

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Whittington <sup>1</sup> W535  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Mary Whittington f64SC  
rev'd 2/9/17

[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 54]

For the purposes of obtaining the benefit of an act entitled "an act for the relief of certain Surviving Officers & Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution, approved 15<sup>th</sup> May 1828 –

Lieutenant Richard Whittington –  
Benton's Regiment, Pierson's Company, South Carolina line

I Richard Whittington of Amite County in the State of Mississippi, do hereby declare that I was an officer in the South Carolina line of the Continental Army of the revolution and served as such to the end of the War, at which period I was a Lieutenant in Colonel Lemuel Benton's Regiment of the South Carolina line in Captain Moses Pierson's Company.

And I also declare that I afterwards received a certificate (commonly called a commutation certificate, for the sum equal to the amount of five years full pay, which sum was offered by the Resolve of Congress of the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1783 instead of half pay for life, to which I was Entitled under the Resolve of the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1780 –

And I also further declare that I have not received any pension or applied for any nor authorized any[one] for me to apply for any either from the United States or from any State –

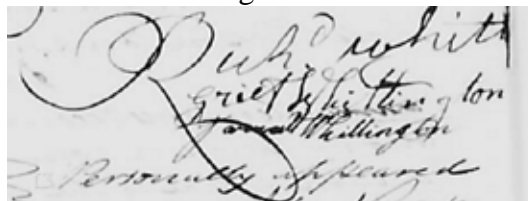
Also I further declare that my Commission has been lost or destroyed by time, and that owing to my removal more than 22 years ago from my native State and from most of my comrades in arms it is difficult for me to procure much proof of my Statement – I entered the Army in the same Regiment as private soldier when Robert Lloyd was Captain of my Company, after 2 years service I was promoted when Captain Henson & Captain Moses Pierson commanded my company.

In testimony I subscribe my name this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September A.D. 1828

S/ Rich'd Whit [sic]

S/ Grief Whittington

S/ Jarrart Whittington

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive ink on aged paper. The signature reads "Richard Whittington" and "Grief Whittington" with a large flourish underneath. Below the signature, the words "Personally appeared" are written in a smaller hand.

State of Mississippi Amite: Personally appeared before me John R. Browne presiding judge of the County court of the said County, Richard Whittington who signed the above statement &

<sup>1</sup> BLWt26973-160-55

swore on the holy Evangelists that the facts therein stated are true: also Grief Whittington and Girard Whittington who severally declared on oath as follows, to wit Grief Whittington <sup>[&] Gerard Whittington</sup> swore that he knows that Richard Whittington who signed the above statement to have been an officer of the rank of lieutenant in the Army of the revolution in manner as therein stated & that he the said Grief Whittington served 5 years as a private soldier in the same Company & Regiment in which this said Richard was then a Lieutenant and the said Grief Whittington & Gerard Whittington declared on oath that the said Richard Whittington by whom the foregoing statement is & has been generally reputed to have been an officer in the Army of the revolution in manner as therein stated.

Witness my hand this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September in the year 1828

S/ John R Browne

[p 51]

Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department,

13 November 1828

Richard Whittington of \_\_\_ in the County of Amite in the State of Mississippi has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that was an officer in the Continental line, and served as such to the end of the War, at which period he was a Lieutenant in ~~the~~ Co. Benton's regiment of the S. Carolina line; and that he received commutation certificates for the five years full pay granted by the resolve of 22 March, 1783; and, further, that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March 1826, nothing dollars, paid to him by the agent in the State of \_\_\_

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary

S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,

Third Auditor's Office,

19<sup>th</sup> November 1828

~~It appears by the records of this office, that final settlement certificates had been issued for the commutation of five years full pay to \_\_\_ in the \_\_\_ line, amounting to \_\_\_ dollars.~~

It further appears that Richard Whittington is <sup>not</sup> now on the pension list of any agency, and has <sup>not</sup> been so since the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1826 at the rate of \_\_\_ per month.

The Revolutionary records in this Office furnish no information whatever in relation to the services of Lieutenant Richard Whittington of the South Carolina line

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

War Department: Bounty land office

19 May 1829

The records of this office do not show that Lieutenant Richard Whittington of the South Carolina line ever received or is entitled to Land from the United States.

S/ E. Stephens

[p 3]

State of Mississippi, Amite County: Probate Court of Amite County

On this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ Personally appeared before the Hon. V. J. Crawford Probate Judge

of said County Richard Whittington, a resident of Zion Hill Precinct in the County and State aforesaid, Aged about 82 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 Provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States (as well as he recollects) in the year 1778 or 1779 under the following named Officers and served as herein stated:

(1) That he first entered the Service as a volunteer under Captain Robert Lloyd commanded by Colonel William Hicks and served as a private two months (as he supposes); that the troops were destined to a station at Ninety Six, but being advised of the Surrender of that post, the March was directed to a Camp near Camden South Carolina known by the name of Snow Camp where he remained till discharged. *[Note: The Whigs first “surrendered” the fort at Ninety Six in the late fall of 1775 when it was surrendered by Major Andrew Williamson to the Tory forces. Once Whig control was re-established in the backcountry following the first Battle of Ninety Six, the fort there was occupied by the Whigs until after the fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780. Consequently, this applicant most have entered service originally in late 1775, if his recollection of the destination of his first march is correct.]*

(2) The next Service was entered by the applicant under the same officers; marched to Charleston and remained in Garrison in expectation [sic, expectation] of the British a term of two months as well as can be recollected. In this Service he was again a volunteer.

(3) The next engagement was Served with the same officers called by Draft at the See Wee Bay [sic, Sewee Bay] & Bull's Island and Served he thinks again about two months as a private.

(4) He was again called into the service by Draft under the same officers and stationed at Fort Johnson, on James Island near Charleston where he continued about one month and a half.

(5) The next service called by Draft was rendered in a Campaign conducted by Colonel Morris Simmons [sic, Maurice Simons] in the Company Commanded by Captain Thomas [probably Capt. Tristram Tomas], stationed for three weeks at Purysburg when the British Army came across the Savannah River in pursued our militia to Coosahatchie Creek—here Colonel Simons made a stand and gave battle; the action was here Conducted by a Colonel Laurance [sic, John Laurens] who joined our Regiment. Laurens & his horse were both wounded – were compelled to fly before the enemy into Charleston; the day after our arrival at Charleston, the British demanded a surrender of the place which was refused by Governor Rutledge [John Rutledge]. The British having retreated across Ashley River were there met by General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] who gave them battle at Stono [June 20, 1779]– this declarant was not in this action but could distinguish the firing from Charleston. During the stay at Charleston (not exceeding a week he believes) he was promoted to Lieutenant in said Company, commissioned by Governor Rutledge & General F. Marion [Francis Marion]-- till this period he continued a private – the time of this Campaign he considers about six months.

(6) The first tour rendered as an Officer was with a Captain Pearson [probably Moses Pearson, but could be John Pearson] commanded by Colonel Lemuel Benton & under General Marion – stationed at a Camp near Moncks Corner, a term of about two months.

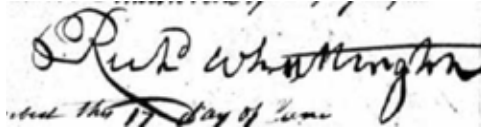
(7) After the expiration of this period, the Declarant was again called under the same officers in to the service near Charleston at a station on the Wambaw River; he considers the time to be about One month & two weeks – this closes the term of service rendered by the declarant during the war. This declarant resided at the time of his first entry into service in Cheraw District South Carolina, and continued there when at home till the close of the same.

He hereby further declares that he has no Documentary evidence of his claim nor can he procure any testimony of any living witness to the truth of his statement except the annexed

Certificate made by Grief Whittington.<sup>2</sup>

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

S/ Rich<sup>d</sup> Whittington

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rich<sup>d</sup> Whittington". Below the signature, there is a faint, partially legible date: "the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June".

Sworn to and subscribed the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833.

And the said Court doth hereby declare its opinion that the above applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states.

We Jesse Young Clergyman and John Jenkins citizens of the said State of Mississippi Amite County do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Richard Whittington who has Subscribed and Sworn to the foregoing Declaration, that we believe him to be 80 years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

S/ Jesse Young

S/ Jno Jenkins

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

And the said Court do hereby declare its opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed in the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and served as he states. And the Court furthered certifies that it appears to him that...[the certificate ends here]

S/ V. J. Crawford

Judge Prob.

The court also further certifies its Opinion that Griff Whittington whose certificate is annexed to the above Declaration as a witness is a person of veracity and whose Testimony is entitled to Credit.

S/ V. J. Crawford

Judge Prob

I Richard M. Neilson Clerk of the Probate Court of Amite County do hereby certify that foregoing Contains the Original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Richard Whittington for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833.

S/ R. M. Neilson, Clk of Prob.

1. The following interrogatories were propounded by the Court to said applicant and answered as follows and as answered to each respectively:
2. Where and in what year were you born? Answer: I was born in Essex County in the State of Virginia in the year 1753.
3. Have you any record of you are age and if so where is it? Answer: I have no original written record of my age.
4. Where were you living when called into Service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? Answer: When called into Service I

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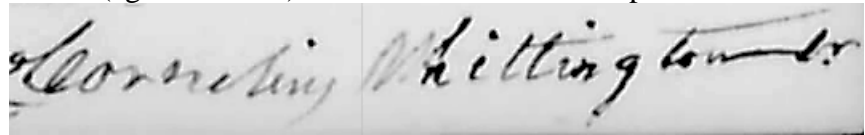
<sup>2</sup> [Grief Whittington S7883](#)

lived in Cheraw District South Carolina, I have lived since in the state of Georgia, Hancock County, and I now live in the State & County first named in my Declaration.

5. How were you called into Service, were you Drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? Answer: I volunteered twice, was three times Drafted before my promotion – and afterwards served voluntarily as an Officer.
6. State the names of some of the regular Officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect & the General Circumstances of your services. Answer: Besides those named in my Declaration I was acquainted with Colonels Pinckney [Charles C. Pinckney] of 1<sup>st</sup> Regt.; Moultry [sic, William Moultrie] of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt.; & Colonel Huger [Isaac Huger] of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. and with General Lincoln. The general circumstances recollected of the service are stated in my Declaration.
7. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Answer: I received a discharge from Governor Rutledge from the service ending at Charleston and also from General Marion after having served at Moncks Corner, but those papers were lost by means not recollected.
8. Did you ever receive a commission, if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it? Answer: I a received a Commission signed by Governor Rutledge & General Marion, but it is lost and I cannot tell how at this time.
9. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your Character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution. Answer: I name \_\_\_\_\_ and forbear to name others whom I might as they all probably not known in the War Department.

[p 9: On September 23, 1836 in Amite County Mississippi, Mary Whittington, aged 59 years, made application for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Richard Whittington, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him on or about April 1798; that her husband died May 14, 1835 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 9: The widow's application was supported by an affidavit given by Cornelius Whittington Senior (age not stated). The affiant's relationship to the veteran or his widow is not stated.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cornelius Whittington Senior". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name is written in a single line, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and larger than the others. The signature is enclosed in a rectangular box.

[p 10: On September 23, 1836 in Amite County Mississippi, Winnifred Whittington gave testimony that she saw Richard Whittington and Mary Whittington married at the affiant's father's house in 1798 as best she remembers. She signed her affidavit with her mark. Her relationship, if any, to the veteran and/or his widow is not stated]

[p 44]

South Carolina Pickens District

John Looney, an old and truthful citizen, Revolutionary Soldier & Pensioner, has been long known to me, came personally before me and made oath in due form of law that during the Revolutionary War at Fort Rutledge he was himself in the Service under Captain Tutt [Benjamin Tutt], and after being there some time, one Richard Wittington [sic] came there, as he understood, and enlisted Soldier under Captain Moore & Captain Tutt, he was at the Fort in the

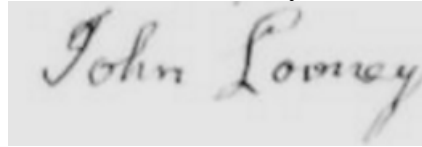
service at least 12 months, he thinks more, that he & his brother, deponent thinks, went off to Fort Independence under Captain Bowie, where he afterwards, seen them – he has no further knowledge of said Richard Whittington or his wife or widow, does not know where he lived before or afterwards.

He was a not need awkward man and was better known & more noticed on account of it.

Sworn to 27<sup>th</sup> June 1846 before me

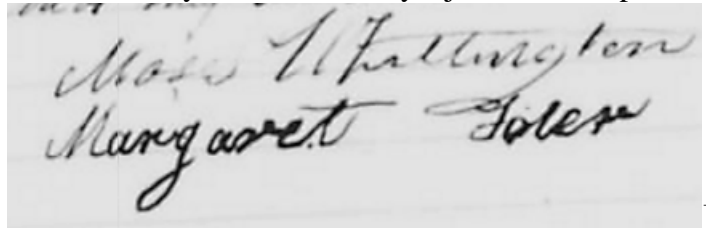
S/ Miles M. Norton, Not. Pub. & Ex Off. M. P. D.

S/ John Looney

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Looney".

[p 58: On March 14, 1853 in Amite County Mississippi, Mary Whittington, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is 78 years old and the widow of Lieutenant Richard Whittington; that she married him in Hancock County Georgia sometime in the spring of the year 1800; that her name prior to her marriage was Mary Whittington she never having to change her name by marriage; that her husband died May 14, 1835 and that she remains his widow. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 60: On March 14, 1853, Moses Whittington and Margaret Toler gave testimony that they were present at the marriage of Richard and Mary Whittington in Hancock County Georgia in 1800; that they were married by a justice of the peace named Miles.

A rectangular box containing two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature reads "Moses Whittington" and the bottom signature reads "Margaret Toler".

[p 13: On April 18, 1855 in Amite County Mississippi, Mary Whittington, aged about 73, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. She signed this document with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$91.67 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 13 ½ months and as a Lieutenant for 3 ½ months, all in the South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount]