

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Stromatt Head S6995

f45SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/1/11: rev'd 5/20/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Georgia Morgan County: July 11th day in the year of our Lord 1846 Inferior Court for such County and State commenced in Madison, there were present their Honors Justices John Robson, Elijah E Jones, William S Stokes when the following proceedings was taken in the matter of the application of John S Head for a pension under the Act of the 7 June 1832 – State of Georgia Morgan County: SS

On this the eleventh day of July in the year of our Lord 1846 personally appeared in Open Court before the Inferior Court for the said County and State now sitting John S Head a resident of said County and State aged eighty-three years on the 5th day of August ensuing: 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 7 of June 1832 – That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated – Entered the service of the United States under Captain Thomas Farrow, Colonel Benjamin Roebuck, Major ___ White [probably Major Henry White] in the State of South Carolina shortly after the defeat of Colonel Fauguson [sic, Patrick Ferguson] at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] the precise day this deponent cannot say, but believes it was somewhere about the middle of the month of October in the year of our Lord 1780 – his services consisted of various scouting parties in the State of South Carolina until the Company joined General Morgan's [Daniel Morgan's] detachment some short time before the defeat of Colonel Tarleton was in the engagement,¹ after the battle marched with General Morgan's detachment to the State of North Carolina Crossed the Catawba River at Bateys [sic, Beatties] Ford; at that place joined a detachment of six-weeks men under Captain J. Potts – after Lord Cornwallis was on his return march through the Carolinas, was engaged in the pursuit of his Army where several prisoners were taken; joined the detachment under General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] and marched to Ninety Six² was in the engagement at that place this last service was under Colonel Roebuck and Captain Farrow: was employed from this time to the Close of the war in various scouting parties: this deponent saith that it is impossible for him to say positively the length of time he was in service reference being had to the time he entered the service about the 15th of October 1780 to the close of the war will more fully show. This deponent entered the service as a volunteer in the State of South Carolina

¹ The Battle of the Cowpens January 17, 1781.

https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

² The Siege of Ninety Six May 22, 1781-June 19, 1781.

https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

Spartanburg district; the discharges which he received for his services have long since been lost or destroyed; and further he knows of no living testimony by which he can substantiate his Claim. Captain Thomas Farrow under whom he served together with John Farrow has as this deponent understands from letters herewith attached died some years since: he has no documentary evidence to establish his Claim other than the Certificate of an indent from the Comptroller General Office of the State of South Carolina which is also herewith attached. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State. Sworn and subscribed before us in open Court day and date above written.

S/ John S. Head

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John S. Head". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

Questions by the Court: Where and in what year were you born.

Answer. Born in Culpeper County State of Virginia in the year 1763.

Question 2. Have you any record of your age; if so where is it.

Answer. I had a record of my age it is at my son's, James Head in Gwinnett County State of Georgia.

Question 3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live.

Answer – State of South Carolina Spartanburg district. I have lived since the Revolutionary [war] in Elbert, Gynette [Gwinnett] & Morgan County [Georgia]. I have now no permanent home here and still live with my son in Gwinnett County and at Mr. Stephen Jones in Morgan County where I have been staying lately.

Question 4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom.

Answer – all my services was as a volunteer

Question 5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the Troops where you served; such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general Circumstances of your service.

Answer – General Morgan and General Pickens & others the general Circumstances have been detailed so far as recollected in the foregoing declaration.

Question 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Answer. I received a discharge for some portion of the service, which has been lost or destroyed long since.

Question 7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer – Stephen Jones & Thomas Hammond are both well acquainted with me and will testify that they believe I was a soldier of the Revolution –

[Stephen Jones gave a standard supporting affidavit. There was a blank left in the standard supporting application form for the name and signature of a clergyman.]

[p 23: Kinchin Rambo, a clergyman, and resident of Gynette [Gwinnett] County Georgia gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[pp 8-9: There is an original family record but it is so faint as to be completely illegible. What follows is an abstract of that information as contained in the letters from the War Department. "This soldier married Barbara who was born June 19, 1771. Her maiden name and the date and place of marriage were not given.

 Their children were

Elizabeth born May 7, 1787

Cathrine born January 15, 1789

Giney born November 11, 1790

Nancy born October 25, 1791

Unety born May 27, 1793

James born November 23, 1795

Polly born May 19, 1798

John S born August 23, 1800

Fanny born June 3, 1802

Thomas born July 11, 1804, married July 8, 1824, Patsy Williams who was born May 22, 1810"

 [in addition, the following entries were also noted]

Lucinday Carroline, the daughter of Thomas and his wife, Patsy, was born made to, 1826

Nancy Garner Head borne August 2, 1828

John Williams Head born March 7, 1830]

[p 19: letter dated June 9 1846 from P. Farrow reading in relevant part as follows: "I received yours of the 15th of Ultimo a few days since, and am sorry I cannot render Mr. Head the service you request. My father Tho. Farrow³ who was a Revolutionary Pensioner died about two years ago & shortly after my uncle John Farrow⁴ also a pensioner died. The only surviving brother of them is William Farrow who resides in Mississippi & who being too young to participate in the War, would not I presume know anything that would benefit Mr. Head."]

[p 26]

Examination of John S Head

Taken by Alexander Stephens 20 November 1846

He says the first term of service he rendered in the war was in Spartanburg SC under Captain Thomas Farrar [Thomas Farrow] – this was a short time after Ferguson's defeat – not many days – he kept with Captain Farrar until he joined Captain Morgan's Army – and was in the battle at the Cowpens – after that battle he went on with Morgan's Army under one Captain Potts (he thinks was his name) – over the main Catawba River. When Cornwallis crossed the Catawba he was at a Ford below Beatties Ford when Cornwallis crossed – he was [one or more indecipherable words] sound there – near enough to hear the guns – General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] was killed [February 1, 1781] there as he understood. His company then followed after Cornwallis and he was discharged two or three weeks before the battle at Guilford [March 15, 1781]– this tour of service was the first but he does not know how long it was – He was young. This service was in the Infantry –

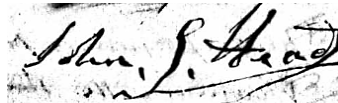
The next term commenced at the time that General Pickens came through that section. He then joined Captain Thomas Farrar's company again and joined Pickens Army – and went on down to Ninety Six – and joined General Greens [Nathanael Greene's] Army. He was at the

³ [Thomas Farrow S17946](#)

⁴ [John Farrow S21193](#)

siege of that place. Lord Roden [Rawdon] relieved the British – when Green went in pursuit to the Eutaw Springs – he remained in the service in that section – Soon after the Siege of Ninety Six Captain Farrar was wounded in a skirmish with some Tories under the command, he thinks, to the best of his recollection, one Captain Gray – Captain Farrar was shot through the hip – and he continued in this kind of service until Cornwallis was taken [Yorktown October 19, 1781]– he then received his indent and was discharged – he does not recollect how long this service was but he thinks it was nearly two years – [indecipherable word] perhaps more – His Colonels were Colonel Roebuck and Thomas [John Thomas, Jr.]. He thinks he was never two hundred miles from home when he was with Green – All the pay he got was an indent – which he sold in Charleston – for two yards of what was called Spanish broad cloth – and velvet to make a pair [of] pants & vest – and one [2 indecipherable words, looks like “macni hut”]⁵ – that is all he ever got. How it happened that the indent omitted the initial of his middle name he does not know. He says however that he was generally called John Head – and was [indecipherable word] to writing his name – and never told any person of his middle name which particularly inquired of as to his full name. He shows the record of his age – his birth – this was copied from the old family Bible of his father. It was copied. It was copied upwards of 30 years ago. The reason he has never before applied for a pension is that he was disinclined to do it. – He considered his services as a proper gift to the Country – and he thought it would be like begging – and did not do it – that lately he has become old and infirm and seeing others realizing the bounty of the Government he changed his opinion – He positively says that there is no other John Head in Farrar Company or Roebuck's.

S/ John S. Head



S/ Stephen Jones

Washington DC 10 December 1846

I Alexander H Stephens, do hereby certify that I know Mr. John S Head the above applicant and his character is good – he is a preacher of the gospel and is considered not only a man of truth but of piety – And I believe his statements to be true to the best of his recollection –
S/ Alexander H Stephens, Member of the House of Representatives

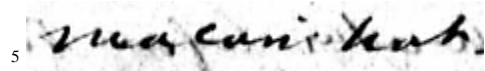
[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁶ relating to John Head
Audited Account No. 3483A

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5/20/22



⁵ ⁶ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) 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. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

[p 2]

[No.] 3539 [Book] X

No. 114

14 August 86 [1786]

John Head For Militia Duty in Roebuck's Regiment, since the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] per Anderson's [Col. Robert Anderson's] return [not extant] amounting to

[old South Carolina] Currency	<u>£359.0.0</u>
Sterling	£51.5.8 ½

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

[p 3]

Received full Satisfaction for the Above in an Indent No. 3539. X
S/ John head



[p 4: Printed form of Indent No. 3539 Book X]

[p 5: Reverse of the above Indent bearing endorsements including, among others, the following:

I do assign the Within Indent to John Harth

24th March 1787

S/ Thos. Brandon, JP

S/ John head

