponent continued to reside in the State of South Carolina until the 12th of January A.D. 1831, when he removed to this County, where he has continued to reside ever since. He has no documentary evidence of his claim and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or a nobody except the present, and declares that his name, is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Edward Givin, Clerk

S/ William Littlefield

sworn to
William Littlefield

[Ephraim Park & Walker Thelford gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Spartanburg District: Personally appeared Mr. William Smith³ who declared on oath that the day after the Battle at Blackstocks; I was sent back to reconnoiter & find out where Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] and his [indecipherable word, looks like "Armagh" probably intended to be "Army"] was, and found them encamped on the battleground. I immediately took a higs [?] in pane [plain?] view of them. While there [I] saw two men cross the River and take the road from the ford, immediately fell in the rear of them, & Tarleton's Armagh [Army?] before they went far up the road. We galloped upon them and ordered them to surrender and they did so and ^{Threw down t} William Littlefields was one of the two men. I was well acquainted with him so as to know him.

Sworn to this 24th September 1835

S/ James Hamm, JQ

S/ Wm Smith

James Hamm

[fn p. 19]

² Bobby Moss lists this man as Thomas Blessingham.

³ [William Smith W22272](#)

South Carolina Spartanburg District:

Whereas it has been represented that William Littlefields formerly of Union district South Carolina and afterwards of Spartanburg District in the State aforesaid, best now and for some time since residing in Carroll County Tennessee, is now on the pension roll of the United States.

Therefore we the subscribers for the purpose of protecting the government against fraud, do hereby certify that we were well acquainted with the said William Littlefields before, during the time of, and after the revolutionary war and have every reason to believe that said Littlefields was a Tory and served in the British and Tory armies during said war and we do further certify that after the revolution it was the general opinion of the neighborhood that said Littlefields never served in the American Army, but was engaged on the other side, We the subscribers therefore being on the pension [fn p. 13] him and him and him roll ourselves, and wishing to protect our Country against such an outrageous fraud have made the above certificate.

Sworn and subscribed to before made this 24th^{Sept.} 1835

S/ John O'Shields, X his mark⁴

S/ Jethro O'Shields, X his mark⁵

[fn p. 13]

South Carolina Spartanburg District: Personally appeared Samuel Smith⁶ before me and in due form of law on oath declares that he was personally acquainted with William Little Fields [sic] in the time of the Revolutionary War of Independent; this deponent saith that he saw said Wm Littlefield under arms with the Tories; and he was notorious known as an enemy to his Country; and he resided first in Captain union District – then he moved to Spartanburg District South Carolina, and now lives in Carroll County Tennessee. Sworn this 24th day of September 1835

S/ Saml. Smith



[fn p. 16]

South Carolina Union District: Personally came William Lancaster of the State District aforesaid before me the subscribing Justice and made oath that he was and now is well acquainted with a certain William Littlefields of Carroll County West Tennessee and knows that the said Littlefields now resides and West Tennessee Carroll County in this deponent supposes the said William Littlefields to be about 80 or 90 years of age -- he has many scarves over his forehead and it was well understood when I saw him the said W. Littlefields in West Tennessee in last of April that he was a Revolutionary Pensioner and draws his pension from the United States. Also this deponent knows that the said William Littlefields did reside for many years and Union District South Carolina and then he the said Littlefields did remove to the District of Spartanburg South Carolina and there remained for many years and I understood the Littlefields did remove from there to the West where I saw him in April.

Sworn to Subscribed to before made this 22nd of September 1835

S/ Jeffrey Palmer, JP

S/ William Lancaster

⁴ [John O'Shields S18146](#)

⁵ [Jethro O'Shields \(O'Sheals, Osheal, Oshiel\) S18144](#)

⁶ [Samuel Smith S19093](#)

William Lancaster

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum.]