

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Hamilton S18000

f58SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

7/27/09: rev'd 2/14/22 & 7/31/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 3]

State of South Carolina Abbeville District} SS

On this twenty fourth day of October in the year while Lord 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Richard Gantt Presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas & General Sessions for the District and State aforesaid now sitting Major Andrew Hamilton a resident of Abbeville District in the State of South Carolina who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7 June 1832.

That he entered the service of his country the United States as a Captain of a Volunteer company which was raised and organized for the protection and defense of the country at as early a period as the year 1775, at this period the enemies of the country denominated Royalists or Tories, threw every obstacle in the way of their opponents the Whigs against the unjust impositions & exactions of Great Britain to such a violent and insurrectionary length had the Royalists proceeded that the friends of Liberty found it necessary to arm in self defense, and to repel by force, the force of the Royalists, Accordingly some time in the year 1775, Major Williamson [Andrew Williamson] who commanded the Whig Militia at the time in the District of Ninety Six ordered a body of them to go in quest of some plundering Royalists and [undeciphered word] reduced to the necessity of retreating into a Stockade Fort in which he & his militia including the applicant and his Company were confined without water for three days when they obtained a scanty supply by digging. The Royalists or Tories obtained possession of the gaol [jail] of Ninety Six from which they fired into the fort, without much [undeciphered word],¹ after some days the Royalists hoisted a flag and proposed a truce, the object of which was to enable both parties to confer with their respective heads viz. the Loyalist with their Royal Governor and the Whigs with their Council of Safety, then lately organized by the friends of Liberty in South Carolina for the common safety & protection of the Country.

The applicant says that he marched his company in the fall of the year 1776 to the Cherokee nation² by order of Major or General Williamson who commanded the expedition in



1

² Cherokee expedition, August 1 through November 1, 1776:

https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

person and to the number of about two thousand men, who were met and opposed by a superior force of Indians, Williamson entered a narrow valley surrounded by mountains, the larger portion of the Indians occupied the mountain heights from which they poured in a constant and well directed fire, orders were given for Detachments of Williamson's Army to gain the heights above the Indians whom being hard pressed by the advances in the valley & those on the mountain sides, betook themselves to flight, Williamson's Army then laid waste to all the Cherokee settlements in that section and the Army disbanded sometime in October.

The Applicant says that he was subsequently in another Indian expedition, but does not recollect the circumstances of it, to state them particularly: --

The Applicant also states that in the year 1779 several hundred Tories embodied and marched along the Western frontiers of South Carolina taking several persons prisoners in their march, and that Col. Pickens [Andrew Pickens] collected a force of three hundred men and followed these Tories to a place called Kettle Creek³ in the State of Georgia Col. or Genl. Pickens then disposed his force into three divisions and give the command of the right division to the applicant who acted as Major in this battle, at Kettle Creek, where after an action of some considerable contest, the Tories were completely routed and defeated with a loss of about forty killed, including their commander Colonel Boyd [James Boyd], -- the loss on the part of the Whigs was comparatively small.

The Applicant also states that he commanded a Company at the siege of Ninety Six,⁴ in the year 1781, and remained there under Genl. Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] in the active performance of Military duty until Genl. Green raised the siege and Marched his troops across Saluda River towards North Carolina.

The Applicant also states that at the battle of the Eutaw [Eutaw Springs⁵] in the year 1781, he commanded as Major a Battalion of Militia under the command of Genl. Pickens. He also states in conclusion, that he was in several other expeditions or Campaigns, and in several skirmishes as the Captain of a company of Whig volunteers & that from the want of recollection and from there partaking of the Character of partisan warfare at home, and in the surrounding settlements, & borders of South Carolina against Tories, and Indians, he deems it unnecessary to state or to notice as it would be impossible to recapitulate the various diversified scenes he experienced in the defense of his Country, he considers it sufficient to say, that he was almost always employed in the service of his country through the whole revolutionary war, as the commanding Officer of a Company in opposing the Tories, Indians & British and of all enemies he conceived the Tories, most detestable and most obnoxious to the Liberty of his Country.

Answers to certain Interrogatories⁶

³ Kettle Creek February 14, 1779 <https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790214-kettle-creek/>

⁴ May 21-June 19, 1781: https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

⁵ September 8, 1781: https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

⁶ The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5th 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 and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your

Ans to 1st Inty-- The Applicant answers & says that he was born in Augusta County in the State of Virginia, and that he was baptized by the Reverend John Craig on the 17th day of July in the year 1741 in the State of Virginia Augusta County. --

Ans to 2nd Inty-- The Applicant says the only record he has of his age is a copy of the date of his baptism, which he took from the books of the Reverend John Craig in the State of Virginia.

Ans to 3rd Inty-- The Applicant says that he was living in Ninety Six District in the State of South Carolina when he was called into the service of his country, that he has lived since the revolutionary war in the same State, and District, now called Abbeville District, where he now lives. --

Ans to 4th Inty-- This Applicant answers & says, that he entered the service as a Volunteer and ended his service in the Revolutionary War throughout a volunteer, he was never drafted, & never was a substitute. --

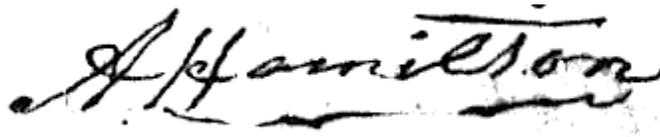
Ans to 5th Inty-- Genl. Green, Col. Campbell, Col. Williams, Col. Lee [Lt. Col. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] Lee, -- others the Applicant cannot now recollect -- the Applicant does not recollect much about the regiments of continentals, or Militia, this much he knows, that both kinds of troops were with him and fought hard at Eutaw, he knew Col. Hammond, Col. Washington [William Washington] & Genl. Pickens at Eutaw.

Ans to 6th Inty-- The Applicant is known to James Wardlaw, Esquire, Col. Patrick Noble, Moses Taggart Esquire and to the greater part of the population of Abbeville District he is also intimately known to John C. Calhoun vice president of the United States, and to many distinguished Characters of South Carolina, who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a Officer of the Revolution.

The Applicant hereby relinquishes 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.

S/ Jas. Wardlaw, Clerk

S/ A. Hamilton



[Franklin Branch, a clergyman, and Major James Alston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 6]

State of South Carolina

Abbeville District} Affidavit of Major Andrew Hamilton amending his foregoing Declaration

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for Abbeville District in the State of South Carolina Andrew Hamilton who being duly sworn deposed and saith that 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 and in the following grades, For at least three years I served as a Captain in the revolutionary war in the defense of my country the United States and for at least one year I served as a Major in the revolutionary war in defense of the United States and for which entire service I claim a pension.

Sworn to 9th of April 1833 before me

character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

[p 52: Veteran gives a recap of his service in table form—the table is too complex for me to transcribe as such. This table includes the following statement:

“1 [month]: During which Col. or Genl. Pickens & myself, were imprisoned by the British in the jail of Ninety Six, we were captured by some British soldiers when engaged & in pursuit of Military matters, sometime in the year 1780 – the year 1777 & 1778 I was in military service but cannot detail the service for want of memory, I neither ask or claim anything for my services, as acting Major, I include these services under the rank of Captain.”]

State of South Carolina & p. I Andrew Hamilton do hereby certify that being duly informed with a most perfect understanding of the regulations of the Act of Congress of the 7th June 1832 relative to Revolutionary Pension claims do hereby, in conformity with the said act, and of instructions issued from the War Department respectively, present in a tabular form the title Amendment of my declaration for a pension under the act aforesaid, in the manner before following viz.

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A Statement in tabular form shewing the services of Major Andrew Hamilton during the Revolutionary War

Rank when admitted to the service	Rank of the claimant	Authority requiring claim of service	Name & Rank of the Officer under whom the claimant served	The place where the services were performed	Period of the service	Amount of the bounty or pay	The Object, and Character of the services	Service in the field or Garrison	Rank or Title	Time by which the claimant has been supported in
775	0 1 7	Captain	Col. Williamson	Col. Williamson	Charleston or vicinity in the State of South Carolina	the middle of summer 1775 - August 1800	about 200 lbs of powder	Army, 1775-76	Major	By the Act of the 7th June 1832
775	0 1 15	Captain	Col. Williamson	Col. Williamson	Charleston	middle of 1775 - 1776	about 200 lbs of powder	Army, 1775-76	Major	By the Act of the 7th June 1832
776	0 1 15	Captain	Col. Williamson	Col. Williamson	Charleston	middle of 1775 - 1776	about 200 lbs of powder	Army, 1775-76	Major	By the Act of the 7th June 1832
779	0 9 0	Captain	Col. Pickens	Col. Pickens	Georgia or Carolina	1779	300 or 400 lbs of powder	Army, 1779	Major	By the Act of the 7th June 1832
781	0 6 0	Captain	Col. Pickens	Col. Pickens	Charleston	1781	300 or 400 lbs of powder	Army, 1781	Major	By the Act of the 7th June 1832
1782	0 1 0	Major	Col. Pickens	Col. Pickens	Charleston	1782	300 or 400 lbs of powder	Army, 1782	Major	By the Act of the 7th June 1832
1787	0 8 7	Appropriate of Claimant	recollection of service	One year, eight months & seven days						

Attest: I, James Woodlaw Clerk of the Court of Sessions & Common Pleas for the District of Ninety Six, do hereby certify that the foregoing account is a true and correct copy of the same as on file in the Court of Sessions & Common Pleas for the District of Ninety Six, and that the foregoing signatures are the genuine signatures of the said Andrew Hamilton.

Given under my hand and seal of Office at Abbeville Court House this thirteenth day of December 1832.

James Woodlaw
Clerk.

[p 53] South Carolina Abbeville District } I Andrew Hamilton Senior of the District and State aforesaid, as a secondary amendment to my declaration for a pension under the late act of Congress of June 7th 1832 -- do hereby solemnly swear that such was the character of the Revolutionary War in the upper sections of South Carolina and particularly in the District of Ninety Six where the deponent principally lived, acted and performed military services in the defense of the United States, that the friends of liberty performed continuous tours of duty from the commencement of the Revolutionary war to its final close, and were constrained to do so, from having to contend with a triple enemy, Indians who were provoked by British influence, to

slaughter without mercy the Whig inhabitants and their families, who in many instances suffered as much from Tories who scarcely ever failed to plunder, burn, & destroy the substance & property of Patriots taking their lives if captured and leaving their families widowed & orphans & stripped of everything necessary for their comfort and support to oppose these enemies successfully, the small band of Patriots in this section of the country, were necessarily compelled to perform continuous tours of duty, both by night & by day, the former generally being the most auspicious season for movement from one place to another, whenever duty called, the constant appearance of force served in some measure to intimidate the Indians and Tories, this patriot force were principally volunteers, raised under competent authority -- Col. Pickens⁷ had the command of the Military force of Ninety Six District and always aided, in giving authority to any body of Patriots associated together for the defense and security of the Country, whenever they deemed their services necessary to effect that object. -- the deponent further says, that, he was a near neighbor & friend of Col. Pickens, that they lived within fifteen miles of the line dividing the Indian land from that of the whites, that Col. Pickens & himself were almost constantly together, acting for, & in defense of their country, that the deponent derived his authority from Pickens to act as a Captain within his command & subsequently to act as Major under him. The deponent further says, that the following statement will show his actual services in the Revolutionary War.

In 1775 he served five weeks as a Capt. under Major Williamson against an embodied force of Royalists in the Village of Cambridge or Ninety Six. --

In 1775 he served six weeks as a Capt. under Major or Col. Williamson against the Cherokee Indians. --

In 1776 he served six weeks as Capt. under Major or Col. Williamson being another tour of duty against the Cherokee Indians.

In 1777 & 1778 he acted as Capt. under the Authority of Col. Pickens to perform military services in protecting & defending the frontier of Ninety Six and the District of Ninety Six --

In 1779 -- he acted as Capt. & as a Major part of this year under the authority & under direct command of Col. Pickens, with whom, the deponent acted as Captain in the attack upon Carr's Fort⁸ in the State of Georgia, where he also bore a flag of truce, to the enemy in the Fort, which was abandoned by Pickens, to meet a Col. Boyd, the deponent further says that Pickens pursued Col. Boyd to Kettle Creek in Georgia & the deponent in this battle, acted as Major & commanded the right wing which killed Boyd the deponent being near, & an eye witness to his fall and death, & whose last expiring words were "that he had this consolation that he died a true friend to his Majesty King George the third" Boyd then give [sic, gave] something to Col. Pickens to forward to his wife & then expired. The deponent further says, that he believes he was in service the whole of this year 1779 but will only said that he was nine months in actual service as Capt. under Col. or Genl. Pickens during the year 1779 --

In 1780 the deponent acted as Capt. under Genl. Pickens in protecting the frontiers against Tory depredations.

In 1781 the deponent acted as Capt. under Genl. Pickens at the Siege of Ninety Six, and acted under Genl. Pickens as a Major of Militia at the Battle of the Eutaw & must have

⁷ Andrew Pickens took parole from the British soon after the fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780. He did not break his parole until his plantation was plundered in late November or early December 1780. He deemed the plundering of his plantation as a release from his parole. He was commissioned a Brigadier General in the South Carolina militia by Governor John Rutledge after the battle of Cowpens in January of 1781.

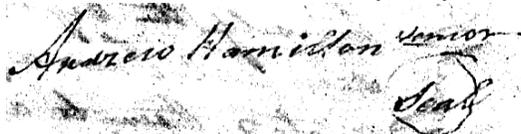
⁸ Carr's Fort February 10, 1779 <https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/1779-skirmish/#790208> & www.thelamarinstitute.org/images/PDFs/publication_189.pdf

performed this year at least six months of actual service, this deponent further says that from the battle of the Eutaw to the end of the war he acted as Major of Militia under Genl. Pickens.

The deponent further says that he omitted heretofore to mention that Col. or Genl. Pickens & himself went unaccompanied by others to confer with a Col. Few [Benjamin Few] from Georgia who had a few troops in the District of Ninety Six, all true Whigs, that when Col. Pickens & himself /the deponent/ were on their road to see Col. Few, a female of the Tory stamp directed them to a Camp of British soldiers & Tories by whom Pickens & himself were made prisoners & sent to the Village of Cambridge or Ninety Six, where they remained prisoners one month, under a British Officer by the name of Allen, by some means Col. Pickens obtained his & my release, from imprisonment, while prisoners we were treated with great attention & kindness by the British attributable I believe to the popularity & influence of Genl. Pickens, the deponent further believes that he always acted under competent military authority in the defense of his country, & that he was not employed in any civil pursuit, during the aforesaid services, the deponent says that Patriots of this Section of the Country in the revolutionary war could not with safety appear on their farms to perform one days work. It was principally performed by the women & children, & when the crops were made by them, often plundered & destroyed by the Tories, civil pursuits, could not be attended to by the men, they had to bear arms night & day; the militia of other states where there were comparatively few Tories, could attend to their civil pursuits without danger & serve their rotatory tours of duty, this was not the case here. -- To all contained in the foregoing second Amendment of my declaration for a pension under the Act of Congress 7 June 1832, I hereto subscribe my name & affixed my seal, being previously sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God to the truth of the matters & things therein contained to the best of my belief & understanding & recollection.

Sworn to this 7th of August 1838 before

S/ Andrew Hamilton Senior {Seal}



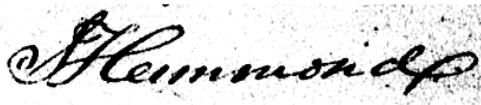
S/ Moses Taggart, JP

[p 58]

State of South Carolina Richland District}

I Samuel Hammond⁹ of the State and District aforesaid Certify that I became acquainted with Major Andrew Hamilton of the District of Abbeville in the State aforesaid in the year 1779. That he was then called Captain Hamilton and in actual service in Col. Pickens Regiment of Militia & that he knows he was most of that year in Service. I was afterwards associated with him in Genl. Pickens' Brigade and particularly that he was in the Battle of Eutaw acting as a Major in September 1781 & continued with the Army some time after -- I can further Certify that Major Andrew Hamilton whose declaration this is attached was highly esteemed as an Active & zealous officer, & respectable Citizen.

S/ S. Hammond



⁹ [Samuel Hammond S21807](#)

Sworn to before made this 13th day of October 1833
S/ Chas. L. Hammond, NP & JQ Ex Officio

[Facts in file: Veteran died January 17, 1835.]

[Veteran was pension at the rate of \$404.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Captain in the South Carolina militia for 20 months and 7 days.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹⁰ relating to Andrew Hamilton pp18
Audited Account No. 3256
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/14/22

[p 2]

[No. 462 Book O] 22nd March 1785

Mr. Andrew Hamilton his Account of Duty in the Militia done alternately from 79 to 1783 and for 1 Beef for Militia use in 1781 say

as Major [illegible] Days at 90/ [90 shillings old SC currency per day]	£454.10
as Private 7 Days at 20/	7.0.0
1 Beef	<u>20.0.0</u>

Currency	<u>£481.10</u>
Stg. [Sterling]	£68.15.8 ½

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

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

[p 3]

State South Carolina Dr. [Debtor] to Andrew Hamilton
for his Services as Major & for 1 Beef

per Account annexed	£474.10
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Duty as a Volunteer 7 Days on horse per Captain

Wm Strain's [William Strain's] Pay Bill commencing in 80
and ending in 83

	<u>7</u>
Currency	<u>£481.10</u>
Stg.	£68.15.8 ½

[p 4]

The State of South Carolina

To Major Andrew Hamilton

Dr.

To his Service from the 10th of August 1779 till the 11th of September Inclusive
under the Command of Col. Andrew Pickens, being in the whole 33 days at 90/
per day is One hundred and forty Eight pounds ten Shillings

£148.10

To his Service as Brigade Major from the 20th of August 1781 till the
20th of September Following, Inclusive under the Command of General

¹⁰ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) 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. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

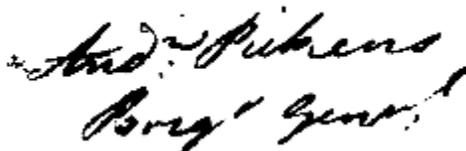
Andrew Pickens, Being in the whole 32 days at 90/per day is	
One hundred & forty four pounds	£144
23 rd June 1781 To One Beef Cow Twenty pounds	
Per receipt from Mr. Wardlow Q M	£20

Ninety Six District } Andrew Hamilton made Oath that the Above Accounts is Just and that he has Never Received pay or any part of Pay for the Same
 Sworn to this 21st day of July 1783
 before me S/ Andrew Pickens, JP

S/ Andrew Hamilton



I do Certify that the above account is Just
 Certified 22nd August 1783
 S/ Andw Pickens
 Brigadier General

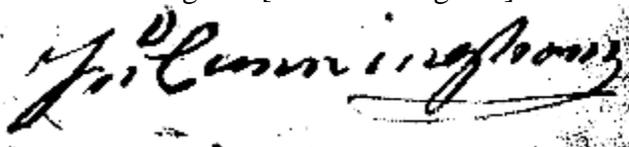


[p 5: Retake of page 4 as transcribed above]

[p 6]

Received 22 April 1785 from the Commissioners of the Treasury full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 462 book O

S/ Jn^o Cunningham [John Cunningham]



[p 7]

The State of South Carolina To Andrew Hamilton	Dr.
for his Services as Major in the Upper Ninety Six	
Regiment On the expedition against the outlying	
Cherokees in August & September 1779	
36 days at 90/	£162.0.0
per another account	148.10
	<u>144</u>
	£454.10/
	<u>20</u>
	£474.10

Do

I Certify this Account for duty done
 December 2nd 1779

S/ Andrew Pickens Colonel



[p 9]

State South Carolina} I do hereby Authorize and Impower Mr. John Cunningham of Charleston, to draw & receive the Indents due to me by the Public for Militia duty as Major; & Brigade Major also a Beef for the Use of the Public aforesaid with the Interest due thereon – the Accounts thereof returned into the Auditor’s Office by Colonel Robert Anderson – Given under my hand this 18th August 1785

S/ Andrew Hamilton

I do hereby Certify that Major Andrew Hamilton did sign & acknowledged the above Order before me

S/ Andrew Pickens, JP [very faint signature]

[p 10: Printed form of Indent No. 462 Book O dated April 22nd, 1785 in the amount of £68.15.8 ½]

[pp12-13: Image and retake of image of the reverse of the above Indent bearing, among others, the following endorsement:

I assign over the within Indent with the interest due thereon to Mr. Jos. Salvdor [sic, Joseph Salvador] this 25th day of September 1786

S/ Andrew Hamilton]

[p 14]

[Book] O [No.] 457

Mr. Andrew Hamilton his Account of 183 Days Service as Spy per Capt. John Norwood’s Pay Bill commencing in April 1781 and ending in December 1782 at £2 £366
Also for duty per Col. Anderson’s [Robert Anderson’s] Return [not extant] beside

Currency £518
Stg. £74

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

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

[p 15: Restatement of the veteran’s services as set forth above except in a different format]

April 22nd 1785 Received full Satisfaction for the above in an Indent No. 457 Lib. 0
£74 S/ Andrew Hamilton



[p 18 (retake of page 17)]

