

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Calhoun W9777

Violet Calhoun

f32SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/20/11: rev'd 4/1119

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[NOTE: This file contains no application. The contents of whatever documentation was filed is reflected in the following summary from the Congressional Record:

28th CONGRESS,
1st Session.

Rep. No. 219.

HO. OF REPS.

VIOLET CALHOUN.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 173.]

FEBRUARY 28, 1844.

Mr. J. A. WRIGHT, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was referred the application of Violet Calhoun, for a pension, according to the provision of the act of July 7, 1838, submit the following report :

The declaration shows that the applicant was married to Captain John Calhoun, of the revolutionary army, in 1790 or 1791; that he drew a pension from the United States of \$180 per annum ; that he died in 1823 ; that she has lived a widow ever since his death, and has no income, except \$23 per annum from a small dower estate. She does not know of any living witness by whom she can prove her marriage.

The committee find the most ample proof of the service of Captain Calhoun in the revolutionary war, by a transcript from the comptroller general's office of the State of South Carolina, which is herewith submitted. It shows several years' service, first as a private, then as a lieutenant, and, lastly, as a captain for the period of 430 days.

Captain Calhoun was wounded in the service, and received a pension from the United States, commencing in the year 1811. (See Acts of Congress, vol. 4, p. 355.) *See Mayo & Moulton p. 30.*

The committee have no doubt of her marriage as she states, and deem it proved as fully as such cases, after so great a lapse of time, can be made out. Her son (John Gaw) by a former husband, who was four years old when the alleged marriage took place, proves that they lived together as husband and wife from that time till 1823, and that they were always reputed to be husband and wife. The Hon. William P. Bryant gives a certificate of the good character of Gaw, as a man of perfect veracity.

Letters of administration were granted to her on his estate, after his death, a copy of which is before the committee.

A letter of General Dill (now deceased) is found among the papers in her possession, showing that she became the depositary of his papers at his decease. Indeed, the committee consider that to reject such evidence as insufficient to prove the marriage, would, in addition to refusing to give the applicant the benefit of the munificence of the Government in similar cases bestowed, reflect a disgrace upon the memory of a gallant officer, who, it would be implied, after he had fought through the Revolution, and carried its scars on his body, had spent the remainder of his life in dishonor. The committee report a bill in favor of the application.

Blair & Rives, print.

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Rep. No. 219.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Columbia, (S. C.) February 22, 1844.

SIR: Your communication of the 17th instant is to hand; and, in compliance with your request, I have examined the records in this office, and subjoin a copy of all that relates to the case of Mr. John Calhoun.

Your obedient servant,

I. LAVAL.

Hon. J. A. WRIGHT.

Statement.

Indent Book K, No. 246.—Issued 11th January, 1785, to Mr. John Calhoun, for one hundred and one pounds eight shillings and sixpence sterling, for militia duty as a private horseman in 1781 and 1782; also for the service of a wagon in 1780 and 1782, per account audited, No. 19.—£101 8s. 6d.

Indent Book R, No. 646.—Issued 17th June, 1785, to Mr. John Calhoun, for three hundred and twenty-one pounds nineteen shillings and three-pence farthing sterling, for duty as a private, lieutenant, and captain, and for two horses lost, per account audited, No. 18.—Principal, £321 19s. 3¼d.; annual interest, £22 10s. 8d.

Account No. 18.—John Calhoun, his account of duty in the militia, as private, lieutenant, and captain, performed alternately from 1780 to 1783, inclusive, and for two horses lost in service in 1780 and 1781; also for cash advanced by him for the cure of his wounds: the whole amounting to, viz:

Militia duty as private in horse, 130 days, at 20s. per day	-	£130	0s.	0d.
Do. as lieutenant, 15 days, at 45s. per day	-	33	15	0
Do. as captain, 430 days, at 60s. per day	-	1,290	0	0
Service of horse 400 days, at 10s.	-	200	0	0
Two horses £250 and £300	-	550	0	0
Cash advanced	-	50	0	0
		<hr/>		
Currency	-	£2,253	15	0
Sterling	-	£321	19	3¼
		<hr/>		

Indent Book S, No. 428.—Issued 17th June, 1785, to Mr. John Calhoun, for seventeen pounds eleven shillings and fivepence sterling, for duty in the militia, as per account audited.—Principal, £17 11s. 5d.; annual interest, £1 4s. 7d.

Indent Book X, No. 3,425.—Issued 1st August, 1786, to Mr. John Calhoun, for thirty-five pounds fourteen shillings and threepence farthing sterling, for duty done in Roebuck's regiment, per account audited, No. 114. £35 14s. 3¼d.

I certify the above to be a true copy from the records in this office.
For Comptroller General,

I. LAVAL.

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$600 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836 and ending July 7, 1844 for her said husband's service as a Captain in the South Carolina Dragoons.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to John Calhoun AA40
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 996

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/11/19

[No.] 646 [Book] R No. 18

Mr. John Calhoun his Account of Duty in the Militia as Private, Lieutenant & Captain performed alternately from 1780 to 1783 inclusive and for 2 Horses lost in Service and [indecipherable word or words] for cash advanced by him the whole Amounting to Viz.

Militia Pay as private in Horse 130 days	£130
as Lieutenant 15 Days [illegible] 45/ [45 Shillings per day]	33.15.0
as Captain 430 days at 60/ [60 shillings per day]	1290.0.0
Service of Horse 400 days at 10/per day	200.0.0
Two Horses £250 & £300	550 .0 .0
Cash advanced	50.0.0
	<hr/>
[old South Carolina] Currency	£2253.15 .0
Stg. [Sterling]	£321.19.3 ¼

Ex^d. W.R. [Examined by W. R. [identity unknown]]

J. M^c. A.G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

Received 17 June 1785 from the Commissioners of the Treasury full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 646 Book R by virtue of an order

S/ William Moore

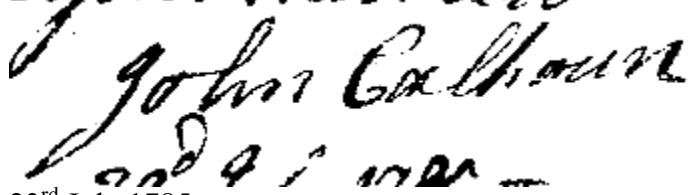
¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.



State South Carolina Ninety Six District} to Edward Blake & Peter Bocquet Esquires

You will please to deliver to William Moore of 96 the Indent due me from the public for accounts & vouchers Returned by me to Colonel Robert Anderson & by him to the auditor's office with Special Indents for the Interest and oblige

your humble Servant
S/ John Calhoun



23rd July 1785

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State South Carolina

Dr. to John Calhoun

for a Gray Horse lost in Service in November 80 per voucher No. 1 £250	
a Gray Stallion killed in Do. in April 81 per Do No. 2	300
Cash Paid by him for the care of his Wounds	
in Tarleton's Defeat to William Robertson per voucher No.3	50
Duty in Militia, 130 Days Private Horseman	130
15 Days Lieutenant at 45/	33.15
430 Days Militia Duty per his Pay Bill	
as Captain for 400 Days Service of his Horse	
per do Performed alternately from 1 st May	
1781 2 April 1783 say 430 Days	1290
400 days at 10/	<u>200</u>
	Curry <u>£2253.15 .0</u>
	Stg. £321.19.3 ¼

[p 17: Printed form of Indent No. 646 Book R dated June 17th, 1785 in the amount of £321.19.3 ¼]

[p 22]

The State of South Carolina

To the Honorable the President & other Members of the Senate of said State

The Petition of Captain John Calhoun most humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner entered early in the time of the last war into the service in defense of his Country, That during the continuance of the war received a considerable number of wounds: particularly in the Engagement by which Tarlton [sic Banastre Tarleton, whose "defeat" occurred at Cowpens, January 17, 1781] was defeated. Your petitioner was reduced to very great extremity in consequence of the wounds he received from the Enemy. That your Petitioner during the time which he lay ill of his wounds was obliged to pay Ten pounds to those who attended on him.

That your Petitioner waited on the Legislature while sitting, in the year 1793, and on producing a certificate to the Treasurer obtained an order from him on the Collectors of the Tax from whom your Petitioner received Thirty-five Pounds and has never received any pension from the State but that sum. That since your Petitioner has recovered from his wounds he has been incapable of Laboring so as to Provide for his family a sufficient subsistence. And as an addition to the disasters of the war Your Petitioner on the 23rd of last November that is in the year 1798 by an accidental fall receive such a hurting his Neck And hip of his right leg that he has not been incapable of walking without crutches since, never expects to be.

Your Petitioner therefore prays Your Honors that You would take his case into consideration and Your Liberality or Humanity would be so Extensive as to relieve his distress By granting or allowing him such a sum as You may think his Calamity or necessity deserves And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever Pray –

S/ John Calhoun

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Calhoun". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. To the right of the signature, there is a vertical black bar, likely a scanning artifact or a redaction mark.

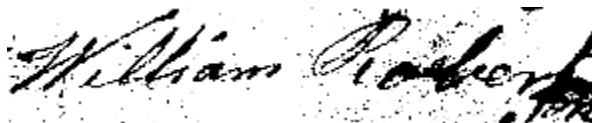
[p 24: An identically worded petition addressed to the South Carolina House of Representatives]

[p29]

October 3rd 1782

Received of Captain John Calhoun Ten Pounds Sterling for Attending on him & Boarding him three months in his Wounds. Received by me

S/ William Robertson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Robertson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. To the right of the signature, there is a vertical black bar, likely a scanning artifact or a redaction mark.

[p 31]

The Committee to whom was Referred the Petition of Major John Calhoun, Report, that after Mature deliberation on said Petition, your Committee are of Opinion, that the prayer of the Petitioner respecting the public Account purchased of William McMahan, also the public account purchased of Isaac Mitchel as stated in said petition, Be not Granted: – But are of opinion that the last Mentioned Account in said Petition for the sum of Ten pounds Sterling which said Petitioner paid for his Board & a Person to Attend on him when Wounded at Tarleton's defeat, which said Petitioner has a Receipt to show (although the same appears to be out of date) But taking into consideration the many Essential Services he has Rendered his country during the Revolutionary war, Recommend that the amount mentioned Ten pounds be paid the Petitioner, & that provision for the same be made in the Tax Bill.

S/ Nathan Lipscomb, Chairman

S/ R Shackleford

S/ R M McJohnntz [???

[p 35]

To the Honorable the President and the Honorable the Members of the Senate

The Humble Petition of Captain John Calhoun Sheweth: That your Petitioner, at a subsequent meeting of the Honorable the house of Legislature, exhibited Your Honorable fraternity, that he rendered special services to his country in that struggle for liberty, in which she was engaged with her Mother Country. And that during the contest, Your Petitioner received a number of Wounds: especially in that engagement by which Tarleton was defeated Your Petitioner was wounded in many Places: And was obliged to render an advance of Ten Pounds to discharge the expense of his attendance during his illness. And that since his recovery he has never been Capable of Laboring for his support. Your Petitioner likewise set forth to Your Honors that by an accidental fall which he got, he received an additional hurt in his upper joint of his right thigh by which that leg is rendered entirely useless. In Your Petitioner rendering in these his distresses to your Honors it was agreed by Your Honorable body that Your Petitioner was justly entitled to the Pension stipulated by law for those who had suffered in the last War namely Five Pounds per annum, which sum Your Petitioner actually received, for which your Petitioner returned his most sincere thanks. By this donation Your Honors expected to have hushed to perpetual silence the complaints of Your Petitioner. But Your Petitioner Groaning Under the burden of helplessness and distress once more presumes to trouble Your Honors with his complaint. Your Petitioner confesses that the sum of Five Pounds is a sufficient for such as have been but slightly wounded, and who are still Capable of some business; and for such he presumes that provision was made. But Your Petitioner begs leave to insinuate to Your Honors that in a case so desperate as his case; that five pounds cannot come anyways near a sufficiency. Whatever [several words obliterated and rendered illegible] may be the opinion of individuals, Your Petitioner knows by certain experience that that sum is not sufficient for one in his circumstance. Your Petitioner therefore Begs leave in the most abject manner to lay himself as at Your feet inspired with a degree of hope that as his distresses are more fully known his necessities will be more amply supplied.

Your Petitioner reflects. 1st That by venturing his life to assist in procuring his country her freedom he received the many wounds which deprive him of the use of his limbs and is the cause of his present helplessness and distress. He reflects 2^{ndly} Through the vigilance of many patriotic characters who have engaged in the defense of their country (among whom he numbers himself) she actually obtained her freedom: and being made free, She is now the glory and admiration of the whole world. Her Plantations are stored with provisions & produce for exportation, Her Merchants with Goods and Her Treasuries with money. Like the [several words written over and rendered illegible] she can give and be none the poor, While by withholding she is none the richer. Your Honorable body has abounded in acts of charity in times past, nor has abounded in acts of Charity in times past nor has your Petitioner any just reason to doubt of Your Benevolence at this meeting or in time to come, when the person invoking Your Honors shall be found deserving Your favor.

Your Petitioner being conscious of the rectitude of his principles, hopes that Your Honors will look into the justness of his plea and allow him a more liberal support than that already stipulated by law. And Your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

S/ John Calhoun