

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McCluer (McClure) W25692 Nancy McCluer f82NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves 2006 rev'd 9/11/16

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 9]

Declaration of John McClure to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832  
The State of Alabama, Circuit Court of Limestone County: SS

On this fourth day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the said Circuit Court held in & for the County of Limestone, State of Alabama now sitting, John McCluer a resident in the County aforesaid in the State aforesaid aged seventy three 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 Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That in the year 1776 & as well as he recollects, but of this is not certain, in the month of October of that year, he volunteered as a private in the Company commanded by James Gray as Captain & that Lewis Musick was Lieutenant in said Company and that William Porter was the Colonel, James Miller Lieutenant Colonel & Richard Singleton Major of the Regiment to which said Company belonged, at the time he joined them. That he left said Regiment a short time before he received his discharge in October 1780 & shortly after volunteered as a private & accompanied said Lieutenant Colonel James Miller as aid in his visits to the four stations commanded by said Miller. That after he volunteered & joined said Regiment, as aforesaid, he served nearly two years as a private in the Regiment aforesaid when he was elected Captain & commanded a Company in said Regiment until he was discharged as aforesaid. That he was elected Captain & took his command as such as well as he remembers in the summer of 1778 & served as such more than two years. That he received no commission as Captain but was elected by the Company, who elected their own officers by command of the Colonel, when said Regiment was new [sic, newly] organized. That he resided in the County of Rutherford State of North Carolina when he entered the service & was a volunteer. That during his service he marched mostly through North Carolina, but that he also marched in the States of South Carolina & Virginia. That he was in several skirmishes with the Tories in one of which he had a rib broken & that he has never entirely recovered from the effects of said wound. That he fought at the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]<sup>1</sup> where he commanded his Company in said Regiment on which day said James Miller commanded said Regiment & said James Gray was Major, that the Troops were under Colonels Campbell [William Campbell], Shelby [Isaac Shelby], Sevier [John Sevier] & Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], but he considered Campbell had the chief command. That he also reached the battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781]<sup>2</sup> before the fight was entirely over at which time he had been discharged from active service but

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_kings\\_mountain.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_cowpens.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html)

commanded a [illegible word] only a part of the Company which he then commanded was at said battle. That said battle of Kings Mountain was fought in the year 1780 & that of Cowpens in the year \_\_. That General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] commanded at the Cowpens & that Major Washington [Lt. Colonel William Washington] commanded the horse, but that he did not see Washington on that day. That when he marched into South Carolina he was under the immediate command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] & when he marched into Virginia he was under the command of General McDowell [Charles McDowell]. That after the war he served as a Captain two years at Bennett's [?] station on the frontiers of North Carolina in the County of Bunkhum [Buncombe].

That he was born the 11<sup>th</sup> January 1759 (as appears by the record of the family Bible which he left with his father in North Carolina) in the State of Pennsylvania near the Susquehanna River & that his Father removed to Rutherford County aforesaid when he was young, that he moved from Rutherford to Alabama where he has ever since resided. That he has the following testimony of his service & can procure no other: The discharge given him by the said William Porter dated 11<sup>th</sup> October 1780; A commission signed by Richard Caswell Governor, the date of which is obliterated & which he thinks he received about the close of the war & the affidavit of Jane Sweany [?]. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in Open Court.

S/ John McCluer

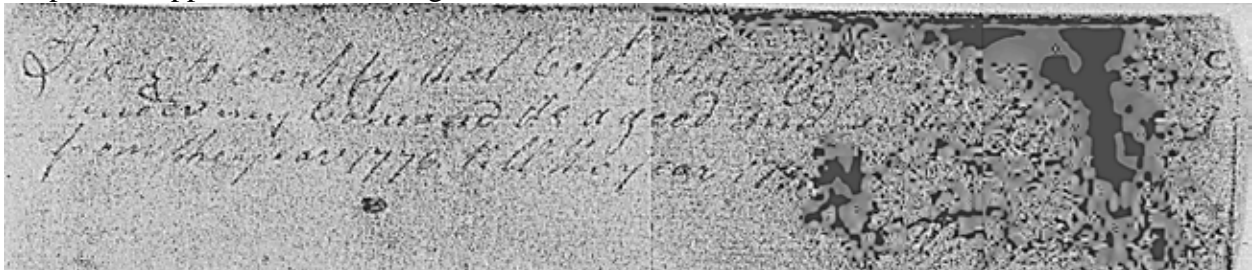


S/ Wash. Lord, Clk

[Clinton Tucker, a clergyman, and Joseph H Bradley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 23: Image of a commission granted to John McClure by Richard Caswell by which McClure was appointed a captain in the Rutherford County Regiment of militia; the commission is dated November 25, 17\_\_ [the paper is torn and the last 2 digits of the commission date our missing.]]

[p 26: partially illegible image of what I assume to be the discharge referred to by the veteran in his pension application. The image is as follow:



[I think I can make out the following from the above:

*This is to Certify that Capt. John McCluer \_\_\_\_\_  
under my Command As a good and \_\_\_\_\_  
from the year 1776 till the year 17 \_\_\_\_\_*

signature completely illegible

[p 46: There is a transcript of a document which the transcriber (not identified) interpreted as follows:

"This is the Certify that the Bearer here of John McLain [sic] has faithfully served as a captain in my Regiment over a Company of Light horse and has been very faithful in that part from the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 1781 to the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1782 and is hereby discharge from the service this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 1782.

S/ Robert Porter, Col."

I could not find in this file any document that appeared to be an image of the original certificate transcribed above.]

[p 68]

The State of Alabama Limestone County

Personally appeared before me James Campbell a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Jane Sweany aged about seventy-one years of age and made oath that she has been acquainted with John McClure since she could Recollect and lived in the same house when he joined the Troops in the Revolutionary war in the year 1776. That said McClure was Gone in the Service until peace was made with Great Britain and then was Stationed on the frontiers to Guard the Indians, the said McClure came home from the Battle of Kings Mountain with part of the Troops and was called Captain. This affiant is very infirm and could not attend court without great inconvenience.

Subscribed percent sworn to before me this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1832

S/ James Campbell, JP

S/ Jane Sweany, X her mark

[p 73]

The State of Alabama Limestone County: SS

On this twentieth day of March 1834, personally appeared in Open Court, before George W Lane Judge of the County Court of the County aforesaid, now sitting John McCluer aged seventy-six 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 act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That from the lapse of time & the decay of his memory he cannot be at all positive as to dates but as well as he recollects, in the month of May 1778, he first entered the service as a Volunteer & Joined the Company under the command of Captain John Lewis in which Company Alexander McFaddin was Lieutenant that said Company belong to the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Porter & Major James Gray – That he lived in the County of Rutherford in the State of North Carolina when he entered the service as aforesaid, that he joined said Company as a mounted man & they were termed minute men – That on Joining said Troops as aforesaid, he was marched with his said Company under the command of said Major Gray against a body of Tories on Broad River in South Carolina & having dispersed them was marched back into North Carolina against the Tories who had assembled in the Counties of Burke & Lincoln with whom he had Skirmishes, that he was then again marched back into South Carolina & had a skirmish with & dispersed the Tories on Pacolet River, that Colonel Wade Hampton commanded our troops at said Skirmishes but said Major James Gray commanded the Troops that came with affiant from North Carolina – From thence he was marched back into North Carolina & that his said Company was kept in the Field & in service to keep the Tories down in the said Counties of Rutherford, Burke & Lincoln. That he served as mounted man as above stated Eighteen months as a private & six months as a Captain; that in January 1780, he became Captain by the Election of his men, the said Captain John Lewis having become Major & said McFaddin resigned that he received no commission as Captain as aforesaid but was recognized as such by his Colonel the said William Porter – That again as he believes in August 1780, he as Captain of said Company

of mounted men Joined the Regiment in said County of Rutherford to resist the invasions of Colonel Ferguson, the said Regiment was then commanded by Colonel James Miller, that he retreated with the men under Colonel Miller to the Watauga & Holston [rivers], that there were not more than Eighty men that retreated with him under Colonel Miller & not more than twenty under him as Captain, the greater part of the Regiment having been dispersed before Ferguson – That on the Watauga they were met & reinforced by Colonels Campbell, Sevier, Shelby & others marched back & attacked & defeated Ferguson at Kings Mountain, which was in October 1780. That he fought in said Battle at Kings Mountain & then ranked as Captain under said Colonel Miller, but had not under his immediate command more than twenty men, That after said battle at Kings Mountain he kept his said Company of mounted men in service at the Command of Colonel Miller but did not march out of said County of Rutherford until the enemy under Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] attacked General Morgan at the Cowpens, that he had been ordered with his Company to join the Troops under General Morgan but did not reach them until the battle of the Cowpens was nearly over & as General Morgan had to retreat towards Virginia, he was ordered back to a line of Stations on the Frontiers of North Carolina, when he discharged his company of mounted men. That he served on these last mentioned services five months as Captain of said Company of mounted men. After which at the urgent request of said Colonel Miller he accompanied him as a private mounted man, on his visits to the several stations under his command, to wit, Walis's, Earle's & Underwoods's & other stations, That he was three months in this service, engaged principally in going with the said Colonel Miller from one of these stations to another – That in the winter of 1781 he was put in command as Captain of a small body of men at Barnett's Station in Buncombe County North Carolina, where he continued two years & long after the peace with Great Britain. That the above was one of a line of Stations to guard the Frontiers against the Cherokee Indians – That he was born the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 1759 in the County of York State of Pennsylvania – That he has now in his possession the Bible left him by his father in which his age is recorded. After the Revolutionary War he continued to live in Rutherford County North Carolina until the year 1821, when he removed to Jefferson County State of Alabama, whence he removed to Limestone County in 1828 where he has ever since & still resides. He received a written discharge signed by said Colonel William Porter as well as one signed by Colonel James Miller, the last mentioned discharge he lost sometimes since, the Discharge signed by Colonel William Porter, which bore date the \_\_ day of \_\_ 1780 mentioned that he had served as Captain in his regiment, was sent by affiant's request, along with his application for a pension to the Honorable C C Clay on the \_\_ day of November 1832. That he never received any commission as Captain during the Revolutionary war, but received one shortly after which he sent with the Discharge last aforesaid. That he is known to Reverend Joshua Butcher & Daniel Coleman in his neighborhood who know his character.

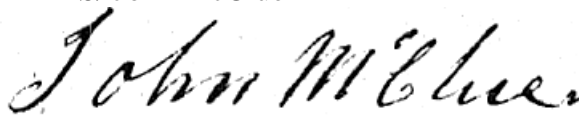
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn 2 & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

Test: S/ Robert Auston, Jr. Clerk

Limestone County Court

S/ John McCluer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John McCluer". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, connected style.

[Joshua Bautcher [sic], a Clergyman, and Daniel Coleman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 39]

The State of Alabama Limestone County

Personally appeared before me Nathaniel Davis a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Jane Sweeney now seventy-three years of age and who I Certify to be a person of good Character & Credible Witness and maketh oath that she lived in Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina in the time of the Revolutionary war and was then well acquainted with John McCluer who then lived in said County and knows that said McCluer Joined the Troops of the United States and was under the Command of Colonel Miller that she saw him different times with the Troops and knows that when he returned home from the Battle of Kings Mountain that he was Commonly Called Captain and believes he had the Command of a Company of Troops during or part of the war and she knows of his being in actual service as aforesaid but cannot Specify what length of time he served but knows that he was in the service a considerable length of time and was in service at the close of the war.

Scribed and sworn to before me this 29<sup>th</sup> of March 1834

S/ Jane Sweeney, ex her mark

Given under my hand & seal as stated above

S/ Nathaniel Davis, JP

[p 14: On August 28, 1837 in Limestone County Alabama, Nancy McClure produced the pension certificate of her husband and gave evidence that he died in Limestone County Alabama April 27, 1837 at his residence where he had resided for 9 years prior to his death; prior to his residence in Limestone County, he had lived in Morgan County Alabama and prior to that in North Carolina. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 16: Copy of a marriage license issued May 10, 1827 in Morgan County Alabama for the marriage of John McClure to Nancy Black.]

[p 17: On October 30, 1854 in Morgan County Alabama, Nancy McClure filed for a widow's pension as the widow of John McClure, a deceased Revolutionary war Pensioner; she states that she married him on May 10, 1827 and that he died April 27, 1837 and that she has remained a widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 65: On April 2, 1855 the Comptroller General of North Carolina issued a certificate listing payments made to a Captain John McClure of Craven County in the New Bern district of North Carolina. This certificate clearly would not relate to this veteran.]

[Veteran was initially pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum increased to \$100 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina militia as a cavalryman. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]