

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John China S46593

f29SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 5/26/11 & 6/22/16


[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.]

State of South Carolina, Sumter District

Personally appeared in open Court on the 30th day of October 1832 the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas now sitting for the district aforesaid John China Senior resident of Sumter District aged Sixty seven years and ten months 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 7, 1832.

This deponent says that he was born on the 8 [sic] day of December 1764 in the district of Marlborough in the State aforesaid and removed to Sumter district when very young and still reside [sic] in said district and State aforesaid and this deponent further saith that he entered the Service of the United States in the State of South Carolina under General Marion's [Francis Marion's] Brigade of Militia as a Soldier in September 1781 Colonel Richardson [Richard Richardson, Jr.], Colonel James [John James] and Major Gamble [Robert Gamble? or William B. Gamble?] were his regimental officers and that Captain William Dukes, Lieutenant Joseph Fox & Joseph Terry were his company officers. That he remained in said Brigade & under said officers ten months as a volunteer and in the month of August following said deponent enlisted in the State of South Carolina Service in Colonel Maham's [Hezekiah Maham's] Corps of Horse for three years under Major James Conyers & Captain James Theus and remained in said Corps until January 1783 and that on leaving the service he received no regular written discharge. This applicant further saith that he was in no general engagement but in Several Skirmishes in the State aforesaid and that the services of said applicant were performed within the State of South Carolina and this deponent doth hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that his name is not on the pension [roll] of any agency of any State except the State of South Carolina.

S/John China



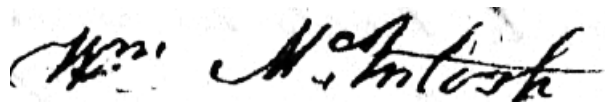
S/ B. J. Earle, Presiding judge in open Court

[Reverend Thomas D Glenn, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Sumter at District: William McIntosh¹ a Soldier of the Revolution appears that makes oath that he was acquainted with Mr. China in the Revolution that he knows of Mr. China's having performed the service referred to in General Marion's Brigade and in Colonel Maham's Corps of Horse. Sworn and Subscribed

S/ Wm McIntosh

¹ [William McIntosh S9424](#)



[p 5]

South Carolina Sumter District:

Personally came before me John China Senior, and made oath that he served as a private Soldier in General Marion's Brigade of Militia from September 1781 to August 1782 when he enlisted in Colonel Maham's Corps of Horse, under Majors Conyers & Giles, the term of Militia Service was performed under Captain Dukes, the most of the time and served as a private in said Corps of Horse six months, The services were performed mostly through the lower part of South Carolina.

Sworn to before me 2nd May 1832

S/ John Hemphill

S/ John China

[p 7]

South Carolina, Sumter District

Personally appeared before me the undersigned Justice of the Peace of the District and State aforesaid John China, Senior, who being duly sworn deposed and saith; that in September 1781 he volunteered his services as a common Soldier in General Marion's Brigade of Militia, whilst the Regiment was encamped at Doughty's plantation on Santee River. He was there placed in a company commanded by the following officers: William Dukes, Captain, Joseph Fox, 1st Lieutenant, Joseph Kerry, 2nd Lieutenant. The Regiment to which this company was attached was commanded by Colonel Richard Richardson, Lieutenant Colonel John James and Major Gamble. He served in this Regiment as a private or common Soldier ten months. He was in no Battle during this time but recollects the following engagements of the Brigade: In a month after joining the Brigade it moved from its station at Doughty's, 10 or 12 miles lower down the River to Canty's [sic, Cantey's] plantation. Whilst here this deponent was sent with a detachment of militia drafted to accompany Colonel Maham's Corps of Horse on an expedition to Haddrell's Point. He was detached from the command of his immediate company officers and does not now recollect the immediate officers in command of his company. This detachment continued out on duty eight days during which time this deponent was in a skirmish at Wapetaw [sic, Wappetaw] Meeting House² with the British who had fortified the Meeting House and encamped there. In this skirmish some of the enemy were killed and some taken prisoners. After this the detachment returned to the Brigade which from time to time changed its position up and down Santee River until December 1781 when it encamped at Strawberry Ferry on Cooper River. While it was here this deponent – with 10 or 12 others were dispatched as a guard to an officer who had in charge a cart loaded with something to be conveyed as he believes to the neighborhood of Dorchester, near this place they received intelligence that some Tories were encamped in a neighboring Bay. They repaired there and took them prisoners. In the mean time the Brigade had removed to Silk Hope bridge where this detachment rejoined them. The Brigade moved from there to a place called the Burnt Camps. From there to Wamba [sic, Wambaw Creek]. At this place, whilst Genl. Marion was absent attending the Legislative Assembly at Jacksonborough, the Brigade was surprised by the enemy and many [were] killed; among the killed was Major Benson [John Benson]³ whose Corps of Horse suffered the greatest loss. After this the Brigade encamped on the North side of the river at Daniel Horry's plantation where it

² <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/wappetawbr.htm>

³ Major William Benison and Major Thomas Benison were also killed in that action and it is possible the veteran was referring to one of these other majors when he stated that "Major Benson" was killed in the action. See, http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html

remained for some time. In June 1782 after moving to different places it encamped on Pee Dee River at Birches Mill. From thence across the River to a savanna called Bowling Green in what is now called Marion District. From this place this deponent was sent on an expedition after the Tories. The detachment he thinks, but is not distinct in his recollection, was under the command of Colonel McCauley. His company was under the command of Captain Malone. Deponent thinks they were a fortnight out on this expedition and joined the Brigade lower down the Pee Dee River than the place they left it.

In July or August, the Brigade was attacked at Wadbo [sic, Wadboo] Bridge by the British who had one of their Captains of Horse killed but no one of note among the Americans was killed. The Brigade moved from this place higher up on Santee [River] where this deponent in August 1782 enlisted as a common soldier in the State Troops in Colonel Maham's Corps of Horse at that time commanded by Major James Conyers, for the term of three years and under the immediate command of Captain Theus. He continued in this Corps as a private until the middle of January 1783 making a period of near six months. Two months of this time he was sick and unable to do active service but continued with the sick of the Corps. In December 1782 when the Corps to which this deponent was attached lay at Cane High Island, he obtained a furlough to spend the Christmas Holidays at home. In his absence the Corps was dismantled there being no further call for their immediate services. He rejoined them on Santee [River] but found no officers. He remained there about a fortnight and then came home about the middle of January 1783 after the British had evacuated Charleston. Making the whole time of service of this deponent a period of Sixteen months. This deponent received no written discharge and has lost his furlough.

S/John China

Sworn to before the this 15th day of August 1833

S/Joseph J. Crosby

[Facts in file: Veteran died August 24, 1847; there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$53.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 16 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁴ relating to John China
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1242 & 1248D

AA28 & 3

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/19/19 & 8/21/19

[p 2]

No. 50

No. 415, Book R

John China, for 101 days duty in Militia in 1782, also for a horse lost.

Amount £11.8.6 ³/₄

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3]

State of South Carolina

To John China

Dr.

1782

⁴ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

[p 8]

Sir Please to Deliver to Mr. John Dinkins or order such Indent or Indents as appears due to me in your office & oblige your Humble Servant

August 1st 1791

S/ John China

[p 11]

State of South Carolina Sumter District }
To the ~~Speaker~~^{President} and other members of the Senate of South Carolina
The Humble petition of John China Senior Sheweth

That he was a Revolutionary Soldier he entered the Service of South Carolina in the year 1781 and in the month of October he served under General Francis Marion from October 1781 to August 1782 and then was removed from the command of Marion to that of Col. Maham in his Troop and continued under the command of Col. Maham until the British Army Left Charleston [the British evacuated Charleston South Carolina in December 1782] and he further Sheweth that he received no compensation except a certificate for one month's service in the Militia only his daily rations [rations] and that he had lived to enjoy the blessings of a free government which he would conceive ample Satisfaction, for all the fatigues & Toils of the Camp but the Senate of South Carolina in their Wisdom & Benevolence have established a pension Law by which they allow to the worn out Soldier a small pittance per annum of \$60 he further Sheweth from his annexed Schedule that he does not possess a sufficient quantity of the good things of this world to afford him and Wife the common Comforts of life and as age has advanced and time cannot remove his former Strent [strength?] but daily advancing for the worst which is the only cause on earth that would induce him to apply to his country for the necessary Assistance to afford him in his advanced days to present himself to your Honorable House with the annexed certificates and his own affidavit he hopes that your Honorable body will grant him a pension and your Humble Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray –

Sumter District

15th April 1827

[p 13]

The following is a Schedule of the property of John China Senior, Viz., Two Feather Beds & furniture, Two Bed Sheets, 6 Settings China, one Cloth Loom, one Spinning wheel, 1 Spooling wheel, two pine Tables, One Trunk, to Side Irons one Cutting Axe, 2 Potts, 1 Dutch oven, 1 Spider, 1 Tea Cattle, 1 Skillet, 6 Plates, ½ dozen knives & forks one Dish

South Carolina Sumter District } Personally appeared before me John China and made oath that the above Schedule contains a correct Statement of his Whole Estate.

Sworn to before me

15 November 1827

S/ John China

S/ John Nettles, CC P & U Q

[p 15-16: identically worded petition addressed to the South Carolina Legislature]

[p 18]

State South Carolina Sumter District } We do certify that we are well acquainted with John China and do know that he served as Member of the Militia of General Marion's Brigade during the year 1781 and 1782 and that We frequently during the time were in Company with him.

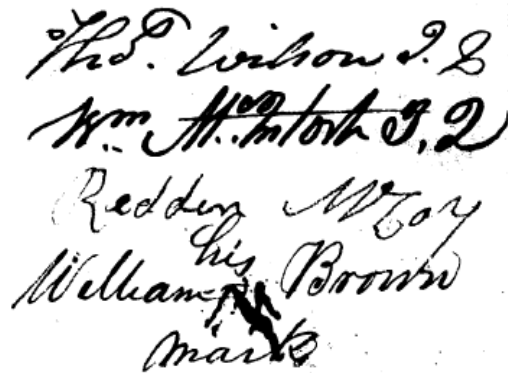
S/ Amos A. Nettles, Testified to Wm Brown's mark

S/ Thos. Wilson, JQ⁵

S/ Wm McIntosh, JQ

S/ Reddin McCoy⁶

S/ William Brown,⁷ X his mark



Thos. Wilson J. Q.
Wm. McIntosh J. Q.
Reddin McCoy
William Brown
X his mark

[p 19]

The State of South Carolina Sumter District }

Personally appeared before me William McIntosh Esquire who being duly Sworn saith that he is personally acquainted with Captain John China Senior of said State and district that he has been acquainted with said China for some time previous to the close of the Revolutionary War down to the present period that he was with the said China in General Marion's brigade in the year 1781 and 1782 that in the latter part of the year 1782 he saw the said China as a private in a troop of horse but he is unable to say who was the commander of said Troop

Sworn to before me

this 3 March 1828

S/ Jos. J. Crosby

S/ Wm McIntosh

[p 20]

State of South Carolina Sumter District } Personally appeared before me Thomas Wilson Esquire who being sworn saith that he has been personally acquainted with Captain John China Senior of this district and State aforesaid from the year 1781 down to the present period that during the year 1781 & 1782 he frequently saw the said China in General Marion's encampment as a private soldier

Sworn to before me

this 3 March 1828

S/ Jos. J. Crosby, UQ

S/ Thos. Wilson

[pp 21-26: various favorable reports from the committee's on pensions of both the South Carolina Senate and House]

[pp 27-28: Receipts dating from June 10, 1829 to 4 March 1834 showing disbursements of pension payments of \$60 per annum to John China by the state of South Carolina.]

From AA1248D

[p 3]

⁵ [Thomas Wilson S18285](#)

⁶ [Redden McCoy S7198](#)

⁷ [William Brown SC929](#)

gentlemen Please to deliver to Eli Friedman order all my Indents they were for my services in Colonel Maham's Regiment of Light Dragoons Captain Cooper's Company as will appear by the return of said Regiment your Compliance with this will greatly oblige Gentlemen your very Humble Servant

S/ John China

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John China". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

I do hereby certify the above
order was signed in my presence
This 6th day of June 1792
S/ Jesse Nettles, JP
Claremont County

To William Hort Esquire
Treasurer State of South Carolina