

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Gray ¹ W419

Elizabeth Gray

f83GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/1/08 rev'd 10/1/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

State of South Carolina Pickens District

On this 3rd of October 1832 Personally appeared in Open Court before the Judge of Pickens District, John Gray a resident of the State and District aforesaid, aged Seventy-four 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 the 7th of June 1832, that he enlisted and entered into the service of the United State Troops, when I was about seventeen years of age, under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

My first Tour I enlisted for eighteen months Service in the State of Georgia, under Captain Joseph Duncan, Lieutenants Robert Middleton and Matthew Duncan, Commanded by Colonel Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] we continued for some time on the frontiers of Georgia, to Guard it from Savage invasion, while the Florida expedition, was then called to the Florida's under Governor Houston [John Houstoun] & General Scriven [James Screven], was marched on towards Brown's Fort on the St Tilley's [Satilla River], against an Army of British and Tories commanded by Brown [Thomas "Bert Foot" Brown], but when we reached the place, we found the Fort was burned, and the British had evacuated the place, we then pursued on after towards St. John's River, and when we came up with the Army we found them entrenched in a Swamp, where we had an engagement and received but little injury. Colonel Clarke received a wound through his leg we was then marched back and at the Altamaha [River] I received a Discharge which is lost.

After some time I enlisted again in the State troops Service in the State of Georgia (on the 10 day of June but I am not positive in what year) for twelve months service under Colonel James Jackson Captain James Stallion, Lieutenants Blunt and Harvey Ensign Ezekiel Stallion, during which Tour we had an engagement with the British commanded by Colonel Camron near Savannah at a place called the Governor's plantation but without success. During which Tour we were frequently with General Waine [sic, Anthony Wayne], Colonel White, Captain Gill & Captain Gunn. Then at the expiration of the year on the 10 day of June following I received my Discharge which is also lost, and also that I know of no documentary evidence that I can conveniently procure to testify to my services above stated.

And I hereby relinquish every claim whatever 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.

^{1st} When and in what year were you born?

¹ BLWt56568-160-55

In the State of Georgia, and in the year 1758

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

No written record -- only a verbal record from my Mother

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

I lived in the State of Georgia, when I enlisted in the service Continued in Georgia a few years after the war ended moved into South Carolina, in which I now reside

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

I enlisted

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

General Wayne, Colonel White and Captain Gill & Captain Gunn were frequently United with us in my 12 months Tour.

As to the most-noted circumstances of Services was first the Florida Expedition under General Screven and Governor Houston, and Secondly an engagement with Colonel Brown when he was entrenched in a swamp under Colonel Clarke.

6th 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 2 discharges, one from Colonel Clarke and one from Colonel James Jackson and they are both lost.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

S/ John Gray, X his mark

S/ William L. Keith, Clerk

[Thomas Morgan, a clergyman, and David Sloan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 81]

The State of South Carolina Pickens County: SS

Before me came John Gray (a Revolutionary Soldier) a person to me well-known and worthy of credit & belief and made Oath, That he entered the Service of the Country during the Revolutionary War when he was seventeen years of age that he supposes it was about the year 1775 and that he was constantly in the Service till June before Lord Cornwallis was taken at Little York [October 19, 1781] he returned home then he supposes it was in the year 1781. He is a man of no education, a treacherous memory and has no witness within his reach to whom he can apply to testify to his Services except William Entrekin whose affidavit is sent herewith – The omission of the Certificate of the magistrate that Entrekin is credible was not his fault but the neglect or omission of General Whitner who drew it up or the Clerk of the Court of Anderson District. He now sends an affidavit of Colonel Joseph Grisham, Certifying that Entrekin is a credible person. This deponent sayeth that for want of Education he is unable to state times & facts with that precision which he would desire to do but cannot recollect.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 1st day of April 1833

S/ John Gray, X his mark

S/ Thomas Lamar, JP

[p 9]

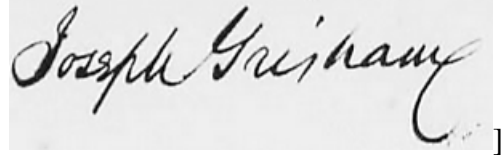
State of South Carolina Anderson District

William Entreken² of the State and District aforesaid being duly sworn on his oath declare that he is well acquainted with John Gray now of Pickens District and was during the War of the Revolution. That they belonged to the same Company in the Georgia State Troops commanded by Captain James Stallion in Colonel James Jackson's Regiment as stated in the Declaration of each of them for the term of 12 months. That he always understood and verily does believe that the said John Gray was a Whig and hand and heart during that struggle.

S/ Wm Entreken



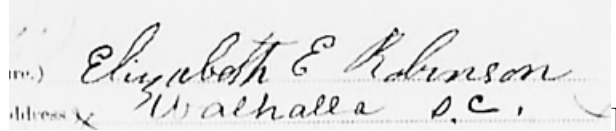
[p 62: On April 1st, 1833 in Pickens District South Carolina, Colonel Joseph Grisham gave testimony as to the character of William Entrekin of Anderson District, South Carolina; the affiant states that Entrekin is a man of truth and a respectable member of the Methodist Church and reputed to be a revolutionary war pensioner.



[p 14: On April 5, 1853, in Pickens District, Elizabeth Gray, aged about 55 or 60, filed for her widow's entitlement as the widow of John Gray, a revolutionary pensioner; that she married him in Pickens District in October 1837; that they were married by Eli Fitzgerald Esquire, a Magistrate; that she was at the time she married John Gray was the widow of Henry Green who had died in Union District; that John Gray died on September 12, 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 11: On July 15, 1856, in Pickens District, Elizabeth Gray, 70, filed for her widow's bounty land entitlement as the widow of John Gray. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 28: Petition by Jesse McMahon and Elizabeth E Robinson for allowance of expenses paid on by half of a deceased pensioner; in this document the petitioner state that Elizabeth Gray died at home in Oconee County April 13, 1787; that her final burial expenses totaled \$15 \$5 paid by Jesse McMahon and \$10 paid by Elizabeth E Robinson.



[Facts in file: Elizabeth died April 13, 1878 in Oconee County, SC, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Ellen Robinson, who was the daughter of her first husband.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Georgia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount and her pension was increased to \$96 per annum after the close of the American Civil War.]