

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nicholas Skain W8728

Rachel

fn35SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/29/11

[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 Union District: SS

On this 21st day of March 1845 personally appeared before the Court of Ordinary in the District aforesaid Mrs. Rachel Skain, a resident of the above named District and State, aged as near as she can come at it about seventy-eight years: who being first duly sworn, according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows," and the several [words obscured by an ink blot] thereof.

That she is the widow of Nicholas Skain, who was a private in the war of the Revolution. That she was not married to him until after the war, and can only state what [word obscured by an ink blot] she recollects to have [heard] him say of his services; That he resided in Union District, and entered the service as a volunteer she thinks in the year 1780, but she cannot state what officers he served under, except Colonel Farr, thinks he was part of the time one of the life guard of Colonel Farr, and was in a skirmish in this neighborhood somewhere and another one down near Ninety Six. She has always understood from his talk with others who served with him, and from his conversation on the subject generally, that he served until the war ended, after he entered: but she is now old and never took much notice so as to recollect about his services. He was not wounded in the war. If he ever got a discharge she does not know any thing of it, or what became of it. There are some old soldiers in the country by whom she hopes to be able to prove something of his services, so as to enable her to come at what she supposes to be her just rights, and to enable her to obtain something to render her comfortable in her old age.

She further declares that she believes she was married to her said husband Nicholas Skain in the year 1790 or 1791. She cannot tell certainly which, as she thinks in the month of May, the ceremony was performed by Barnett Glenn Esquire in this District: and that her husband the aforesaid Nicholas Skain died on the first day of September 1817; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, 1794, viz., at the time above stated. If there is any documentary evidence in support of her claim, she is not aware of it.

S/ Rachel Skain, X her Mark

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year last above written before

S/ J. J. Pratt, Judge

[fn p. 27]

South Carolina Union District: Before me personally appeared Major Joseph McJunkin<sup>1</sup> and old

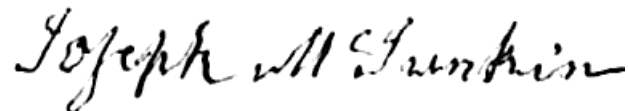
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<sup>1</sup> [Joseph McJunkin S18118](#)

and highly respectable citizen of this District, and a Revolutionary Patriot, and made oath in due form of law, that he was acquainted with Nicholas Skain and his wife (now his widow) Mrs. Rachel Skain, whose maiden name was Ashby; and that the said Nicholas Skain did serve in the War of the Revolution in defense of his country, thinks he entered the service very soon after the taking of Charlestown, and that he then served till the close of the war: that he cannot now state what officers he served under, as he has been called upon to prove the services of such a great number of persons, whom he knew in the war, that the circumstances have all become so much connected in his mind, that he cannot recollect all under whom they all served, and all the circumstances under which they served, he knows that Skain was a good soldier and that all his family were good friends to their country and several of them thought for her liberties, and has no doubt but his widow the said Rachel Skain is justly entitled to a Pension for which she is making application.

Sworn to & subscribed this 21st of March 1845 before  
S/ JJ Pratt, Ordinary

S/ Joseph McJunkin

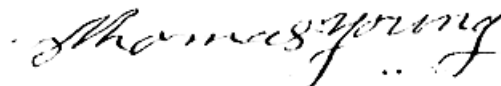


[fn p. 27]

South Carolina Union District: Before me personally appeared Major Thomas Young,<sup>2</sup> an old and highly respectable citizen of this District, and a Patriot of the Revolution; and made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with Nicholas came formerly of this District, who died some 20 years ago, and whose widow Rachel Skain is now living & making application for a pension: and that he was in the service in the War of the Revolution with the said Nicholas Skain, that he himself entered the service on the 10th day of May 1780 and that he found the said Nicholas Skain in the service at that time, and that he then served until the close of the war, that the said Skain was not in the same company with himself, but was in the same Regiment Colonel Brandon commanding, and Lieutenant Colonel Farr attached to it. He cannot state how long he served, with precision, but the above statement will show that he must have served at least 2 years. That he has known the said widow Skain ever since & that she is a worthy woman and no doubt deserving.

Sworn to & subscribed this 21st of March 1845 before me  
S/ JJ Pratt, Ordinary

S/ Thomas Young



[fn p. 6: On March 20, 1845 in Union District South Carolina Leonard Baker gave testimony in Union District that he is well acquainted with Mrs. Rachel Skain and her husband, Nicholas Skain who was reputed to have been a soldier of the revolution; that he was present at the marriage of Nicholas Skain to Rachel Ashby which he believes was about 55 years ago; they were married in the Fish dam settlement by Barnett Glenn Esquire at his (Glenn's) own house; that Rachel and Nicholas lived together as man and wife following their marriage until his death.]

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<sup>2</sup> [Thomas Young S10309](#)

[Certificate dated April 16, 1850 from the South Carolina Comptroller General listing payments made to a Nicholas Scain for service in the militia in Captain Hughes' company Brandon's Regiment; including 56 days duty as a horseman and 31 days duty as a footman from January 1 to June 1, 1782 in Brandon's Regiment pursuant to Captain Hughes' payroll.]

[fn p. 21: Samuel Harris gave testimony on August 12, 1850 in Union District South Carolina that he was born in Virginia but removed to South Carolina in 1792; lived a near neighbor to Nicholas and Rachel Payne who were at that time married and had 4 or 5 children the oldest of which was a daughter named Rebecca who he feels confident is at least 65 or 66 years old.]

[fn p. 23: on August 9, 1850 in Union District, Abram McJunkin, about 63, gave a supporting affidavit in which he says he was well acquainted with Nicholas and Rachel Skain and their children; that some of these children are much older than himself; that he remembers Nicholas saying he was a revolutionary war soldier and must have done more than 6 months service.]

[fn p. 32: On May 15, 1846 in Union District South Carolina, Mrs. Elizabeth Glenn gave testimony that she was present at the wedding of Nicholas and Rachel Skain; that at the time of their marriage, she the affiant had 2 children the younger of whom was born October 11, 1791

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[fn p. 35: On May 4, 1846 in union District South Carolina, Samuel Harris testified at he was born in 1777 and that he was not more than 10 years old when Nicholas and Rachel Skain were married. On the same date Mrs. Rebecca Sartor gave testimony that Nicholas and Rachel Skain were married and had one child at the time that her son Daniel Sartor was at her breast and Daniel was born February 10, 1792. On the same date, Thomas Sartor gave testimony that he was raised within a mile of Nicholas and Rachel Skain and that he remembers a living together as man and wife when he was a very young boy and he was born in 1787.

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[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$21 and 80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848 for her husband service as a private in the Infantry & cavalry of the South Carolina militia.]