

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Gay W22875

Prudence Curry¹ f39SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/15/08 rev'd 8/8/15: 5/11/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

South Carolina, Chester District

On this 28th day of September 1850 personally appeared William Gay a resident of Chester District aged 60 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed 4th July 1836 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That this Declarant the aforesaid William Gay in behalf of himself and the surviving children of his mother Prudence Curry deceased, formerly widow of William Gay, states that the said William Gay, husband of the said Prudence Curry was a private soldier (horsemen) as the heirs understand in the Army of the Revolution and as such he served the United States against the common enemy, from the time he entered the service in 1777 or 1778 until the close of the war, first under Captain William Bratton General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] a tour of about three months supposed to be on the Western frontier of South Carolina against the common enemy. He afterwards served in Captain Hugh Bratton's Company Colonel William Bratton's Regiment General Sumter's [Thomas Sumter's] Brigade as a horseman as above stated and served in that capacity until the close of the war one or two tours of which service was performed after his marriage to the said Prudence Curry which marriage took place July the 7th 1781 and as husband and wife they lived together to the 20th day of August 1789 when he died leaving the said Prudence a widow and that his said widow afterwards married Charles Curry who died in York District South Carolina on the 7th day of February 1816 -- leaving the said Prudence again a widow with three children -- and that the said Prudence Curry departed this life on the 27th day of February 1844 not having married after the death of said Charles Curry leaving four children issue of her first marriage with William Gay and three as above stated the issue of her marriage with Charles Curry. Declarant further states that he has in support of the marriage of his father the said William Gay to the said Prudence the family Register showing the date of their marriage together with the births of their children which has been in the keeping of the family since the death of the Declarant's father and believes the same to be strictly correct -- which record is hereunto attached.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Peter Wylie, C& JCOGD

S/ Wm Gay



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¹ former widow

Family Record

William Gay and his wife Prudence was Married July ye 19 ye year 1781

Eals Gay was born April ye 13 ye year 1782

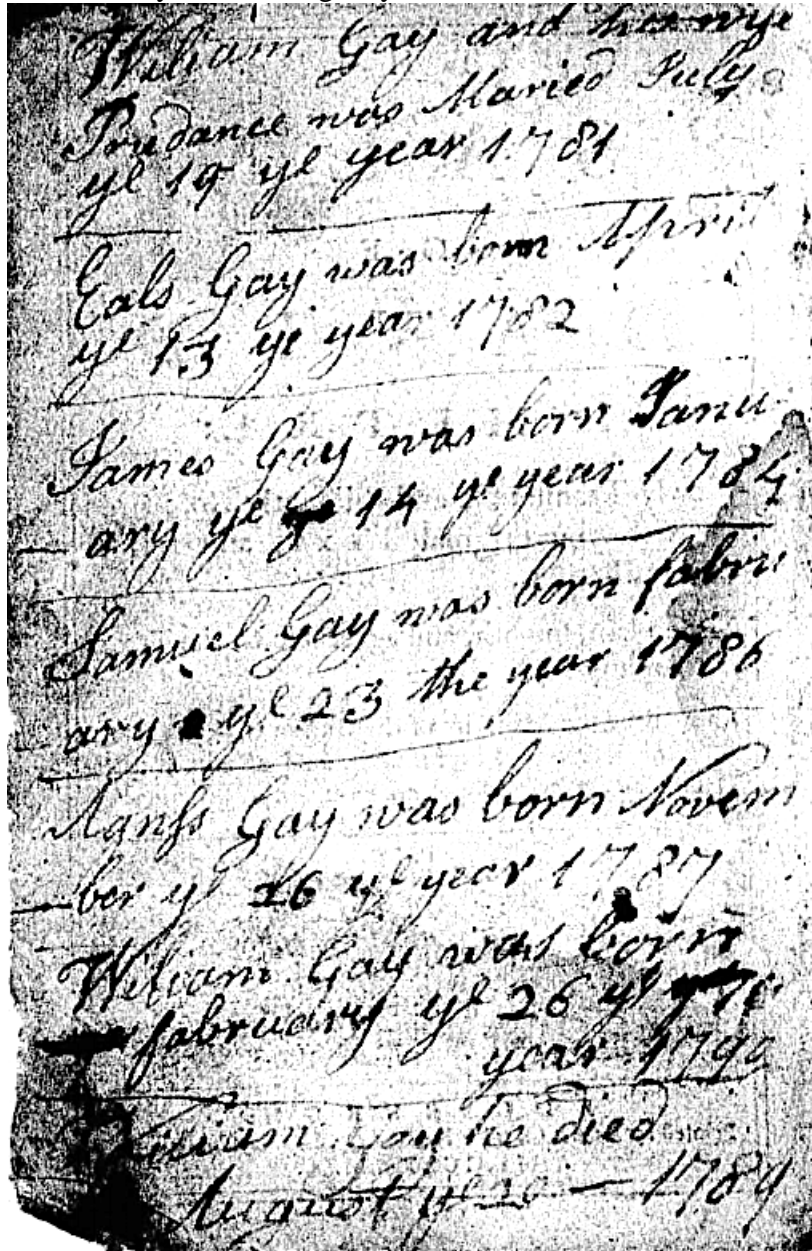
James Gay was born January ye 14 ye year 1784

Samuel Gay was born february ye 23 the year 1786

Agnss Gay [Agnes Gay] was born November ye 26 ye year 1787

William Gay was born february ye 26 ye year 1790

William Gay he died August ye 20 1789



[Facts in the file: Alexander Howie gave an affidavit in support of the claim stating among other matters that William Gay was nephew of Capt. Hugh Bratton and Col. William Bratton.]

[Jinny Carson gave a similar affidavit; as did Margaret Howie, 79; as did Sarah Howie, 67; as did Samuel McConnel, 72, who says he is the nephew of William Gay; McConnel Curry, 59, step son of Prudence Curry gave an affidavit regarding what his step mother told him about the

services of her first husband, William Gay, in the Revolution; Robert Porter, 70, lived a near neighbor to William Gay and his wife Prudence.]

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South Carolina, York District

Before me personally came Captain Robert Wilson aged 91 years past and made oath in due form of law that he became acquainted with William Gay of Colonel Bratton's Regiment the summer of 1780 Sumter's Brigade Militia and were in service same length of time together & during said period fought the Battles of Rocky-Mount [July 30, 1780] & hanging-Rock [August 7, 1780] and always understood and believed that the said William Gay was in service until the close of the War and lived in the neighborhood of Colonel Bratton and was a horseman or what was then called mounted militia as all Sumter's force at that time were.

Sworn to and subscribed April 30, 1850.

S/ J P Hood, Magt.

S/ Robert Wilson, X his mark²

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South Carolina York District

Before me personally appeared William Gay and made oath in due form of law that his Mother Prudence Curry was not aware in her lifetime that any provision was made by the United States for widows of Revolutionary Soldiers who were married the second time and was not aware himself that his mother Prudence Curry was entitled to a pension until the spring of 1850 after which time he commenced the claim and would gladly have endeavored to collect the claim for his Mother and her lifetime if he had known her second marriage had not debarred her of the Gratuity.

Deponent is unable to give his father William Gray's service in [indecipherable word] with precision but has always understood and believes his father's first service was done under Captain William Bratton afterwards Colonel William Bratton, Colonel Neal and that after William Bratton was promoted to the Rank of Colonel he was under the command of Captain Hugh Bratton as a volunteer horseman Colonel William Bratton's Regiment General Sumter's Brigade and as such he was almost constantly in service until the close of the war. Deponent has often heard his Mother Prudence Curry tell her children of her sufferings and hardships after her marriage to his said father during his absence in camp in which he was generally engaged after the marriage as above stated until the close of the war.

Deponent further says that his Father William Gay was the nephew of Colonel William & Captain Hugh Bratton and was hand and hand with them throughout the war and that their services are well known and duly appreciated as well as a matter of record.

Sworn to and subscribed this 22nd August A.D. 1851

S/ A. S. Wallace, Magistrate

S/ Wm Gay

[pp 37-38: Comptroller General's report of payments made to William Gay

² [Robert Wilson W2302](#)

Comptroller Genl's Office.

Columbia S.C. Nov 7: 1858

No 278 } I send this acct Sept 1784 to Mr William Gay for
 Book } thirty five pounds fourteen shillings and three
 pence for his service for 250 days Militia duty in
 1778 & 1781 as he acct. Audited.

Principal £ 35. 14. 3/4

Interest 2. 9. 11

"22^d Sept 84 Book 3 29278."

State of South Carolina & to William

Month	Year	Description	Amount (£)
May	1780	Service done under Capt. Hugh Bratton	
June	1780	fifty days at 1 per day -	58-
October	1781	Service done under Capt. Bratton	
		twenty two days at 1 per day -	72
November	1780	Service done under Capt. Hugh Bratton	
		96 days at 1 per day -	96
December	1778	Service done under Capt. H. Bratton	
		forty eight days at ten shillings day -	24
July		Five days as per Mr. Hornum's 20 p. 2	90.0
			<u>257</u>
			£ 37

A true copy of the above account
 taken from the original
 in the office of the
 Comptroller Genl.

These are to certify that I have compared
 Col. John Moffitt's & receive my publick
 indent from the publick Treasurer given
 from under my hand this 1 day of March
 1785

in presence of (signed) William Gay
 (Signed) Mr Bratton
 Mr 4043 Received the 22^d September 1784 full

"Satisfaction for the within account in Indent No 278 Book"
 £ for £ 35. 14. 3/4 Shillings in Water pay order from the within
 named Mr Gay in (signed) John Moffitt"
 I do hereby certify the foregoing
 to be a true copy attaken from the
 Original Records in this Office.
 For Comptroller Genl.
 James O. Black
 Secy

[Veteran's widow's heirs were awarded a pension in the amount of \$50 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 and ending February 26, 1844 for the services of William Gay as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

³ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for

[p 3 (retake of page 2)]

Mr. William Gay his account of 283 days Militia Duty in 1778, 1780, & 1781

Charged £259

deduct 9 days

not certified 9[old SC] Currency £250

Stg [Sterling] £35.14.3 ¼

Ex^d. W. G. [Examined by William Galvan]J. M^c. A. G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

Wm Gay

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No. Received the 22nd September 1784 full Satisfaction for the within Account in an Indent No. 278 Book I for £35.14.3 ¼ Sterling in Virtue of an Order from the above named William Gay

S/ Jno Moffett



[p 5 (retake of page 4)]

State of South Carolina to William Gay

June

27 th 1780	Service done under Captain Hugh Bratton fifty Eight days at £1 per day	£58
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October

15 th 1781	Service done under Captain Bratton Seventy two days at £1 per day	72
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November

25 th 1780	Service done under Captain Hugh Bratton 96 days at £1 per day	96
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December

10 th 1778	Service done under Captain W. Bratton [William Bratton] forty Eight days at 10 shillings per day	25
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July	Nine days as Private Horseman 20 S per day	<u>9.0.0</u>
		<u>£259</u>
		£37

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these are to Certify that I have empowered Colonel John Mooffett [sic] to Receive Public indent
from the public Treasurer given from under my hand this 1 of March 1785

in presence of

S/ W. Bratton, JP

S/ William Gay

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William Gay". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. The first name "William" is written in a large, flowing script, and the last name "Gay" is written in a similar but slightly smaller script, with a prominent loop at the end of the "y".