

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Bishop S9279

f36SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/26/10 & 9/8/14 & 8/19/18

[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, Chester District

On this 24th day of November 1832 Personally appeared before me Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of Ordinary in open court John Bishop of the District & State aforesaid, aged about 67 or 8 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 provisions made by the Act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. That he resided in the time of the Revolutionary War in that part of the Country where he now lives, called the district of Chester.

That when the British Troops overran the Country after the fall of Charleston in May 1780, He was then he thinks about 15 or 16 years of age, but well grown. That himself & four other Brothers (two of them having families) retreated from home towards North Carolina. It was on the morning he thinks before Hooks defeat [Huck's Defeat or the battle of Williamson's Plantation, July 12, 1780], as they met the Troops near Old Nation Ford on the Catawba River going on the pursuit of the Enemy that his older Brother Henry Bishop (who was a Captain) returned with the Troops to the attack. That he with the others went on with the women & children, & left them with some friends near Charlotte, North Carolina; & then returned & joined General Sumter [Thomas Sumter] in the Indian Land, Colonel Lacy's [Edward Lacey's] Regiment. That he continued in the service until after the Battle of the Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780] at which his Brother the said Henry Bishop was wounded. That he then went with the wounded to Charlotte where his Brother died of his wound. That when the Troops collected again after Gates [Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] & Sumter's defeats [Battle of Fishing Creek, July 18, 1780], he joined he thinks in Captain Miller's company. That sometime after the commencement of cold weather, he got leave to come home to get some clothing, got home between midnight & day & was taken prisoner him & his father the next day a Band of Tories commanded by Captain Elder, and carried tied to Cary's fort¹ near Camden; & was kept a prisoner, he thinks for better than two months. And when about to be removed to Camden Jail with his father & others, he made his Escape by the friendship of a British soldier before he crossed the River traveled all that night till he got to a friend's house; lay out the next day in the Creek Swamp; & then traveled on the next night home. Lay out the next day; & the third night went on & crossed the Catawba River at Land's Ford & got to Sumter's Troops the next day. That he thinks he was next under Captain Whitesides [probably Hugh Whitesides] & others: and that most of the duty that was then done for some time was principally in scouting parties, until about the time the British left Camden; he went under the command of Colonel Henry Hampton to the taking of the British Fort at Colonel Thompson's [William Thomson's Fort]. How long he was out at this time he cannot recollect. All the services previous to this

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/carysfort.htm>

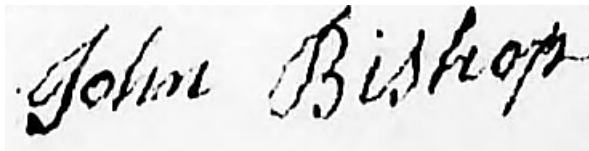
time, he believes was a volunteer. After this he was drafted two or three tours he is not certain which.

Was with General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army & guarded the Baggage at Williams Branch, on the day of the Battle at the Eutaw [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781]. Saw Lieutenant Barnet of the State troops when he was brought wounded out of the action. Saw him die & helped to bury him. Was next at the skirmish at Biggin Church,² & on the pursuit of the British the next day. And staid out his tour until the troops was dismissed.

The next & last campaign was at Orangeburg under Captain Cooper [perhaps Robert Cooper] still in Col. Lacey's Regiment. This was in the winter of 1782, & continued until summer, as he remembers he got home just in harvest time; & must at least have been a four months tour. And make it about two years from the time he commenced the service. During which time he thinks he could not have been more than six months at home. Leaving him 18 months in the service or thereabouts.

And that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State, or of the United States.

S/ John Bishop

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Bishop". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court.
S/ Peter Wylie (Judge of the court of ordinary of Chester District)

State of South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared in open Court before me Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of Ordinary for said District, John Bishop an applicant for the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 in order to amend his declaration, who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory and the great length of time since his services were performed and no records being kept that he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his services. That he has given a fair & true statement in his Declaration of his services according to the best of his memory & the names of his officers. That he remembers perfectly well the time of his entering the service in joining General Sumpter from the circumstance of it being a few days after the memorable Hook's defeat, which was in the latter end of June or the first of July 1780 & which was the first repulse the British had met with after they had overrun the country, but even with respect to this day particularly there is not an agreement among the people, the oldest being nearly all dead. That he can only recollect from events that took place, but with respect to particular days or length of time he cannot recollect. That he can be more particular with respect to his last tour of duty. That he left home in February and did not return until the Harvest which must have made it a four months tour, and this was in 1782 and that Hook's defeat was in 1780 there is no doubt which makes it about (if the word about can be admitted for particulars cannot be stated) two years since he entered the service. And as he has stated in his Declaration he still thinks he was not more than six months at home during that period, but was engaged in the service of his country & prisoner with the Enemy. He therefore claims for 18 months service and being prisoner and trusts that he has given sufficient circumstances (although not precise dates which should not be required of any honest man at this

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

great length of time) to satisfy the Department of the validity of his claim and is certified by the best men in the country: which is all that he can do with a good conscience and must rest satisfied with whatever sum may be thought proper to allow him.

S/ John Bishop

Sworn to & signed in open Court this second day of September 1833 before

S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary in open court John Bishop who being duly Sworn saith upon oath that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his Service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below Tour first when he Joined Sumter & Lacey an Indian land service at least three months Tour Second in Mills company at least two months Tour third in Whitesides company at least three months And further saith that when a prisoner was such at least two months the foregoing service was as a volunteer The next Drafted Tour fourth when at Battle [of] Eutaw [Eutaw Springs] with Cooper's company at least three months fifth and last Tour in Cooper's company at least four months which in all makes 17 months & for such I claim a pension.

S/ John Bishop

Sworn to & signed in open Court this second day of December 1833

S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

To the first Interrogatory he answers I had it from my Parents, that I was Born in the City of Philadelphia, & was brought to South Carolina when a suckling child I suppose I was Born about the year 1763 or '4.

2nd An: I have understood the Record of my age was destroyed by the British or Tories when they were destroyed & carried away everything of value in my Father's House, except, as I was informed what my Mother saved by sitting on it. I made a Record of my age after I was Married & have it me at home.

3rd An: I was living with my Father at what is now called Bishop's old fields & Chester district. And have lived in the same district ever since.

4th An: I was at first a volunteer, & was afterwards drafted, as I have stated in my declaration.

5th An: I was not acquainted with any regular Officers, or Continental Regiments, (I being but a raw Boy at the time,) But I knew General Sumpter very well, Cols. Lacey, Bratton, McGriff & Major Adare [sic, Adair], now General Adair of Kentucky Captains Nixon, Mills, Cooper, Whitesides, Steel, & McClure who fell at the Hanging Rock Battle and Colonel Henry Hampton of the State Troops. All of which I believe is dead, except General Adair.

6th An: It was not the practice to discharge the Militia as volunteers in writing, but only to dismiss them when their time of service was out.

7th An: I am so well known in my neighborhood having lived here from Infancy, that I can get any number that may be necessary to testify to the veracity of my character. But I will mention the names of Joseph Guston [Joseph Gaston], Esq., the Reverend Samuel McCreary & John McCreary Esq. who knew me in the Revolutionary war. Also Colonel George Gili [George Gill?³], & William McGarrity [William McGarity?⁴].

S/ John Bishop

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year set forth in the Declaration in open Court.

3 [George Gill S21229](#)

4 [William McGarity R6713](#)

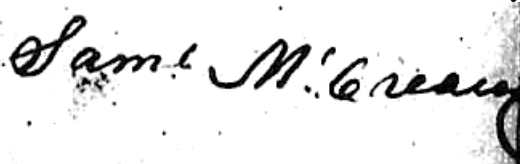
S/ Peter Wylie

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State of South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared before me Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of Ordinary, in open Court, the Reverend Samuel McCreary, & being duly sworn according to law on his oath saith, that he has known John Bishop (the present applicant for the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832,) & the family, for nearly the space of three score years And that they resided in the said district now called Chester. And that as far as his acquaintance reaches, the said Bishop has always been considered a Man of truth & veracity & what is generally termed a good Citizen. And also that he knew him in the year 1780, at a time which tried the men's souls. And has every reason to believe his declaration, that he took up Arms in defense of his Country, about the time of memorable event called Hook's defeat in the month of Harvest. And that he bore Arms under General Sumter from thence forward until the year 1782, as frequent as there was a call for troops, which was almost constant. Being myself attached to General Sumter's Brigade, & well acquainted with the Events of the times, & the Campaigns through which he passed, as stated in his declaration. I well remember to have recognized said Bishop as one among the Troops who came to relieve us, at the Station of Orangeburg in the month of February 1782. As to his Brother Captain Henry Bishop, I knew him; & verily believe he was wounded at the Battle of the Hanging Rock. And although I was in the Engagement myself, I did see him afterwards, but understood he was taken immediately to Charlotte, & died before I got to that place with other wounded men.

S/ Saml. McCreary



Sworn to & signed in open Court this 24th of November 1832

S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

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State of South Carolina, Chester District

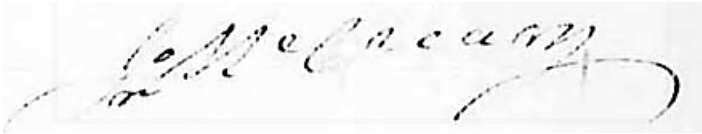
Personally appeared John McCreary (formerly a Member of Congress from this district) and being duly sworn, on his Oath saith, that he has been well acquainted with John Bishop the present applicant for the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. And has been ever since in the latter part of the Revolutionary War. That he believes they were two tours together in the service. The one at Biggin Church, the other at Orangeburg.

That the said Bishop is a Man of good Character, truth & veracity; & has no doubt but that his statements in his declaration is true & correct as far as ever his memory would serve hands; & all to be relied on as such.

Sworn to & subscribed this 24th day of November 1832 in open Court.

S/ Jno McCreary⁵

⁵ McCREARY, John, a Representative from South Carolina; born near Fishing Creek, about eighteen miles from Chester, S.C., in 1761; received his schooling from private tutors; became a surveyor; also engaged in agricultural pursuits; served in the Revolutionary War; member of the state house of representatives, 1794-1799 and 1802; sheriff of Chester District (now Chester County); elected as a Republican to the Sixteenth Congress (March 4, 1819-March 3, 1821); resumed agricultural pursuits and surveying; died on his plantation in South Carolina November 4, 1833; interment in the Richardson Church Cemetery, Chester County, S.C.
<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=M000383>



S/ Peter Wylie

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South Carolina, Chester District

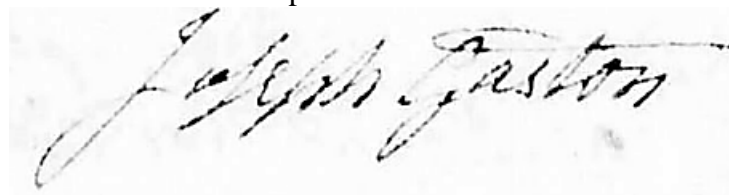
Personally appeared Joseph Gaston⁶ of said district before the court of ordinary of said District and made oath in due form of law that he has been well acquainted with the applicant John Bishop and the family for the most of his life time perhaps as much as 60 years – that the family suffered much by the British in [the] Revolution[ary] War by plundering, imprisonment and death and have deserved well of their country.

And further saith he is convinced that this applicant was with him in two campaigns that one was under General Sumter when they fought together in the Battle of Hanging Rock on the Seventh of August 1780 where said Bishop had a brother Captain Henry Bishop mortally wounded and died shortly after of his wound. The other tour was under Colonel H. Hampton when the were employed in collecting provisions for General Greene's Army and guarding to his camp where they arrived three days after his Battle at Camden about 25th of April 1781 were then sent under Captain Gaston to guard one of General Greene's Aid's Major Hairn [sic ?] to where Generals Sumter and Marion were at the siege of fort Motte at Colonel Thomson's from thence they returned home.

Sworn to and subscribed the 24th day of November 1832 in open Court.

S/ Peter Wylie

S/ Joseph Gaston



[p 36: A voucher dated July 16, 1853 indicating that payment was made to the administrator of John Bishop, deceased for the period from March 4, 1851 to 21 March 1852, presumably the day on which he died.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$56.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁷ relating to John Bishop [Bushop]
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 507

AA11

[p 5]

No. 111

[No.] 1505 [Book] Y

17 Feb. 87 [1787]

⁶ [Joseph Gaston W23089](#)

⁷ 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 [ENTER ON-LINE RECORDS INDEX](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Individual" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

John Bushop [sic] (for 279 days duty as a horseman from 5 June 1780 to 11th March 1781 in Capt. Parson's [Major Parson's] Compy [company] Colo. Roebuck's [Benjamin Roebuck's] Regiment at 20/ is £279

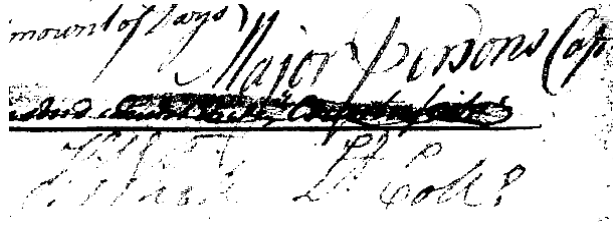
Sterling £39.17.1 ½

The signing of Major Parsons was counterfeited, he cannot write—and this acct. is not attested

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

Passed Certified by Colo. White [Henry White]

[p 6: very faint listing of service as stated above with 'signatures' of Major Parsons Capt. and H. White, Lt. Col.



Major Parsons (Capt.)
Lt. Col. White

[p 7]

Received full Satisfaction for the within Account in Indent No. 1505 Book Y by an Order
S/ Francis Ley

[p 10: form of Indent No. 1505, Y dated 2/17/1787]