

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Edward Steedman [Steadman], W9676, transcribed by Roy Randolph

State of South Carolina Chester District

On this 25 day of October 1832 personally before the [Court] Edward Steedman of the district and state aforesaid aged about seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to the 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 the 7th of June 1832-- That he resided in what is now called York District in this state in the time of the Revolutionary War. Was drafted for a three months tour the year he cannot recollect but was after the Snowey [Snow] Campaign [December 1775]. Was under Capt. Andrew Love, Leiut. Wm Barry in Col. [Thomas] Neal's [Neel's] Regiment. Was marched to the frontiers of Georgia to guard a fort against the Indians and Tories; under the command of Genl. Williamson. Served out his full time, & returned home with others of the troops that served with him.

2nd Was again drafted another three months tour under the same Leiut. Barry, Col. Neal's [Neel's] Regiment. Marched down by Orange-burgh [Orangeburg] to Charleston. Lay some time at Lines in the Town & was then marched to Stono, & was taken sick & had to be hauled in a Baggage Wagon & was there at the time of the Battle [June 20, 1779] and after the term was out returned home.

3rd That immediately after the fall of Charleston & the British marched into the Back Country he joined Genl. Sumter under Capt. Howe in Col. Neal's [Neel's] Regiment. But old Col. Neal [Neel] being then dead, Col. Hawthorne took the Command. This was in the summer of 1780. Was at the Battle of Rocky Mount [August 1, 1780] where young Col. Neal [Neel] was killed [Andrew Neel was killed at the Battle of Rocky Mount August 1, (sometimes reported at July 31) 1780]. Next was at the battle of the Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780] and continued in the service till after Gates defeat. Having marched with Genl. Sumter down to the taking of Caries [Carey's, Cary's] Fort [August 15, 1780] opposite Camden; & then continued with him on the retreat until the defeat at Fishing Creek [August 18, 1780] which dispersed the army.

After the troops again collected we went the Rounds with Genl. Sumter the next winter [February 1781] under Capt. John Henderson. Was at the Battle of Waites [Wright's?] Bluff [probably February 28, 1781]. Was close at his captain (Henderson) when his horse was shot under him; & Col. Hawthorne's horse wounded; & another son of old Col. Neal's [Neel's] killed. And continued the tour throughout. After which the men dispersed for some time, & then rallied again.

Was at the Battle of Fish Dam Ford [November 9, 1780], & then at Blackstocks [aka Black Stocks, November 20, 1780] where the Genl. [Sumter] was wounded. Was with Capt Nixon [probably Lt. Col. John Nixon] on a scout against the Tories when he was killed. When the enemy began to retreat he was three tours down the country. Col. Bratton then commanded the Regiment. Was at the Skirmish at Biggin Church [July 17, 1781] near Munk's [Monck's] Corner and the pursuit of the British the next morning to where they took shelter among a number of the houses in a large Negro quarter where considerable skirmishing ensued, but could not dislodge the enemy. That he remembers well to have cut a bullet patch out of his jacket when engaged at that place. [I presume

the “bullet patch” Edward cut from his jacket was the patch in which he wrapped the projectile fired from his muzzle-loading flintlock. The projectile or “bullet” was a small lead ball, about three quarters of an inch (0.75 inch) in diameter. When loading the musket it was usually necessary to wrap the bullet in a small piece of cloth, i.e., “bullet patch,” so that it would fit snugly in the musket breach once it was rammed down the barrel. rer]

And was again two tours at Orangeburgh [Orangeburg], & went with supplies to Genl. Green’s Army [General Nathanael Greene was in Orangeburg in the summer of 1781]. But the deponent cannot exactly state how long he was in the service but having served two three-months tours before the British took the Country; & then continued almost the whole of the time until they were driven out. He thinks he could not have been in the service of his country less than two years. As to dates, not having any record to refer to, he cannot state the precise times; only that he was two tours before the British took the country; & that he continued nearly the whole of the time afterwards until they were driven out. And shortly after the war he removed to the District of Chester, & has resided there ever since. That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure(?) who can testify to his service except the two subject affiants.

Hereby relinquishes his 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 in open Court.

Edward Steedman [his mark] J. Rosborough, ccps [Clerk]

Interrogation to Edward Steedman

Q1. Where and in what year were you born?

A. I was born in Ireland but came to America very young and landed in Charleston as my parents have said, but I have no recollection of coming. I do not know the year in which I was born.

Q2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A. I have no record of my age and I know of none. The only evidence I have of my age is from the declaration of the \_\_\_ of my father’s family and from what they have told me I believe I am about seventy-two years of age.

Q3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

A. I was living in what is now called York District So Ca. I have lived in Chester District ever since the close of the war or very soon after and live there now.

Q4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

A. I was first drafted into Col. Neal’s [Neel’s] Regt. Under Capt. Andrew Love and Leiut. Barry and served with that tour three months. General Williamson was the commanding General. I was again drafted some time after my first tour ended and went into camp at Orange-burgh [Orangeburg] under Col. Neal [Neel], the Capt. not recollected, Leiut. Barry. Marched from thence to Charleston and for further details see my declaration.

Q5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served—such continental and militia regts as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A. I do not now recollect the names of any of the regular officers, no continental Regt.s. I recollect well of Col. Neal [Neel], Col. Lacy, Capt. Henderson, Capt. Joseph Howe. Was some time under Genl. Sumpter [Sumter] knew(?) Col. Hile, Col. Watson(?), Col. Bratton and for the general circumstances of my service refer to my declaration.

Q6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

A. I never received any written discharge that I recollect of.

Q7. List the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your service as a soldier of the revolution.

A. I am acquainted with the Revd. John B. Davis & \_\_ Geo Gill

The day after Edward made his declaration he appended it with the following:  
South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared before me the under signed Judge of the court of ordinary of said district Edward Steedman who being duly sworn deposeth and saith by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot Swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below as a private the first Tour mentioned in his declaration three months the Second Tour mentioned in his declaration three months The third Tour mentioned in his declaration three months the next three tours mentioned in his declaration the term of three months each. The next Two Tours mentioned in his declaration the term of three months each the last three months as a Sergeant the whole of his said service amounting to Two Years and for such service he claims a pension.  
Edward Steedman [his mark]

Sworn to and signed in open court this 26th day of October 1833, Peter Wylie JCOCD [I believe this acronym is for Judge Court of Ordinary Chester District. rer]

When Edward applied for his pension two of his comrades-in-arms submitted affidavits in which they affirmed Edward's declaration of service. Both these men served with Edward and they briefly described the actions in which they were engaged together. The men were William Clark and Robert Hanna. Transcripts of their affidavits are included here.

State of South Carolina, York District

Personally appeared before me William Clark and makes oath after being duly sworn in that he well recollects Edward Steedman was a Soldier of the Revolution and that they did duty together about three months under Genl. Sumter—passed from York to Summer's bridge in Newberry District and were dispensed?/dismissed? finally in York. Sworn to & subscribed before me July 22nd 1833. Daniel James JP. /S/ William Clark

State of South Carolina, York District

Personally appeared before me Robert Hanna and makes oath after being duly sworn in that he well recollects Edward Steedman as a Revolutionary Soldier—that he saw in the service of Genl. Sumter the said Edward that he also recollects that he was engaged at the Battle of Fish dam [Ford] and Blac[k]stocks—Sworn to & subscribed before me his 16 day October 1832. I. Martin, Ex Officio. /S/ Robt. Clark

Agnes Steedman's Application For A Widows' Pension  
State of South Carolina, Chester District

On this 21st day of February, One thousand Eight hundred & forty six (1846) personally appeared before me, Peter Wylie, Judge of the Court of Ordinary in and for the District of Chester and State of South Carolina (it being a Court of Record) Agness [sic, so spelled throughout this deposition] Stedman [Steedman or Steadman, maiden name Agnes Ferguson, believed to be the sister of Col. James Ferguson, the Tory militia commander killed at the battle of Williamson's Plantation (Huck's Defeat)], a resident of the District & State aforesaid aged Eighty one 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 acts of Congress passed July 7, 1838, "Entitled An Act granting half pay and Pensions to certain Widows." Also the benefit of the Act of March 3rd 1843 & June 17, 1844.

That she is the widow of Edward Stedman late Revolutionary Pensioner deceased of Chester District, South Carolina, who was a private Soldier in the War of the Revolution and was allowed a pension as such under the Act of Congress of June 7th 1832, at the rate of Eighty dollars per annum.

She further declares that she was married to the said Edward Stedman on or about the 10th day of January A.D. Seventeen hundred & Eighty five (1785) by Jas(?) \_\_\_\_, Esquire in the District of Chester and State of South Carolina, that her husband the aforesaid Edward Stedman died in the District of Chester and State aforesaid on the 27th day of August in the year Eighteen hundred & thirty five (1835) and that she has remained a widow ever since that period; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but that their marriage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred and ninety four viz, at the time above stated, in January of 1785.

She also declares that she has now in her possession a family Record showing the ages of their first and oldest children which record was written down many years ago by one John Clemons at the request and direction of herself and husband and that it contains a true statement of the ages of their oldest children and said record is hereto appended

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before Peter Wylie JCOCD [Judge Court of Ordinary Chester District(?)]  
Agness Stedman [her mark]

Appended material:

Nancy Daughter of Edward and Agnes was born 20<sup>th</sup> of July 1786

John son of the above Edward and Agnes was born 12<sup>th</sup> of August 1788

Sarah daughter of Ed and Agnes Stedman was born 18 of September 1790

Agnes Daughter of the above Parents? was born 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1792

Elizabeth was born 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 1796

James Ferguson Stedman was born 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1798?

State of South Carolina  
Chester District

I Peter Wylie Judge of the Court of Ordinary for Chester District and State of South Carolina do hereby certify that Agness [sic] Steedman who has this day Sworn to and Subscribed the foregoing declaration before me, is a person whose Statements is due full faith & credence

I do also certify that She is by reason of old age and bodily infirmity unable to attend court to make her Said declaration that She is confined to her bed & has been for a number of years

And I do further certify that She is the widow of the Identical Edward Steedman dec'd who was a revolutionary Pensioner of the United States and as Stated by Said declarant in the above declaration and that they lived together as husband & wife. I do also certify I believe that the record of the ages of the Children hereto appended is Just & True.

In testimony whereof I have hereto Set my hand & affixed my Seal of office this 21 day of February 1846 and 70<sup>th</sup> year of Independence /S/ Peter Wylie JCOCD

South Carolina  
Chester District

On this 21st day February One thousand Eight hundred & forty six (1846) personally appeared before me, the subscriber a Magistrate, in and for the District of Chester & State of South Carolina, John Ferguson, a resident of the District & State aforesaid, and made oath in due form of Law, That he is now Seventy two (72) years of age and that he has from his boyhood been well acquainted with Edward Stedman late pensioner deceased of Chester District & State aforesaid, Also with his wife Agness [sic, so spelled throughout this deposition] who is now applying for a pension. That [t]he deponent lived in the neighborhood of the parties aforesaid at the time they were married, which marriage took place soon after the close of the Revolution, and as husband & wife they lived together till the death of said Edward Stedman who departed this life about ten years ago.

This deponent further states on his said oath, that he was married on the 25th day of October, Seventeen hundred and ninety six and at that time said Edward Stedman and wife Agness had a family of Several Children, the largest of which was half grown and must have been near or about ten years of age.

Sworn to, and subscribed on the day & year first above written, Before me, /S/  
James B. Magill, mgst /S/ John Ferguson

South Carolina  
Chester District

On this 21 day February 1846 personally appeared before me, James B. Magill one of the acting Magistrates in & for said District, John Wylie, a resident of the District & state aforesaid, aged 74 years, and made oath in due form of Law, That he is well

acquainted with Agness [sic, so spelled throughout this deposition] Stedman, widow of the late Edward Stedman deceased, a resident of Chester District and an applicant for a pension, that [t]he deponent has known the aforesaid parties as husband & wife for the last fifty-five years, and believes that they had been married some years before that time; That [t]he deponent was himself married in the year 1794, and at that date said Edward Stedman & wife Agness had a family of some three or four Children and had been married to deponents own personal knowledge several years, or in other words they had been living as husband & wife for a number of years, and were considered to be lawful man & wife. Sworn & subscribed on the day & year aforesaid before me, /S/ Jas B. Magill, mgst                      /S/ John Wylie

South Carolina  
Chester District

I James B. Magill a magistrate in and for the District aforesaid do hereby certify that I live a near neighbor to and am well acquainted with Agnes Steedman of said District widow of the late Edward Steedman Dec'd who is now applying for a pension, and that I know of my own personal knowledge that the said applicant is the widow of the identical Edward Steedman who was a revolutionary Pensioner of the United States at the rate of 80 Dollars per annum and that he died at his late residence in said district on the 27th of August 1835 leaving his wife Agnes a widow who has not intermarried Since the death of her said husband.

And I also certify that the Said Edward Steedman's name is spelled differently by different persons as follows

Stedman, Studman & Steedmans, all of which are in common use.

Given under my hand this 21st February 1846

/S/ Jas B. Magill Mgst