

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of George Weir S9528

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of South Carolina } On the 24 day November 1832
Chester District } Personally appeared before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary of said District George Weir aged 80 years, of the district & state afores'd, who being 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 of June 1832. That he first entered the service in the Revolutionary War, in what was commonly call'd the Snowey Campaign, in the year 1775 & 6 [Snow Campaign, 8 - 30 Dec 1775] In a volunteer company under Capt John Nixon Lieut Alex'r. Adams, Col. Richisons [sic: Richard Richardson's] Reg't. against the Indians & Tories. Gen'l. [Thomas] Sumter was then Adjudent.

The Expedition commenc'd in the fall of the year, & continued till some in the winter after Christmass. That they marched over Broad River & up to the then fronteer of the State to Reburn Creek [sic: Rabon Creek in present Laurens County] &c. Where they defeated the Enemy & captured a number of prisoners.

That the snow fell about Christmass, supposed to be the gratest ever in South Carolina. And then torrents of rain, that they often waded deep water through Ice & suffer'd immencely from cold. And continued till the Campaign was over.

The next was an Expedition to Charleston, (still a volunteer in the same company) when the British Fleet attacked Fourt Moultry [sic: Fort Sullivan, later named Fort Moultrie; Battle of Sullivans Island, 28 - 29 Jun 1776]. Was there the time of the Battle, & continued in the Town to guard the Town, untill they were discharged. And recollects that they got home in the month of August.

That he does not recollect of being out on any other regular tour of duty untill after the fall of Charleston in May 1780. That he had been for a long time confined with a cancer in his foot that rendered him unfit for duty. But when the British marched into the Country, he turned again a Volunteer in the same Company, then under Capt. Samuel Adams Col. Lacys [sic: Edward Lacey's] Reg't. & joined Gen'l. [Thomas] Sumter. Was at the Battle of the Hanging Rock [6 Aug 1780]. And then marched with Gen'l. down on the west side of the Catawba & Wateree Rivers to the takeing of Caries fort near Camden Ferry [sic: Cary's Fort, 11 Aug 1780] on the day [sic] Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates was defeated on the other side above Camden [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]. That he was left as a centinal near the Ferry when the British fired over at them; when the Troops retreated, & he was left alone, & nearly to have been captured by the Enemy.

That he then pursued on & came up with the Army & continued on the retreat untill they were overtaken by the British commanded by Col. Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton], and defeated at Fishing Creek on the Catawba River [18 Aug] which scattered the Troops. And lost his Creature at the defeat, came home afoot, & lay out till he got some clothing, & then retreated up into the Indian Land & North Carolina. That when the British moved up to Charlott [sic: Charlotte] in North Carolina, he was taken prisoner by Lord Roddams [sic: Francis Rawdon's] troops & ordered by his Lordship, (for old acquaintance sake) to be hanged. For he knew him in Ireland. But by some means his Life was saved & he was put into Charlott Jail with John Adare [sic: John Adair], late Governer Adare of Kentucky; who was a prisoner at the same time. And was some time afterwards paroled, & return'd home, but does not know that ever he was Exchanged. Adare was kept a prisoner.

The next he thinks was down to the Congaree, the time Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] was Beseiging 96 [Ninety-Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781]. And the British was moving up [under Rawdon, from Charleston] to raise the Seige. And was attacked at the Juneper [sic: Juniper Springs in present Lexington County, 18 Jun 1781] by the State Troops, where his neighbour Samuel McWaters was killed.

The next was down by Martials Mills [possibly Marshall's Mill] on the Congaree, where they stoped some time, & then to Orangburgh [sic: Orangeburg] and was there when Gen'l. Greens Army marched down the country before the Battle of the Eutaw [Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep

1781]. That he was still a volunteer in the same company & Reg't. But how long he was out on these two Expeditions he cannot well recollect, but knows he always staid untill he was dismissed to go home. That he does not recollect of any regular tour, except it was to guard Tories & Horse theives in Col. Lacey's Block House but how long he cannot recollect.

As he has no particular dates to refer to he cannot state positively how long he was in the services, but having been two tours before the fall of Charleston, & the greater part of the time afterwards untill the Enemy was driven out; he thinks he must have been from Eighteen months to two years in the service of his Country & a prisoner.

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

[signed in margin] Geor Weir

To the first Interrogatory he Answers

That he was Born in the Kingdom of Ireland in the year 1752. And Emigrated to America when he was about twenty years of age —

2^d An. I have seen a Record of my age in a Book of my Fathers, and dose not know where it is now

3^d An. I was living near where I now live, & have lived here eversince in what is now called Chester District

4th An. I always volunteered, for I join'd a volunteer Company at first under Capt. John Nixon, (who was kill'd in the war.) And continued to Volunteer when ever call'd upon —

5th An. I knew Gen'l. Sumter. Col. Thompson. Col. Joseph Kershaw & Col. Richison. I believe they were Regulars. Col. John Will. Col. Rich'd Winn who was wounded at the Hanging Rock, afterwards Gen'l Winn Col. Lacy. Col. [William] Hill. Col. [William] Bratton. Captin Nixon. Capt. Adams. Capt. Mills. Capt Hill[?]. & Capt. McClure [probably Col. John McClure] that fell at the Hanging Rock. With other of the Melitia. The other circumstances I have stated in my declaration.

6th An. The Militia & Volunteers were not discharg'd in writing, but merely dismissd when their time of service was out

7th An. I am so well known in my neighbourhood having lived here since the year 1773 that all my aged & respectable neighbours can testify for me. But I will mention a few that knew me in the time of the war. John Brown, Capt. James Harbison Esqr, John McDill. Wm. McGarrity. Joseph Gaston Esqr. The Rev'd Samuel McCreary, & John McCreary about the latter end of the war.

[signed] George Weir

NOTE: On 25 Mar 1857 David Weir of "Rich Hill S.C. & Roads SC" wrote to the Pension office for permission for an agent to determine whether his father might have been eligible for a higher pension because "his service was in the Cavalry which from the length of time he was in service would increase his pay."