

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Patterson S7288

f47SC/GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/18/09: rev'd 10/21/17

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 9]

State of South Carolina Abbeville District} SS

On this twenty third day of October A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court, (it being a court of record, which keeps a record of its proceedings & has been declared to be a court of record by the Legislature of the said State) before Richard Gantt one of the Judges of the Court of Sessions & Common Pleas of the said State now sitting Alexander Patterson Senior a resident of the District & State aforesaid, aged eighty-one years, 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: to wit: Lieutenant James Noble, he entered as a volunteer in the month of June 1775 & serve throughout the war as a Sergeant; that they marched to Fort Charlotte in the District & State aforesaid & there joined the State troops, the name of the commanding officer is not now recollected by this applicant. Near the end of the same year he was in an engagement at Ninety Six under the command of Colonel Williamson [Andrew Williamson] and Captain John Anderson against the Tories, soon after he was in another engagement under the same officers at Reedy River against the same Tories. He served several tours of duty in the State of Georgia, was in two engagements under the command of General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] against the Tories, one at a place called Fort Carr<sup>1</sup> & the other at Kettle Creek:<sup>2</sup> He served a tour under the command of General Pickens and Colonel Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] of Georgia in pursuit of the Indians; they burned one Indian town in the Cherokee nation and killed several Indians: He served in a tour of duty called the Florida expedition, under the command of Colonel Williamson: he was at the siege of Savannah under the command of the said Colonel Williamson, General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]<sup>3</sup> was commander in chief; he was at Tarleton's defeat at the Cowpens [January 17, 1781], under the command of Generals Morgan [Daniel Morgan] & Pickens: He was in an engagement under the command of General Pickens & Colonel Lee [Henry [”Light Horse Harry”] Lee] near the Hawfields in North Carolina against the

---

<sup>1</sup> Carr's Fort February 10, 1779

<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Latest-News-Wires/2013/0506/Frontier-fort-found-Revolutionary-War-battle-in-Georgia> & [www.thelamarinstitute.org/images/PDFs/publication\\_189.pdf](http://www.thelamarinstitute.org/images/PDFs/publication_189.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Kettle Creek February 14, 1779 <https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790214-kettle-creek/>

<sup>3</sup> Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

Tories<sup>4</sup>: He was in an engagement under the same officers at Reedy fork,<sup>5</sup> Haw River against the British commanded by Lord Cornwallis: He was at the siege of Ninety Six under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene].<sup>6</sup>

The precise periods of the above mentioned engagements he cannot recollect: He left this service at the close of the war in the year 1782 when there was nothing more for the soldier to do.

He served with the Continental regiments commanded by General Green [Nathanael Greene], Morgan, Lincoln & Lee respectively;

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 or states. He resided in the State & District aforesaid when he entered the service.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

And open Court

Test: S/ Jas Wardlaw, Clk

S/ Alex. Patterson, Senr. X his mark

[p 17]

State of South Carolina Abbeville District:

The Amended Declaration of Alexander Patterson Senior of the District & State aforesaid in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, made this 17th day of September A.D. 1833 before Moses Taggart Esquire Judge of the Court of Ordinary (it being a court of record, and having a seal of office for Abbeville District) at the residence of the said Alexander Patterson Senior.

This Declarant in addition to his declaration in chief, says; That the precise length of time he served he cannot now recollect, he being old and infirm, frail in both body & mind, but according to the best of his recollection & belief he served, in actual service, in the various tours mentioned in his Declaration in chief, not less than 2 years and 6 months, during which time he was not engaged in any civil pursuit whatever, he served the whole time as a Sergeant. This Declarant further states that he is now not able, from bodily infirmity to attend at Abbeville Court house in open Court without endangering his life, & he hopes that the War Department will not require it of him.

Answers to the Interrogatories<sup>7</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> The MAY be a reference to the engagement known as Pyle's Defeat which occurred on February 25, 1781.

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/pyles.htm> & [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_haw\\_river.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_haw_river.html)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_reedy\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_reedy_creek.html)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_ninety\\_six.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html)

<sup>7</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your

Answer to the first Interrogatory. I was born in the County Town, Ireland in the year 1751.

Answer to 2nd. I have no record of my age.

Answer to 3rd. I was living in Abbeville District State of South Carolina where I have lived ever since & where I now live.

Answer to 4th. I was a volunteer & continued as such through the war.

Answer to 5th. General Lincoln, I served 2 tours with him, the Florida Expedition, and at the siege of Savannah, General Williamson was also along & by him I was commanded -- I was also with General Morgan from towards the end of the war; was in an engagement with the Tories at Ninety Six, was in the engagement against the Tories at Reedy River was in the engagement at Fort Carr and Kettle Creek; was at Tarleton's defeat at the Cowpens; was in an engagement at Hawfields in said was in an engagement at Reedy fork, Haw River, and was at the siege of Ninety Six.

Answer to the 6th. I never received a written discharge.

Answer to 7th. Robert McCaslin, Patrick Gibson, Esquire, Josiah McGaw, John Kennedy, Abner Perrin, William Robinson

Sworn to the day & year aforesaid before

S/ Moses Taggart, Judge

S/ Alexander Patterson, Sr., X his mark

[Isaac W. Waddel, a clergyman, Robert McCaslan, Patrick Gibson, Josiah McGaw, John Kennedy, Abner Perrin and George McFarland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 14]

The amended declaration of Alexander Patterson of Abbeville District South Carolina

This declarant the said Alexander Patterson being duly sworn according to law, says that he served as a militia man although he was a considerable part of his time, with the Continental Army. That he entered the service as a volunteer not for any definite period, but to serve as occasion might require, he was ordered (as he understood) by Major Williamson afterwards Colonel Williamson) to Fort Charlotte as a reinforcement to guard the Fort from an expected attack from the Tories, he was out he thinks about 2 weeks, he then was dismissed and returned home; in the month of November the same year 1775, he was again ordered out by the same officer and marched to Ninety Six where he was in an engagement with the Tories he was out on this tour about 3 weeks & returned home; the next tour on Reedy River about 20 days the last tour he was on this tour not less than 3 weeks here he was in an engagement with the Tories; he performed several tours of duty in the State of Georgia, one tour under the command of General Pickens in this tour he had 2 engagements, one at Fort Carr and the other at Kettle Creek, this tour was not less than one month and he had to return home with his brother who was wounded, he set off on this tour he thinks in February 1777 in the fall following he was again called out [to] perform [?] a tour of duty in Georgia under the command of General Pickens, Captain McGaw in this tour he was with Colonel Clarke of Georgia, he was out in this tour not less than 3 months, when he again returned home. The next tour was the Florida Expedition, this declarant thinks in the year 1778 he was called out by Colonel Williamson he was out not less than 3 months on this tour -- at this time he returned home. Afterwards he thinks in the year 1779 he was again called out into the State of Georgia in this tour he was at the siege of Savannah under Colonel Williamson, General Lincoln was the commander in chief, Lieutenant James Noble acted as our Captain, he was out on this service he thinks not less than 3 months --

---

character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

after which he thinks in November 1780 he was again called out and continued out in actual service until August of the next year, in which tour he was at Tarleton's defeat at the Cowpens, in engagements at the Hawfields in North Carolina at Hillsborough and Reedy fork -- and was at the siege of Ninety Six -- he was again out in a tour in service after the Indians in this tour he was out not less than 3 weeks. This declarant says that the precise time when the above service was rendered, and the length of service he cannot now recollect and he says that he served tours not now recollected above but he cannot recollect them with sufficient certainty to make mentioned of them here.

Upon his first tour this declarant says he was out not less than		2 weeks
2 tour not less than		3 "
3 not less than		3 "
4 not less than	<u>1 month</u>	0 "
& returned with his wounded brother	3 months	00
[page break in the original]		
brought over		3 months
5 Tour not less than		3 "
6 " not less than		3 moths
7 <sup>th</sup> " not less than		3
8 " not less than		9
9 " not less than		<u>3 weeks</u>
		1 year 9 months 3 weeks

This declarant now upon his oath says that he served in actual service not less than one year & 9 months & 3 weeks as above stated for which he claims a pension

Sworn to and subscribed this 21st March 1834 before

S/ Patrick Gibson, JQ

S/ Alexander Patterson, X his mark

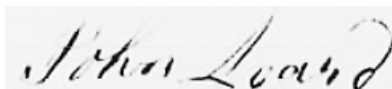
[p 23]

State of South Carolina Abbeville District: I John Leard<sup>8</sup> being duly sworn according to law upon my oath say that I know that Mr Alexander Patterson Senior was a revolutionary soldier, that I served with him in this State and in the State of Georgia several long tours I served with him in the engagement at Kettle Creek in Georgia under the command of General Pickens; I was with him in the siege of Ninety Six in South Carolina under the command of General Greene, I have lived near the said Patterson since the year 1767 I have been well acquainted with him & knows that he is a man of strict veracity & a worthy citizen & that I believe he is of the age that he states in his declaration.

Sworn to in open court the day & year aforesaid before

Test: S/ Jas Wardlaw, Clk

S/ John Leard



[p 3]

State of South Carolina Abbeville District: in the Court of Ordinary: Deposition of John Kennedy

---

<sup>8</sup> [John Leard S21862](#)

...

I the said John Kennedy having been duly sworn according to law do depose & say as follows:

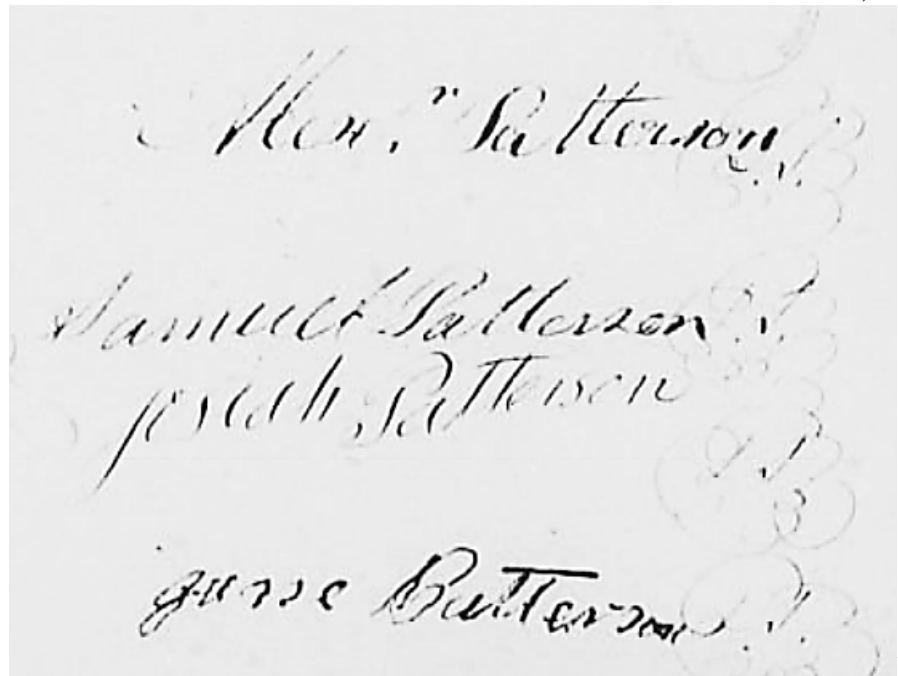
I was well acquainted with Alexander Patterson Senior late of Abbeville District, now deceased; I knew him for about 20 years -- I lived near to his residence; and I knew his children. The said Alexander Patterson Senior died on the 8th day of June 1839 at his residence in the district aforesaid leaving no widow, but the following children him surviving, to wit Alexander Patterson, Malcomb [sic, Malcolm?] Patterson, Samuel Patterson, Josiah Patterson, & Jane Patterson and grandchildren John Patterson, Jane Patterson & Mary Patterson children of James Patterson deceased who was a son of the said Alexander Patterson Senior: the following are all the children of the said Alexander Patterson Senior. Of the above children, Josiah Patterson & Jane Patterson and all the grandchildren John Patterson, Jane Patterson & Mary Patterson now live in Abbeville District aforesaid on long cane, the other children to wit, Alexander Patterson and Samuel Patterson were lately in the district and State aforesaid but reside, the said Alexander Patterson in Meriwether County in the State of Georgia and the said Samuel in Morgan County in the State of Alabama and Malcolm Patterson now resides in Morgan County in the State of Alabama. All the above named children except Jane Patterson & Mary Patterson children of James Patterson deceased are now of legal age.

Sworn to in open court the day & year above stated.

S/ David Lesly, Judge

S/ John Kennedy

[p 19: On December 7, 1841 in Abbeville District South Carolina, Alexander Patterson, Samuel Patterson, Josiah Patterson and Jane Patterson executed a power of attorney stating that they are the lawful children of Alexander Patterson Senior who died June 8, 1839.



The image shows three handwritten signatures in cursive script, stacked vertically. The top signature reads "Sam. Patterson.", the middle one reads "Josiah Patterson", and the bottom one reads "James Patterson.". The signatures are written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$71.88 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 21 months and 17 days in the South Carolina and Georgia militia.]