

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of William Calmes S9303

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of South Carolina } To wit.

Newberry District }

On this sixteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before Richard Gaunt Esq'r the judge of the court of general sessions and common pleas of the said state, now sitting, William Calmes a resident of Newberry District, in the said state, who is now in the seventy first year of his age, who being first duly sworn, 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 was born on the fifteenth day of May 1762 in Frederick County, State of Virginia.

That he volunteered into Capt. William Helm's company as a private in the summer of the year 1777 (he thinks) for three months. The company rendezvoused at Winchester. Col. Marcus Calmes [sic: Marquis Calmes] commanded the regiment and the Major's name (he thinks) was White [probably Robert White]. They joined Gen's. Washington at Chesnut-Hill [sic: Chestnut Hill] in Pennsylvania, where they remained the tour of three months. They belonged to the Brigade of Genr'l. John Adam Stephens [sic: Adam Stephen], who (he thinks) was a Scotchman [born Rhynie Scotland ca. 1721], and under arrest, at that time, for misconduct or supposed misconduct, at the battle of Germantown [4 Oct 1777]. He received a written discharge which has been long since lost or destroyed. He enter'd the service again in the latter part of the summer of the year 1779. The company to which he belonged was drafted for the purpose of being marched on to South Carolina. Capt. John Smith a volunteer was appointed Captain and he (Wm Calmes) was commissioned 1st Lieutenant. They rendezvoused at Winchester, from whence they marched to Carter's Ferry on James River on their way to South Carolina at which place they received orders from the then Governor to go down to Norfolk, where the British had landed [1 - 24 May]. They then marched towards Norfolk. At Richmond, they were attached to the Virginia State Troops. The regiment was commanded by Major commandant DeCluman (he thinks this the name) [Charles Deklaman, pension application R13678] who was a Frenchman. The Major's name was McGill [possibly Charles Magill, pension application W5336]. The army there assembled was commanded by Gen'l. [Peter] Muhlenberg. From Richmond they marched on towards Norfolk, staid a few days at Cabin Point [on James River in Surry County], approached near the city but did not enter it, the British having gone off. They were then marched to Petersburg and there discharged. His commission and discharge are both lost or destroyed. He volunteered for three months and served that length of time.

He entered the service again, for three months in the summer of the year 1781, in the month of June (he thinks) in a volunteer company commanded by Capt. Marcus Calmes [probably Marquis Calmes, pension application S12674] his brother, and he was commissioned 1st. Lieutenant; Johnston Eastin 2nd. Lieutenant and Jeremiah Redman Ensign. The company met at Winchester, from whence they marched to Richmond. Captain Calmes acted as commanding officer of the Regiment until they reached Richmond, at which place they were attached to the regiment commanded by Col. William Dark [sic: William Darke], which was attached to the Brigade commanded by Genr'l. [Edward] Stevens (a Virginian.) The whole army was commanded by de laFayette, until it joined that commanded by Genr'l. Washington. From Richmond they marched and joined Genr'l. Washington's army, near old Williamsburg and thence marched to the siege of Little York [28 Sep - 19 Oct]. At Winchester he was verbally appointed quarter master, in which capacity he acted four or five weeks, and until they reached Richmond. He served out this term of three months. About six weeks of the time, he acted as Captain, (but was not so commissioned,) his brother having gone home in consequence of sickness. After the expiration of this term, he was persuaded by his Colonel to

take the place of some Captain who wished to go home, and he did so, and served another tour of three months, acting as a captain and commanding a company, but having no written commission. They remained there during the siege. After the surrender of Cornwallis, they guarded the prisoners, or a part of them to Winchester; and at the barracks about four miles above Winchester, they were discharged.

He never received any pay except for the first term, and that in paper money worth very little.

He served three months as a private, was commissioned 1st Lieutenant for two terms of three months both of which he served out, and acted, about a month and a half of the last term, as captain: and he served three months more as captain, under a verbal appointment from Colonel Dark.

In 1782 he removed from Virginia to that part of Ninety-six district, South Carolina, now called Newberry district, where he has ever since resided. He has no written evidence, nor has he any record of his age, the family bible having been given to his eldest sister

He may have assigned erroneous dates for some of the events to which he has referred, from mere infirmity of memory, but feels convinced of the substantial truth of his statement, touching his services.

He knows of no person in this state who can prove his revolutionary services, and knows not the residences of such persons in other states as could prove them, nor in fact does he know whether such persons be now living.

He refers to the Reverend Samuel P. Pressly and Col. John Glenn for his character as a man of veracity and for the general reputation that he was a revolutionary soldier.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to an annuity or pension, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. [signed illegibly]