

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Bolling Wright<sup>1</sup> W5183

Milley

f81VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/17/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

### State of South Carolina District of Fairfield

On this 7th day of May in the year of our Lord 1834, personally appeared in open Court before John R Buchanan Esquire Judge of the Court of Ordinary in and for Fairfield District in the State aforesaid Bolling Wright a resident of Fairfield District aforesaid in the State aforesaid, aged seventy-five years (nearly), 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 7th 1832; That he was born in Brunswick County near Maherrin River [Meherrin River] in the State of Virginia on the 12th day of May A.D. 1759; that Deponent has his age recorded in his family Bible, and made the entry from one that was made in his father's Bible and has no doubt of the correctness of the entry in both.

Deponent when first called into service was living in Brunswick County State of Virginia and after the first time of duty removed to Mecklenburg County Virginia, and was living in the last named County when he performed the [indecipherable word, looks like "ten"] military services hereinafter mentioned, and in the course of 5 or 6 years after the peace of 1783 deponent removed to Fairfield District aforesaid South Carolina and has lived there ever since, and now lives there.

Deponent was drafted in every tour he performed, he belonged to the 2nd Division Virginia Militia, said Militia being divided into ten Divisions.

Deponent received a discharge in writing in his second tour from Captain Oliver at Pitch Landing the place of discharge some distance above Portsmouth Virginia which discharge was at this time looked on by Deponent as of little importance and has long since by time or accident been lost or destroyed. Deponent has no distinct recollection of receiving discharges at any other time but thinks it possible that he received a discharge at the end of every tour, as he served out his time in every term, and until authorized by the proper authorities to return home, but if deponent did receive such discharges they have been lost or destroyed as deponent has lately made diligent search amongst his papers but could not find any.

Deponent states that the following persons are his neighbors and can testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution to wit, David R Coleman, Jacob Feaster, Robert F. Coleman, Thomas Lyles, Reverend William Joiner, Robert Coleman Senior, Andrew Feaster, John Feaster, Reverend Samuel Fant, Isaac Means

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

First Tour. The first tour deponent performed was in Captain Jesse Taylor's company Infantry,

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt26982-160-55

was living when called into service in Brunswick County Virginia, was called out in the month of January but does not recollect the year nor the date of the month. Was marched to a town in Virginia called Portsmouth which was separated from the Town of Norfolk by Norfolk River. The troops were stationed at Portsmouth during the whole tour and use the houses as barracks for the troops. There was a small fort above the Town on the north side mounting as well as remembered eight cannon which fort was manned by some of the troops. Deponent was stationed in the Town. General Weadon [George Weedon] commanded the whole Militia. Does not recollect the name of the Colonel. Asap Gregory was orderly Sergeant in deponents company. Boling Sparr and Sugar Jincham [??] were privates in the company and Solomon Wright deponent's father also a private were along in this tour. Deponent does not now recollect the names of any other officers in this tour. Does not believe there were any regular troops along this tour. Deponent served as a private this tour two months. There was no engagement with the enemy this term.

Second Tour. The second tour of service performed by Deponent was under Captain Oliver (believes his Christian name was John) Deponent was living in Mecklenburg County when this and the following terms were performed. Was marched through Petersburg, on to a place called Pitch Landing. At this tour commenced in December as deponent believes. Recollects the company stopping and getting turnips in their march above the Town of Petersburg. Does not recollect the year nor day of the month. Arthur Fox was first Lieutenant. When the Company arrived at the Pitch Landing it was placed under command of Colonel Flemming. There were some troops at the Pitch Landing when the Company under Captain Oliver arrived, under General Muhlenberg. Thanks General Muhlenberg had some regular troops under his command. John Bolling was adjutant to Colonel Flemming's Regiment and Jacob Beasley [?] was orderly Sergeant to the Company deponent was attached to. Does not recollect the names of any other officers unless that of Captain Graves who commanded one of the Militia Companies. During this tour the British had possession of Portsmouth where the Deponent performed his first tour. Had no serious engagement with the enemy. Deponent volunteered under Colonel Flemming with about fifty men to reconnoiter the enemy and drove in their picket yard in the old field near Portsmouth; one of the party under Colonel Flemming was wounded by a ball in the thigh in this affair. The troops had temporary huts erected at the Pitch Landing and were stationed there during the tour. The object was to protect the country against the inroads of the enemy from Portsmouth. Deponent served three months as a private soldier this tour.

Third Tour. In the third tour deponent served he was commanded by Captain James Harrison, William Lewis first Lieutenant and \_\_\_ Tucker was the Major. This tour commenced in the spring of the year. Does not recollect the year nor the month. It was very warm weather before Deponent got home. Was marched on to Cumberland Court House, Virginia and there was joined by other Militia Company; Thence was marched in to Pointy Fork on James River, and joined General Steuben who had about 900 regulars under him. Some of his men were blacks. General Stephen had command of the whole Army. The British were on the opposite side of the River and fired cannon across, and shot a horse of Major Cunningham. General Steuben had no cannon and retreated back to Williamsburg and the next day the regulars and militia separated and the militia fell under command of General Lawson and were commanded by him the remainder of the tour. Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] was said to have been a long with British at James River. The Militia under General Lawson were then marched lower down James River. Deponent was then taken sick and knows very little of the movements of the Army during the remainder of the tour. Deponent served three months as a private soldier this tour.

Fourth Tour. Deponent was called out in the fourth tour in the year 1781. He recollects the year from the circumstance that it was the year in which Cornwallis surrendered at York Town but does not recollect the month nor day of the month. Captain Stephen Maberry commanded the Company. Edward Pennington first Lieutenant. Was marched to Nottoway River Jones Bridge. Believes the bridge was in Amelia County Virginia, marched in (crossing the Nottoway River) to the Appomattox River, crossed it and went in to James River and crossed it at Hog Island, thence through Williamsburg town, thence to Mattaponi River one [indecipherable word] of little York River), crossed it and went into the paymunkie [Pamunkey] River, crossed at Ruffin's, thence down the Pamunkey River until the troops joined General Lafayette [indecipherable word] York Town, was joined by another Company in the march between Appomattox and James Rivers. At York Town deponent's company was placed under command of a Militia Colonel his name not recollected. The Militia General was named Weedon. Graves was the Major. General Washington commanded the whole American forces, and was on the other side of the River from General Lafayette who was the head commander on his side. In nineteen days after Deponent arrived at York Town the enemy under Command of Cornwallis surrendered. There was a great collection of troops both Regulars and Militia assembled. Captain Maybury's company remained at York Town some time after the surrender, and until arrangements were made to secure the captured property, and afterwards assisted in escorting the prisoners. Deponent served three months as a private soldier in this tour.

That deponent kept no journal or memorandum of his services at the time and owing to his age and consequent loss of memory is unable to state the month or years in which the services were rendered, but he has a good recollection of the tours he served and the length of time he served in each tour, and that he served eleven months in all as a private soldier and for this period of service he claims a pension.

That during the time he was in service he was not engaged in any civil pursuit but was wholly engaged in his duties as a soldier. That he belonged to an embodied Corps, regularly organized and called it out into the United States service by competent authority.

That deponent knows of no person now living who can testify to his actual services. That said services as above stated were performed in Virginia and that deponent has for forty-five or forty-six years past resided in Fairfield District South Carolina, and knows of no one who has actual knowledge of the services.

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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John R Buchanan, O F D

S/ Bolling Wright



[Samuel Fant, a clergyman, and David R Coleman, Esquire, Robert F Coleman, Major Thomas Lyles, Isaac Means, & Captain Henry J Coleman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f 23: On September 16, 184\_[last digit tour off] in Walton County Georgia, Milley Wright, 71, filed for a widows pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Bolling Wright, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution at the rate of \$36.66 per annum;

that she married him August 4th, 1787 in Mecklenburg County Virginia; that her husband died January 12, 1841 in Jackson County Georgia where he had resided 2 months; prior to his death he had resided in Fairfield District South Carolina for the space of 53 years.]

[f 28: William Saunders Wright, a resident of Walton County, GA, gave testimony that he is a son of Bolling and Milley Wright; that Elizabeth, his sister, was his parents oldest child; that Elizabeth was born October 28, 1788; that he, affiant, was born January 15, 1796

*William S. Wright* ]

[f p 31: On February 3, 1845, David S. Wright, 36, a resident of Jackson County Georgia gave testimony that he is a son of Bolling and Milley Wright; that his father died January 12, 1841 at the Jug Tavern in Jackson County Georgia leaving his mother Milley his widow.

*David S. Wright* ]

[Veteran was pension at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 11 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]