

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Vaughan ¹ W11691 Alis (Alice) Vaughan f61SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 3]

The State of South Carolina, Sumter District, County of Claremont

On this 30th day of October in the year of Lord 1832 Personally appeared in open court, before B. J. Earle in the Court of Common Pleas & Sessions now sitting William Vaughan a resident of the County, District and State aforesaid now in his sixty ninth year 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 the 7th 1832. I was born in Northampton County Virginia, on the 22nd day of May 1764 and in the year 1772 removed to Craven County South Carolina. I was living in that part of Craven County, which is now called Claremont, when I entered the service of the Country -- and since the revolution, I have to this time resided in Claremont County, District and State aforesaid. In the Summer of the year 1780 -- after the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], I joined General Marion [Francis Marion] as a volunteer on the South side of the Santee [River], near Murray's Ferry.[?] ² The Captain of my company was John Malone. The Colonel of the Regiment was at the first period of my service Peter Horry -- afterwards Richard Richardson, was engaged in many skirmishes during the whole of the war. I was present at the taking of Fort Motte³ -- General Marion commanded -- assisted by Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee]. A short time afterwards I was at the siege of Fort Watson,⁴ under the command of Marion, assisted as well as deponent recollects by Colonel Lee. I do not recollect the month -- but the year was 1781 and the weather was warm. I was engaged in the Battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs]⁵ -- under the command of Marion, (the Troops of Marion were placed in front with orders to fire 12 rounds[]). The American Forces were commanded by Greene [Nathanael Greene]. The Principal Cavalry officers were Washington [William Washington] and Lee. Marion's men had

¹ BLWt26110-160-55



²

³ May 8-12, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/motte.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fort_motte.html

⁴ April 15-21, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/watson.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_watson_2.html

⁵ September 8, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/eutaw.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

joined General Greene, near Miss Thompson's plantation in Orangeburg -- District, and marched with the regular Army to Eutaw, I was also present at the Battle of Quinby⁶ -- and Biggins Church [Biggin Church]⁷ General Sumter commanded at Quinby Bridge -- Marion and Lee were there. I took share in the siege of Georgetown⁸ -- in three days the British evacuated the place. I do not recollect of being in any action of consequence since that time to the end of the war. I do not recollect of serving with the regular Army at any other time except the Battle of Eutaw. Colonel Lee of the Continentals was sometimes with Marion. I do not recollect of taking any discharge from the service -- very few discharges if any were taken. I have never received one cent for my services -- and I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present one and do declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ B. J. Earle, Presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas & Sessions in open Court at Sumter Court house

on

S/ Wm Vaughan



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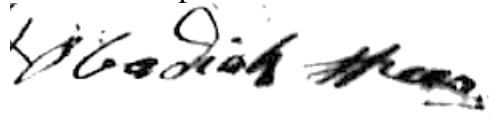
State of South Carolina, Sumter District

I Obadiah Spears⁹ a soldier of the Revolution residing in Claremont County, District and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the above Deponent with myself and about 20 others joined Marion about June 1780. The Deponent and myself were frequently in the same mess. I know him to have been in the service of his country under Marion, until the close of the war or near about that time. I recollect him very well that Fort Motte -- Fort Watson -- Quinby Bridge and Georgetown. He was quite young.

Sworn and subscribed on the 30th of day of October in the year of our Lord 1832.

S/ B. J. Earle, Presiding Judge

S/ Obadiah Spears



[Rev'd Henry D. Green, a clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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An amendment to the declaration of William Vaughan to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832

South Carolina, Sumter District:

Personally appeared before me John Hemphill one of the Justices of the Quorum for the

⁶ July 17, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/quinby.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_quinbys_bridge.html

⁷ July 16, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/bigginch.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_biggin_creek_bridge.html

⁸ May 28, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/georgetown.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_georgetown_7.html

⁹ [Obadiah Spears S7586](#)

District and State aforesaid William Vaughan who being first duly sworn maketh the following declaration and answers to the interrogatories marked by the Pension Department as being imperfectly answered in the original Declaration.

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

Answer -- My age is recorded in the Family Bible belonging to my father and at his death was given to my sister Mrs. Reynolds wife of John Reynolds living about 20 miles from Sumterville.

Interrogatory 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.

Answer. From the loss of memory and from the fact of paying but little attention to the dates &c at the time of occurrences in the course of my military services I cannot state with the precision I desire the circumstances of my services. In my original declaration I stated that I entered service as a volunteer under Marion in the summer of 1780. On reflection I believe it was in the Fall of that year in the month of October probably. At least it was about two weeks after the defeat of Colonel Tynes [Lt. Col. Samuel Tynes] on Tarcote Swamp [Tarcoat or Tearcoat Swamp]¹⁰ in the Fork of Black River in the District by General Marion -- that I joined General Marion on the South side of the Santee River. I cannot state with precision the date of Colonel Tynes defeat. The Captain of my company was John Malone -- Joseph Hill and George McCauley commanded the company as captains also -- Peter Horry first and Richard Richardson afterwards commanded the Regiment as Colonels. __ Benson¹¹ was Major killed in a skirmish with the British at Wontot [? Wantoot]¹² near widow Tidyman's [Tidyman's Plantation]¹³ shortly after the battle of Eutaw -- In my original declaration, I stated that Fort Watson was taken after Fort Motte. This was a mistake owing to the great lapse of time and decay of memory and having examined no papers or documents on the subject. I was engaged in the siege at both these forts under General Marion -- Colonel Lee commanded the Cavalry at both of the sieges. Colonel Maham [Hezekiah Maham] commanded the Cavalry belonging to the State. A very short time less than a month elapsed between the one siege and the other. I have previously stated that I was present at the battle of Biggin Church & Quinby Bridge where Sumter commanded. I was under Marion Colonel Lee commanded the Cavalry. Many of Marion's men were killed at the bridge -- to the great dissatisfaction of Marion. I was also at the battle of Eutaw. After that Marion's men were stationed on the South side of Santee River at Perry's plantation. The River was crossed repeatedly by the troops under General Marion. In the latter part of the year 1781 and beginning of 1782 the troops under command of Marion were encamped in the vicinity of Charleston at different posts. General Marion was absent a part of the time at the Legislature. I recollect that an order came on to dismount the footmen from Marion -- this was in 1782 -- I had kept a horse from my first entering service -- I would not give horse up after being accustomed to horseback so long -- and I therefore volunteered in the Corps of Cavalry commanded by Colonel Maham [Hezekiah Maham].

¹⁰ October 25, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/tearcoat.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_tearcoat_swamp.html

¹¹ Majors John Benson, William Benison and Thomas Benison were all killed in the action at Wambaw. See, http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html . I will not speculate as to which of these officers the affiant intended to name.

¹² <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/wantoot.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html

¹³ February 25, 1782 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/tydiman.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_tidymans_plantation.html

In June 1782 I retired from the service. During the whole period of the service I was constantly engaged in skirmishes and marching to and fro across the country. I did not ever stay at home more than two or three days at a time, and that always by permission from the officers. Interrogatory 6th 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 never did receive a discharge from the service. Few if any discharges were given to the militia volunteers under Marion. At the period of my leaving the service there was no active warfare -- the provisions were scarce. Many men left by permission and consent of the officers -- under a agreement to return when called upon -- should the exigencies of the service require -- but no written or formal discharge was given there was never afterwards any call upon my services as I did not return.

Interrogatory 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution?

Answer -- I could name many persons John China¹⁴ a soldier of the Revolution, Obadiah Spears -- another soldier of the Revolution, Reverend HD Greene, Reverend James Parsons -- John James¹⁵ a soldier of the Revolution &c.

S/ Wm Vaughan

Sworn to before me this 24th June [?] 1833

S/ John Hemphill

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South Carolina, Sumter District

To amend his former declarations made in pursuance of the Pension Act of June 7th 1832, William Vaughan appears and on being sworn Deposeeth as follows -- that he with several of his neighbors in or about the commencement of October in the year 1780 repaired from the neighborhood of what is now Stateburg to the forces under General Marion on the South side of Santee River -- The deponent did not join the Army under Marion for any specified term of service or any particular engagement. The deponent was in his seventeenth year and the house of his father was within a mile and a half of the main road between Charleston and Camden -- this road was frequently traversed by the British and there being also many Tories in the vicinity of his father's dwelling -- it was frequently visited by both the British and Tories -- thus rendering it impossible for the deponent to return home and leaving him the only alternative of remaining continually with an embodied force. The deponent therefore remained under the command of Marion and in active service until about the first of June in the year of our Lord 1782. The only term of his engagement was the period of the expulsion of the British from the Country. When that was effected he intended to quit the service and not before -- no mention was ever made to him of enlisting or volunteering for any specified length of time and he never thought of quitting the service until discharged in June in the manner stated in his second declaration -- His officers were those stated in his previous declarations -- as before stated the Regiment was commanded by Peter Horry and Richard Richardson Major Benson [Benison? see footnote 11 above] was killed in a skirmish with the British in widow Tidyman's lane on Wontot [Wantoot?] Swamp East of Cooper River in which skirmish the deponent was engaged. I was present at the siege of Forts Watson and Motte. Marion

¹⁴ [John China S46593](#)

¹⁵ [John James S18051](#)

commanded the forces at both places -- Colonel Lee commanded the cavalry -- I was engaged in the battles of Biggin Church and Quinby Bridge where Sumter being the Senior officer took the command -- I was also at the Battle of Eutaw still under the command of General Marion. The Regiment commanded by Colonel Richard Richardson -- Marion's men were placed in the front line with orders to fire 12 rounds. On the fire of 12 rounds we obliques [?] to the Right still firing on the enemy's flank. In my former declaration I have stated that the circumstances of my service after the battle of Eutaw until my joining the Corps of cavalry under Colonel Maham but still attached to the brigade under Marion. I was dismissed in June as before stated -- never having absented myself from service for one year and eight months more than two or three days at a time and then with the permission of my commanding officers and never having slept a single night under my father's roof. The deponent served during the whole period as a private. The troops under Marion were embodied by competent authority. In the partisan warfare waged by General Marion his men were never in Garrison but always in the field nor was the deponent employed in any civil pursuit during the one year and eight months he was in his Country's service. The deponent is unable to answer of the sixth question more satisfactorily than by stating that he received no written discharge because as he believes none or very few written discharges were given at that by General Marion or his officers. The deponent does not regard himself as a member of the militia but as one who volunteered for an indefinite period of time or as long as his services were required.

S/ Wm Vaughan

Sworn before made this December 2, 1833

S/ John Hemphill, QU

[p 13: Veteran was still alive and living in Sumter County, SC in 1855 when, at age 90, he filed for his bounty land entitlement. He signed his document with his mark.]

[p 18: On February 22, 1858, Alis Vaughan, 75, filed in Sumter District, SC, as the widow of William Vaughan stating that she married him soon after the Revolution, that he died September 21, 1857.

Alis Vaughan]

[Facts in file: Widow's maiden name was Alis Cook; her daughter, Alice, stated in 1858 that her mother was 84 year old; Alis died April 27, 1859; veteran and his wife had 13 children; as of 1858, the only surviving children were Mrs. Emily Dargan, Mrs. Frances Cassills and Mrs. Alice D. Mitchell, a resident of Sumter District, SC, aged 48 (Alice says she was their 9th child).]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$83.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina militia cavalry. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]