

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Mathew Alexander W324 Eleanor (Elenor) Alexander f51SC  
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 5/3/10 & 7/16/14 & 1/31/18

[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.]

State of Tennessee, County of Henry

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court now sitting Mathew Alexander a resident of the County of Henry and State of Tennessee aged about Seventy five 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<sup>th</sup> 1832—

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

I entered the service of the United States in the fall of the year 17\_\_ as a substitute for my father James Alexander who was taken sick a few days before the army was to march, which was the first call for men in the State of South Carolina against the British—the officers that I recollect were Captain Parsons, Colonel Shelby and General Rutherford. I entered the service at Spartanburgh [sic, Spartanburg] County South Carolina for three months—we marched across the country to McCorpen's [?] Creek where we were discharged in January or February 17\_\_ by Captain Parsons. I was in no engagement.

I volunteered in Spartanburg County South Carolina in May or June 17\_\_ under Captain Parsons of the Cavalry and Lieutenant Moore Captain Parsons with his company of from twenty to thirty men marched to General Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] Camp where we tendered our services and were first under the command of Colonels Shelby [John Shelby] and Roebuck [Benjamin Roebuck]—we were marched to Musgrove's Mill on the Enoree River South Carolina where we had a battle with the British and Tories, we took Sixty prisoners or more and got them away with us although we retreated from here we marched to a place called Ninety Six in South Carolina where we were stationed three months—we were furloughed a short time and then were marched to King's Mountain; but did not reach there in time to be in the battle, which proved the defeat of Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson]—after this we had no regular campaign but were scouring the country to suppress the Tories, til the taking of Cornwallis, after which we were discharged in Spartanburg County by Captain Parsons. I remained in the service from the time of volunteering nearly two years without intermission. I have no documentary evidence and know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify as to my service. I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

1. Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Roane County North Carolina in the year 1757.

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

I have only a memorandum of my age.

3. Where were you living when called into the Service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

I was living in Spartanburg County South Carolina when I entered the Service. I remained in Spartanburg County 7 or 8 years after the war from there I moved to Logan County Kentucky, where I lived 32 years—from there I moved to Henry County Tennessee where I have lived about 8 years and I now live in Henry County Tennessee.

4. How were you called into the service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute, for whom?

The first time I entered the Service, I was a substitute for James Alexander: after that I was a volunteer.

5. State the names of some of the Officers of the Regular Army who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services.

I know of no officers except Captain Parson [sic], Colonels Shelby and Roebuck, General Rutherford, Lieutenant Moore, General Sumpter and such other officers as I may have named in the body of this declaration.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

I received a discharge as a Substitute and also as my own account—they were given by Captain Parsons and they are lost.

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their opinion of your having served in the War of the Revolution.

For character for veracity and their opinion of my having served in the Revolutionary War, I refer to Stephen Townsend and George Cryder.

S/ Mathew Alexander, X his mark

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thos. K. Porter, Clk.

[Stephen Townsend and George Cryder gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9]

The Amended declaration of Matthew Alexander

State of Tennessee Henry Circuit Court of Law & equity May Term 1833

Personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Josiah Haskill Judge thereof Matthew Alexander who being duly sworn deposeseth & saith that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory and from his want of learning as he cannot read nor write, by which he could have refreshed his memory as to dates, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. In his first tour as a substitute for his father, James Alexander, who had been drafted & served one month and was taken sick, this declarant took his place & served out the tour of three months for which he had been drafted making at that time, two months service for the declarant.

His next service as a volunteer under Captain Parsons, as a private he entered the service in Spartanburg South Carolina. The time he cannot recollect, but remained in active service as he has before stated, except for two days which he had a furlough, until the surrender of Cornwallis, when

he was discharged comprising a period not less than eighteen months actual service making in the whole pay period of 20 months of actual service for which he claims a pension.

May the 28th 1832

S/ Matthew Alexander, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

S/ James Jones Clerk

[The Reverend James Miller and Terrence Cooney gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 14: on December one, 1851, in Henry County Tennessee, Ellenor Alexander, 87, filed for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of Matthew Alexander, a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$66.66 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him May 17, 1782 in South Carolina as noted in a later amendment to her application; that he died January 14, 1841 [last 2 digits written over and uncertain]; that she remains his widow.]

[p 18: on March 9, 1852 in Henry County Tennessee, Jefferson D. Alexander testified that he is the youngest son of Eleanor Alexander and her husband Matthew Alexander; that he is now in his 40s the year of his age; that Eleanor and Matthew had 7 children older than himself names and ages as follows: Thomas Alexander who is about 50 years old, Robert Alexander (if living) about 54 years old, Hugh Alexander who is 59 to 60 years old, John Alexander (if living) about 62 years old, James Alexander about 65 years old, William Alexander about 68 years old, and Jane Alexander (who is dead) about 69 years old.]

[p 23: On January 18, 1856 in Henry County Tennessee, Eleanor Alexander, 90, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Matthew Alexander.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$66.66 commencing March 4th, 1831 for services rendered during the revolution. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

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South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>1</sup> relating to Matthew Alexander [Alexander] AA5  
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 70

[p 2]

No. 114

3338

X

29<sup>th</sup> June 86

Mattw, Alexander

For Militia Duty in Roebuck's [Benjamin Roebuck's] Regiment, since the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] per Anderson's [Robert Anderson's] Return Amounting to

[South Carolina] Currency	£345.0.0
Sterling	£49.5.8 ½

Received 29 June 1786 full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 3338 – X per Assignment.

S/ C. C. Schutt

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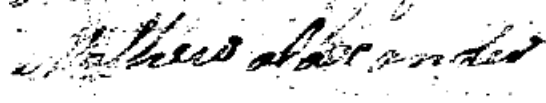
<sup>1</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>.

[p 5: very faint]

I asine [assign] over my right and title of the with in Indent to William Henderson for [too faint to discern] received [too faint to discern]

As wittness my hand this [too faint to discern] 1787

S/ Mathew alaxander

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mathew Alexander". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized and slanted.