

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Liddell W3835

Ruth Liddell

f41SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

3/26/10: rev'd 9/10/23

[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.]

[Note: This MAY be the same man as [William Liddell, Jr. SC4904](#). I have included this claim as a separate individual because of the dissimilarity of the signatures realizing that the passage of 50 years might well have resulted in significant differences in the appearance of the veteran's signature.]

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"A memorandum of time William Liddell Was married Feb.^r the 3 Day 1784"

[taken from a book entitled "The Confession of Faith of the "]

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Georgia Gwinnett County} Inferior Court December Term 1832

Personally appeared in open Court William Liddell—(It being a Court of record now sitting) aged Seventy years a resident of the County of Gwinnett & State aforesaid -- who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to avail himself of the benefits of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated -- (To wit) That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1776 under Captain William Baskins [William Baskin] Lieutenant James Baskins [James Baskin] -- in what was then Ninety Six District in the State of South Carolina -- That he was in service in the fort at Bull Town in said district about one month & was sick one month at the same place -- That Some time in the year 1778 as he believes -- he volunteered under Captain James McCall -- subordinate officers not recollected. Were ordered on an expedition to Saint Augustine in Florida¹ -- attached to Major Pickens' [Andrew Pickens] Brigade or division of General Williamson's [Andrew Williamson's] Army -- That they went as far as St. Mary's River in Florida -- after crossing said River General Howe [Robert Howe] took the Command -- and by his orders were discharged and returned home -- that said term of service continued three months or more. That sometime in the year 1779 he again volunteered under Captain Andrew Miller -- subordinate officers not recollected -- and went on an expedition commanded by General Williamson against the Cherokee Indians -- into the Cherokee nation -- to big Sumach [?] Town on Hiwassee River -- thence to Coosawattie [Coosawhatchie] thence to Eastanmollie [?]- thence

¹ Third Florida expedition: Spring 1778 [Robert Howe, Commanding Officer] See, also: John Houstoun and the 1778 Expedition to East Florida <https://allthingsliberty.com/2013/12/john-houstoun-1778-expedition-east-florida/>

to a town called Pine Log on High Tower River -- and soon after returned home having never been in any battle -- That he believes he was engaged in said last Term of service two months or more -- That in the year 1780 he again volunteered under Captain William Baskins attached to Colonel Pickens' Division and marched to the State of Georgia to a station opposite Beech Island -- was stationed at said place until news arrived of the surrender of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] -- that he then went with the Army to Congaree to a place called Friday's ferry on said River -- after lying at said ferry a few days -- we returned home but was not discharged until sometime after returning home was ordered out to a place called Cowhead -- where Colonel Pickens surrendered his command to and took British protection for himself and his Division -- That he was engaged in said Service about two months -- That he again volunteered in the same year 1780 -- under Captain James McCall and marched through the Indian lands to North Carolina and joined Colonel McDowell's [Charles McDowell's] Division of North Carolina Militia -- remained under the command of Colonel McDowell for some considerable time -- then joined Colonel Elijah Clarke -- who commanded a division of the Georgia Militia -- and who had also come with his division into North Carolina -- & under his command continued under his (Colonel Clarke's) command -- scouting about after the Tories near the line between North and South Carolina -- and occasionally in either state -- until about the first of August 1780 -- That he went then to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County North Carolina -- still under the command of Colonel Clarke -- intending to join General Gates [Horatio Gates] -- On reaching Charlotte was informed of the defeat of General Gates near Camden [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] and then joined Major Davy's [sic, William Lee Davie's] horse company and went under his command in the South Carolina and reconnoitering the British for some time near Camden in the neighborhood of the Battle ground where Gates was defeated -- returned to Charlotte -- From Charlotte he went under the command of Colonel Clarke & Captain McCall aforesaid -- on the frontiers of the Indian territories & State of South Carolina -- and at length arrived at home in Ninety Six district South Carolina aforesaid sometime in September -- That he next went under the officers aforesaid -- To wit -- Colonel Clarke & Captain McCall to North Carolina -- to a settlement called Nolichucky heard of Ferguson's defeat at King's mountain [October 7, 1780] -- went to Burke County in said State (NC) after scouting about some time in Burke County aforesaid we returned to South Carolina and took & burnt a Fort from the Tories somewhere on the waters of Broad River -- name of the Fort not recollected -- after scouting for some time in the neighborhood -- we fell in with a company of Tories at Lawson's fork of Broad River -- and had a severe skirmish -- at which a few men were lost on each side and our officers taken prisoners by -- our party -- that he left his party about the first of December -- That he was engaged in said last mentioned service about five months or more. --

He then volunteered sometime about the first of August 1781 under Captain Moses Liddell of Colonel Pickens' Regiment or Division to march against the British at Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] = Deponent was chosen a spy to watch the movements of the Hostile Indians on the frontiers of South Carolina -- He was employed in such service about one month.

That he volunteered again in 1782 -- under Captain Baskins aforesaid -- attached to (then) General Pickens' Division of the State Militia -- and proceeded under General Pickens -- to Beaver dam Creek in the State of Georgia -- where we met with Colonel Clarke -- and in company with him and his Division -- march into the Cherokee nation -- to a Town called Long Swamp which we destroyed with fire from thence to Pine log -- from thence to Coosawatty -- which we also destroyed -- thence to Eastan allin [?]- which we found had been already

destroyed by Colonel Savayre [sic, probably a reference to John Sevier] -- from thence he returned home and was discharged finally. That he never took any written discharges from his officers -- but was discharged at the end of each Tour of Service by his officers verbally. That he will has a record of his birth -- He knows of no evidence that he can obtain to prove his Services -- After the Close of the war he lived some time in what is now called Abbeville District in the State of South Carolina -- from thence he removed to Pendleton district in said State and resided there until 1820 -- when he removed to Gwinnett County and State of Georgia where he now resides.

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 & subscribed in open Court -- the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William Liddell



(Attest) S/ John Maltbie, Clk

[John L. Wilson, a clergyman and Thomas Weems gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Georgia Gwinnett County} Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the said State and County -- William Liddell -- who being duly sworn depose & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positive 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 to wit -- for one month I served as a private militia volunteer soldier in 1776. For three months, I served as a private militia volunteer soldier in 1778. For two months, I served as above in 1779. For two months I served as above in 1780, and also in the same year another tour of five months -- and for one month I served as aforesaid in 1781. For one month I served as a private militia soldier in 1782 -- and for such service I claim a pension --

And this deponent further saith that he volunteered his services to do & perform each & every of the above tours of duty -- and at the time and manner of doing said service are to the best of his recollection set forth above and in his original declaration.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 30 day of September 1833

S/ G. W. Jones, JP

S/ William Liddell

[p 11: On April 9th 1839 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Ruth Liddell, 77, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Liddell late of Gwinnett County a pensioner at the rate of \$50 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him in February of 1784; that he died August 23, 1836; that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark]

[p 38: On September 18, 1843 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Ruth Liddell, 81, filed for a widow's pension under the 1843 act stating that she is the widow of William Liddell a pensioner at the rate of \$50 per annum for his services in the revolution and that she remains his widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]