

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Mills W9194

Mary Mills

f117SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 4/21/17

[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 4]

State of South Carolina, Chester District

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 1846, personally appeared in open Court, and that for the Court of Equity now opened & held in Chesterfield for the District of Chester & State aforesaid, Alexander Pagan, son-in-law of John Mills<sup>1</sup> deceased a resident of the District and State aforesaid of lawful age, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1838, Entitled an "Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows"

That this declarant the aforesaid Alexander Pagan in the behalf of himself and the other heirs of the said John Mills deceased States, that the said John Mills was an officer and soldier in the South Carolina & State Troops in the war of the Revolution the heirs understand and as such he served the United States against the Common Enemy – That he the aforesaid John Mills lived in the days of the Revolution in what is now called Chester District South Carolina and entered the Army of the Revolution in the early part of the war as a private Soldier from which he was soon raised to the rank of Lieutenant, and from Lieutenant, to that of a Captain in which capacity he served 'till the End of the War, during which time he the said John Mills served a tour of Enlistment and had the Command of a Company of Cavalry in General Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] State Troops – He further declares that the said John Mills was married on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1782 to Mary Gill, in Chester District South Carolina, and as husband and wife they lived together 'till the death of the said John Mills which took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March, 1795 and that his widow the aforesaid Mary departed this life on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 1841, not having intermarried after the death of her said husband the afore said John Mills deceased.

He also declared that he has in support of the date of the marriage of the aforesaid parties their old original Family Record, containing the date of their Marriage together with a statement of the births of their children which Record is in the handwriting of the said John Mills deceased and is believed to be correct & true and the same is hereunto appended.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before the Court.

S/ David Johnson

S/ Alexander Pagan



---

<sup>1</sup> See [B227](#)

John Mills and Mary Maryed the 21 of May 1782  
 Thos Sumter Mills Born the 8 of March 1783 at 2 Afternoon  
 Robert Mills Born the 31 of Oct. 1784 2 in the morning  
 Robert Mills departed this life the 5 Oct 1785  
 Robert Gill Mills born 28 Dec. [?] 1786 10 O'clock 42 Minite Morning  
 Mary Mills Born 20 of Aprile 1789 at 43 Minit Aftor nine Evening  
 John Mills Born 21 of Dec 1791 at 11 Clock Morning  
 Alex Peagon Mills Born Novr 9 1794 at 11 moring

*John Mills and Mary  
 Maryed the 21 of May 1782  
 Thos Sumter Mills Born the  
 8 of March 1783 at 2 Afternoon  
 Robert Mills Born the 31  
 of Oct. 1784 at 2 in morning  
 Robert Mills departed  
 this life the 5 Oct 1785  
 Robert Gill Mills born  
 28 Dec 1786 10 o'clock 42  
 27 Dec 1786 10 o'clock 42  
 Minite Morning  
 Mary Mills Born 20 of  
 Aprile 1789 at 43 Minut  
 Aftor nine Evening  
 John Mills Born 21 of  
 Dec 1791 at 11 Clock  
 Morning  
 Alex Peagon Mills Born  
 Nov 9 1794 at 11 morning*

John Mills departed this Lif March the 19 1795  
 Alex Peagon Mills Deperted this Life July 19 1797  
 John Mills Departed this Life this thirty first day of January 1826  
 Thamas S. Mills Departed this life in September 1832  
 Mary Mills Departed this life January [?] 1841

*John Mills Departed  
 this Lif March the  
 19 1795  
 Alex Peagon Mills  
 Departed this Life July  
 19 1797  
 John Mills Departed  
 this Life this  
 thirtyfirst day of  
 January 1826  
 Thamas S. Mills  
 Departed this life in Septem  
 ber 1832  
 Mary Mills Departed  
 this Life January [?]  
 1841*

[p 7]

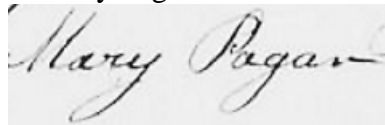
South Carolina, Chester District

On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January 1851 personally appeared Mary Pagan a resident of said District aged 61 years past being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath like the following

declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows.

That this Declarant the aforesaid Mary Pagan the only surviving child of Captain John and Mary Mills late of Chester District S. C. Deceased declares that her father Captain John Mills was a Lieutenant and Captain of horse South Carolina Militia Sumter's Brigade and a Captain of Calvary State Troop under an enlistment for 10 months, which expired the spring of 1782 and afterwards Captain of a company of Rangers which he continued to command until the close of the war and she has always understood and still believes and as such he served the United States against the common enemy from the time he entered the service in June or July 1780 until the close of the war as stated above, and received two Negroes Prince and Bella for his services as Captain in the State Troop (10 months). Declarant further states that her father Captain John Mills was married to her mother Mary Gill in Chester District S. C. on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1782 the evidence of which as well as the Death of the above named Captain John and Mary Mills is admitted in this claim under act of the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 1838 under which act she received a pension in right of her mother at the rate of \$500 per annum she now makes application under Act of July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836 to receive the arrears due her mother under said act, which was not claimed in her former Declaration as the Journal kept by her father Captain John Mills in the revolution was lost, in which all his services was set forth for which she has since made diligent search and inquiry without effect and is fully satisfied that the said diary showed her father's Captain John Mills' services as a Captain of his company called Rangers after his said marriage as well as the statements of her mother and neighbors who served under her said father who lived in her neighborhood, and well recollects her mother telling her family many circumstances which occurred after their said marriage and when her husband Captain John Mills was in service after their said marriage one of which was a prisoner taken by Captain John Mills and his Company of Rangers by the name of Hawkins whom they were taken to jail and when passing near his on house Captain Mills left the prisoner with the company while he called to visit his wife, before going further and while at the house one of his men shot the prisoner dead he was buried on the spot which place has often been shown to Declarant now near her own residence and that his command in the State Troops as well as the Rangers was under the command of General Sumter. That she has no record evidence now to offer in the claim and does not know of any person now living by whom her father's services can be identified after his marriage which were well-known and duly appreciated by the community.

S/ Mary Pagan



Sworn to and subscribed before me  
S/ Jas. A. Lewis, Magistrate

[p 15]

South Carolina, York District

Appeared James Moore<sup>2</sup> a resident of said district aged 86 years of age who being first duly sworn before me the subscribing Magistrate saith that he was well acquainted with John Mills late of Chester District Deceased before the war of the revolution that they were raised within 6 miles of each other that he was the older than deponent seven or eight years.

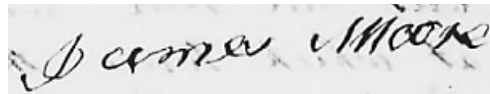
Deponent says that the said John Mills entered the service about the commencement of hostilities and was almost constantly in service until the close of the war as a private Lieutenant and Captain both in the Militia and state Troops and was one of the Most active energetic men in

the patriot Army.

Deponent was never out in service but one tour with the said John Mills at which time the said John Mills was Captain of a Company in the State Troop of Sumter's Brigade and served with him three months at Orangeburg S. C. the winter and spring of 1782 and was present when the State Troops were discharged the April of 1782.

[H]e further states that he was in the militia Captain Hugh Bratton Colonel William Bratton Regiment and well recollects that the state Troops were raise[d] the spring of 1781 and continued in service constantly until discharged at Orangeburg as above stated and knows that the said John Mills was in service as a Captain of the state Troops from the time they were in service to wit from the spring and summer of 1781 until April of 1782 that he often saw the above named Captain John Mills and his company before he deponent was with them at Orangeburg and well recollects that John Wylie and John Miller were Lieutenants in his company in the state Troops and knew James McClure, Philip Walker, Richard Singleton and William Wylie and several others that he cannot now call to mind that were privates in the said company and further says that he feels well satisfied that the above named Captain John Mills served 10 or 12 months as a Captain in Sumter's Brigade of State Troops and that he has no knowledge that there is any person now living that served in Sumter's Brigade of State Troops. Sworn to and subscribed on this nineteenth day of June 1847 Before me  
S/ A. S. Wallace, Magt.

S/ James Moore

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Moore". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 17]

State of South Carolina, York District

Personally appeared before me John P. Hood, one of the acting Magistrates in and for the said District Robert Wilson,<sup>3</sup> one of the surviving soldiers of the Revolution, a resident of the State and District aforesaid, and made oath, in due form of law, that he was in the days of the Revolution well and intimately acquainted with John Mills an officer and soldier in the Army of the Revolution that resided in Camden, but now Chester District South Carolina. That he deponent was in the service during the Revolution on different locations with the said John Mills that their first service together was in the early part of the war at Seneca Fort. That next service that deponent now recollects was in the summer of 1780, after the fall of Charleston they were together some two or three months under General Sumter who had the command of the Militia Forces, which had Congregated together after the fall of Charleston to oppose the Enemy. That during this service under Sumter in 1780, the said John Mills belonged to, and served as a Commissioned Officer, Either as Lieutenant or Captain in Colonel Edward Lacey's Regiment of Mounted Militia or horse for the whole force was mounted, that said Lacey was Colonel Patrick McGriff, Lieutenant Colonel and Charles Miles Major, which constituted said Regiment, and was under the command of General Sumter. That deponent was with the said Army from the middle of July till December at which time he left Sumter's Army and went on an Expedition to New Bern NC for Military Stores, and did not return until March following about the time of the raising of Sumter's State Troops and that deponent does not now recollect of being in Service after 1780 with the said John Mills. That in the spring of 1781 it was said that the said John Mills raised a Company of State Troops and joined Colonel Hampton's Regiment belonging to Sumter's State Troops where he was always understood and believes, he served out a tour of Enlistment as Captain of a Company of State Troops.

This deponent also states on his oath, that the said Colonel Edward Lacey's Regiment was

---

3 [Robert Wilson W2302](#)

not a Regiment of State Troops, but belonged to the Militia, nor did said Colonel Lacey ever command a Regiment in the State Troops to deponent's knowledge, that the above service under General Sumter in the summer of 1780, after the fall of Charleston, was a separate and distinct service from that of the State Troops, which did not commence till the spring following in 1781.

Sworn to, and subscribed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1847, before me.

S/ J. P. Hood, Magst.

S/ Robt. Wilson



[p 65]

State of South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared before me James B. Magill one of the acting Magistrates in and for said This rate, John Bishop<sup>4</sup> a soldier of the revolution and made oath in due form of law, That he was in [the] days of the Revolution well acquainted with Captain John Mills, deceased of Chester District, South Carolina, whose heirs are now applying for a pension and the deceased widow of the said Captain John Mills.

This deponent further makes oath that he knew the said Captain John Mills in Service, who had the command of a Company of Light Horse in Sumter's State Troops. That he deponent had a brother James Bishop a private in the said Captain Mills' Company of the State troops and deponent Substituted himself in place of his brother (who was sick) and was in the battle of the Eutaw Springs in September 1781 in which Battle Mills commanded as Captain: Soon after Said Battle Deponent left the Service on the return of his brother; having served as substitute for his brother some few days. Deponent further maketh oath that Alexander Ove [?], George Gill,<sup>5</sup> James Bishop, Samuel Brown, Alexander Brown, Philip Walker and Richard Singleton all of whom were Soldiers belonging to Captain John Mills' company of State Troops, under General Sumter: Deponent further maketh oath that from the knowledge he had of the aforesaid Captain John Mills' Services during the war of the revolution he believes that the said Captain John Mills served as Captain for Some time in the Summer of 1780 until the end of the war and that he was Generally in Service.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1846

S/ Jas. B. Magill, Magst.

S/ John Bishop, X his mark

[p 66]

South Carolina, Chester District

David McDaniel<sup>6</sup> a revolutionary Pensioner of South Carolina personally appeared before me James B. Magill a Magistrate in and for said District and made oath in due form of Law that he was well acquainted with Captain John Mills named in the foregoing affidavit of John Bishop and that he knows of his own personal knowledge that the said John Mills served as a Captain in Colonel Lacey's Regiment of South Carolina Militia during the war of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed this 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1846 before me

S/ Jas. B. Magill, Magst.

S/ David McDaniel, X his mark

---

<sup>4</sup> [John Bishop S9279](#)

<sup>5</sup> [George Gill S21229](#)

<sup>6</sup> There is no federal pension application filed by any one of this name.



[p 67]

South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared before me James B. Magill, one of the acting Magistrates in and for said District, John McDill,<sup>7</sup> one of the Surviving Soldiers of the Revolution, and made Oath in due form of law, that Captain John Mills deceased of Chester District South Carolina whose heirs are now applying for a pension due the deceased widow of said Captain Mills was to deponent's own personal knowledge a Captain in Colonel Lacey's Regiment of the Militia of South Carolina. That he deponent became acquainted with the aforesaid Captain John Mills in the Army in January, 1781, at which time he had the command of a Company of Militia belonging to Colonel Lacey's Regiment which deponent believes he the said Captain Mills remained in the service with till some time in April following, at which time the said Captain John Mills raised a Company of Horsemen and joined General Sumter's State Troops in what was said to be the 10 months service, and that he was always understood and believes that said Captain Mills served out a tour of Enlistment in said Troop, that deponent well recollects of often seeing said Captain Mills at their camps in the Army at times when they fell in with General Sumter's Troops after his said Enlistment, and at times when it was said that Captain Mills Commanded a Company of State Troops. This deponent further makes oath, That the aforesaid Captain Mills was an active Whig during the Revolutionary Struggles, and deponent believes rendered a good deal of Service of which deponent has no personal knowledge.

Sworn to and Subscribed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1846 Before Me.

S/ James B. Magill, mgst

S/ John McDill

[p 89, is an extract of a pay roll showing Capt. John Mills being paid 2 'large' Negroes for his services in the militia in Lt. Col. Hampton's Regt. in Genl. Sumter's Brigade.]

[p 105: On August 14, 1847, Margaret Kelsey, 89, of Monroe County, Indiana, late of Chester District, gave a supporting affidavit in which she states she is the sister of Capt. John Mills and she relates her recollections of his Revolutionary services.]

[Veteran's widow was granted posthumously a pension in the amount of \$504.43 per annum commencing March 4, 1836 and ending at the time of her death January 29, 1841. The amount of her pension was based upon her husband service for 18 months as a Captain and for 2 months as a Lieutenant, all in the South Carolina militia.]