

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Culbreath S8271

Transcribed by Will Graves

f50GA

rev'd 7/1/16

[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.]

[p 8]

State of Georgia, County of Harris

On the 26th day of April 1841 Personally came before me William L. Culbreath, a Justice of the peace in and for said County, James Culbreath, Sr., a Resident of said County in said State aged now Eighty-two years old Being Born the 16th day of March 1759 or 60 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 the 7th June 1832 – Entitled An act supplementary to the Act for the Relief of Certain Surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Revolution, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated --

1st Interrogatory Where and in what year were you born?

A: I was born in Macklinbugh [sic, Mecklenburg] County in Virginia in the year 1759 or 60, by the best Information.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

A: I have no Record of my age. My parents was illiterate but they informed me my age as above and I know by other particular circumstances to be so

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

Applicant answers and says -- I resided in the State of Georgia, at the time of Entering the County and State aforesaid and have lived in the Counties of Richmond & Columbia since the year 1771. Except [when] Absent in the Service – Ever since the Revolutionary War till 1835 When I Moved to this Harris County, Georgia.

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

The applicant answers and says – he served a part of the time as a Substitute – but most of the time a volunteer, as the answers of the following Interrogatories will prove more fully.

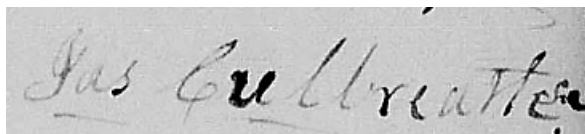
5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service-- to which the declarant answers: in the year 1777 I was under Captain Reed at Newsom's ponds Ga. against the Creek Indians and under him at Fulsom's fort against them there also three weeks – we was released by Colonel H. Chandler and in the [year] 1778, I was three months & upwards in the Florida Expedition under Major L. Gardner, as a substitute for John Shackelford, General Elbert [Samuel Elbert] commanded. In the year 1779, I was under Colonel Robert Middleton and Colonel James Ingraham against the British at or near the Big Spirit Creek Saw Mill – Two weeks When Colonel Campbell was on his way to Augusta Georgia at which time a skirmish took place. I was under Colonel L. Marbary[?] -- on the South Side of Spirit Creek– when General Ash [sic, John Ashe] was Defeated, near Briar Creek [March 3, 1779] in

the same year. I was at the Siege of Savannah, Georgia under Captain Charles Crawford, General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] commanded the American troops. Count D Astang [sic, Charles Hector Theodat, Comte d'Estaing] and DeGrace [sic, Francois Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse] the French Troops, Colonel Benjamin Few commanded a Regiment of Militia, to the best of my recollection; and during said year, I was six months in said service in the year 1779 I was also under Col. Elijah Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] at the siege of Augusta, Georgia [September 12-18, 1780]¹ and retreated with him over the mountains, and was under his Command as Col commandant and I was with him Clarke at the Battle of Long Cane Creek² in South Carolina when the Americans engaged Colonel Cruger [John Harris Cruger] and was with Clarke when Defeated there at Long Cane and I was with Clarke at the Last Siege at Augusta in the year 1780 [sic, ? Second Siege of Augusta, May 22-June 6, 1781].³ I was 12 months in the service and was a true Whig all the time and; I was with Colonel Hugh Middleton on the march to the Battle of Stono South Carolina [June 20, 1779] and as a Substitute for James Harvey; -- I was 12 months in the service from the latter part of the year 1779 to the latter part of 1780. In the year 1781, I was with Colonel James McNeal after the Tories -- on the Ogeechee River Georgia and subsequently under Major John Twiggs -- who died in the County of Richmond a Major General of Militia; served one month there -- I was during this year four months in the service of the United States, in the militia, my services in the militia during the Revolution a private -- to the Ending of my Services; and while under Col. E. Clarke I was under Captain William Lucas and while on Scout we were fired on by the British & Tories. I was badly wounded in the left arm near my shoulder. I was also taken prisoner by the Tories near Augusta. I was called out into the service by proper Authority and while in service I was engaged in no private business whatever. 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it? To which the Declarant Answers and Said his: I did Received a Written Discharge while at St. Mary's; or at Savannah the said Discharge has been lost and is not in his power now to procure; the officer that gave me the discharge I do not now recollect his name.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of April 1841.

S/ Wm L. Culbreath, JP

S/ Jas. Culbreath

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jas Culbreath". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

[p 20: Copy]

“State of Georgia

This is to Certify, that James Culbreath hath steadfastly done his duty, from the time of passing an act at Augusta, to wit, on the 20th of August 1781, until the total expulsion of the British from this State; and the said James Culbreath cannot, to my knowledge or belief, be convicted of plundering or distressing the Country; and it is therefore under the said act entitled to a bounty of 250 acres of good land, free from taxes for 10 years.

Given under my hand at Savannah this second day of February 178[last digit obliterated].

S/ Jas McNiel”

[The certificate above is certified by the Secretary of the Georgia Executive department as a true copy of the document on file in that department.]

¹ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/>

² veteran may be referring to the actions at http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_long_canes.html

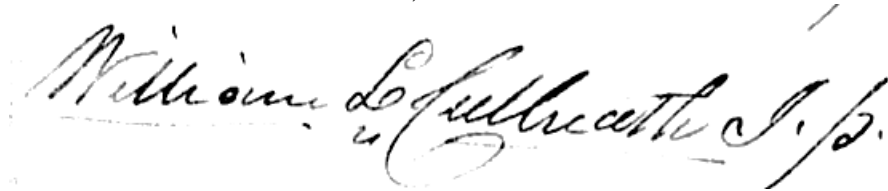
³ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/>

[p 32]

State of Georgia, Harris County

Before me William L. Culbreath an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County, personally came before me William Dawson⁴ a Revolution Pensioner aged Eighty-two years of age who being Duly sworn deposeth and saith on oath he deponent was well acquainted with James Culbreath aged now Eighty-two years of age and did see the said James Culbreath under arms in the Florida Expedition and in the year 1778⁵ also I was with said James Culbreath a Soldier at the Siege of Augusta & at the Battle of Stono South Carolina and at the Siege of Savannah Georgia [September 16-October 9, 1779]⁶ and at the Battle of Long Cane where Colonel E. Clarke was defeated in South Carolina as a Revolution Soldier in defense of the United States as a Militia man. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd of April 1841.

S/ William L. Culbreath, JP



S/ Willm. Dawson



[p 45]

Georgia, Pike County

On this 8th day of June in the year 1842, personally appeared before the Inferior Court of Pike County, and State aforesaid James Culbreth a resident of Harris County in said state, aged 82 years, who being duly sworn deposeth, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress (and of the provision therein contained) passed June 7th, 1832.

That he served a tour of duty of three months under Major Lewis Gardner who was commanded by General Elbert, marched from Richmond County Virginia, in the summer of 1778 to East Florida, & crossed the St. Mary's River, with Major Gardner – was in no engagement, during this tour of duty, and received a discharge, but cannot now from the loss of memory say from [whom] I received it; received the discharge on the St. Mary's River and returned home to Richmond County. This tour of duty was as a substitute for John Shackelford and the discharge which I received has been long since lost. The next tour of service this Deponent performed, was under Captain Charles Crawford, this deponent Volunteered, and marched under Captain Crawford to Savannah from Richmond County, and to the best of this deponent's Recollection in the month of September in the year 1779 and at the best of this deponent's recollection, he belonged to Colonel Benjamin Few's Regiment, and was in the engagement in endeavoring to storm the city of Savannah, then in the possession of the British troops, in this tour of duty he was out upwards of two months and General Lincoln of the regular Army was the Commander in Chief; marched back to Richmond County, under Captain Crawford and was disbanded, Received no discharge – The next Tour of duty this Deponent served as a Volunteer under Colonel Elijah Clarke, and was with him at the Siege of Augusta,

⁴ [William Dawson S17920](#)

⁵ <http://www.ourgeorgiahistory.com/wars/Revolution/revolution12.html>

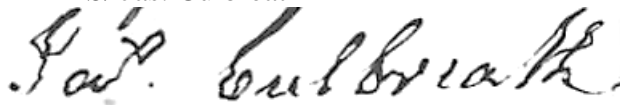
⁶ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

against Col. Brown who had the possession of Augusta. Colonel Clarke retreated and left Georgia, for the upper part of South Carolina, and this deponent was with him, and after marching through the mountains, was in an engagement under Col. Clarke against the British on the waters of a stream called Long Cane Creek, in South Carolina, in this engagement I got cut off from Clarke; and then this deponent returned to Richmond County Georgia. We were then and always afterwards known by the name of the Refugees – after this deponent's return to Richmond County, this deponent joined Captain William Lucas' Company as Volunteer; and was out with Clarke as above stated upwards of three months: this was in the year 1780 to the best of his recollection; after he joined Captain Lucas' Company, in Richmond County he was kept constantly on the scout duty and was in an engagement under Captain Lucas with the Tories on Spirit Creek in Richmond County, and was wounded in the left arm in that engagement; and this applicant remained in Captain Lucas' Company on scout duty, until Colonel Clarke returned to Georgia, when under Captain Lucas, he joined Col. Clarke again, who laid siege to Augusta again, which was then in the possession of Colonel Grayson [sic, Grierson] and Brown; and Clarke took Grayson and Brown and got possession of Augusta; and this deponent further states that after he joined Captain Lucas' Company, he was on constant duty as a scout, and under Col. Clarke as before stated for at least six months. This service was performed in the year 1780 to the best of this deponent's recollection. After Clarke got possession of Augusta, Captain Lucas's Company was disbanded, in Richmond County, received no discharge. The next duty this deponent performed was that he volunteered under Colonel James McNeal [sic, James McNiel] in Richmond County and marched in pursuit of the Tories down the waters of Ogeechee River, this tour of duty was about six weeks, and returned to Richmond County of again, He received no discharge, and immediately he again joined Col. John Twiggs in Richmond County, as a Volunteer, and marched under him to Briar Creek, in said County, this Tour of duty was also of about six weeks duration, and was for the purpose of subduing and preventing the Ravages of the Tories – these last two tours of duty were performed in the year 1781 to the best of his recollection, and that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State;

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court the eighth of June 1842.

S/ Wiley E. Mangham, Clk

S/ Jas. Culbreath



Interrogatories

1st: When and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Mecklenburg County Virginia.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age

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

Answer: I have lived in Richmond County, Georgia, Columbia County, and now reside in Harris County Georgia.

[This question not put to applicant: 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?]

4th 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.

Answer: I can name General Lincoln and Count Pulaski and he belonged to Colonel Benjamin Few's Regiment to the best of my recollection.

^{5th} Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

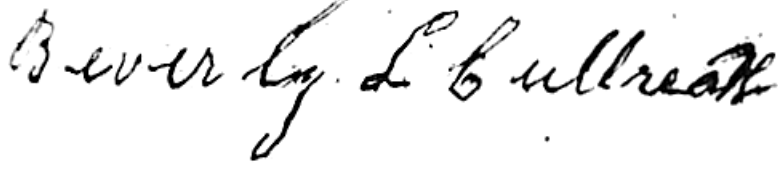
Answer: I did receive a discharge at St. Mary's River in 1778 as before stated, but cannot state from whom, which is long since lost.

^{6h} State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I could name Thadiaz Jones, Elisha Trammell, Hezekiah Magruder and Richard Kilpatrick.

[p 14: certificate dated October 22nd, 1798 issued by Captain W Wilkins in Columbia County Georgia exempting James Culbreath from service in the militia on account of a wound he received in the late war.]

[p 4: On March 15, 1853 in Harris County Georgia, Beverly L. Culbreath one of the sons and heirs at law of James Culbreath filed on behalf of his father for the pension due him under the act of June 7, 1832; he states that his father died April 26, 1843 leaving the following heirs, Thomas Culbreath, Anna who intermarried with Joseph Morris, Strawther who intermarried with Martin B Reynolds, William L Culbreath, James M Culbreath and the current applicant.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly L. Culbreath". The signature is written in black ink on a white background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent 'B' at the start and a 'C' at the end. The signature is positioned above a small vertical line that ends in a bracket-like shape on the right side.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 2/3 commencing March 4, 1831 and ending April 26, 1843 when he died. He was pensioned based upon service as a private for 8 months in the Georgia militia.]