

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hugh King S32365

f55NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/5/08; rev'd 4/17/16

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

State of Tennessee, Maury County: Court of Pleas & Order Sessions

On this 11th day of June A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting Hugh King a resident of said County of Maury & State aforesaid aged about Seventy Eight years, 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 June 7th 1832.

That he the said Hugh King was born in the State of Argyll, Scotland on the 17th day of December A.D. 1754 as appears from a family record derived from his father's Bible. That he entered the Service of the United States about the year 1777 or 1778 in Mecklenburg County North Carolina as a volunteer, that he was then commanded by Major Davie (afterwards Colonel and afterwards Governor Davie of North Carolina) [William Richardson Davie], that he served at that time three months, that the nature of the service in which the Corps to which he belonged was engaged was to scour the Country and prevent the Tories from supplying the British Army with provisions, that during this time he was in no battle, except a skirmish with a detachment of Col. Tarlton's [sic, Banastre Tarleton's] dragoons at Charlotte village North Carolina in which Adjutant Joseph Grimes was severely wounded and Lieutenant Locke [George Locke], son of General Locke [Francis Locke] of Rowan County N. C. was killed, that his tour of service was performed mostly about Charlotte, North Carolina and Waxhaw South Carolina.¹ That at and during this tour General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] was engaged raising and collecting men in Mecklenburg and the neighboring County and that his family then resided in the former County on a plantation rented from Colonel Ezekiel Polk afterwards of this County.

After his return home in the same year he was drafted from Captain Alexander's [William Alexander's] Company and put under the command of Captain John McRee under whom he served a ten [?] months tour, that the nature of the service in which Captain McRee's Company was engaged was to guard the wagons which were removing the public stores from Cross Creek now Fayetteville North Carolina to the upper Country so as to secure in places of Safety. There was no higher officer in Command than Captain McRee, that William Orr a neighbor of this applicant was our Wagon master, that he cannot recollect the names of the Lieutenant and Ensign of the Company during this period of service. That General Sumter was engaged as mentioned above in strengthening himself in Mecklenburg and neighboring Counties.

That afterwards he went as a volunteer on an expedition under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] to Ramsour's, against the Tories commanded by Colonel John Moore and that he was at the battle of Ramsour's Mills [June 20, 1780],² in which the Tories were routed. That General Sumter was present in this expedition, but took no command. That in the battle of Ramsour's Mills, Captains Falls

¹ Battle of Charlotte, September 26, 1780 http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_charlotte.html

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ramseurs_mill.html

[Galbraith Falls], Sterns and Houston³ of our men were killed. That this service lasted but three weeks. And that Captain William Alexander commanded the company to which this applicant was attached.

Afterwards about the year 1779 he went as a volunteer under Captain Andrew Alexander to South Carolina. That he belonged to the Regiment of Colonel Bratton [William Bratton] and was attached to the Army under General Sumter. That this term of service lasted six months, all of which this applicant served. That the battle of Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780]⁴ in which General Sumter defeated the British and Tories was fought during this time, that this applicant was not present in the battle having been previously sent home to Mecklenburg County distant about 40 miles for a Supply of Clothing. That he was absent not more than six or eight days and that in his return, the Army of General Sumter was disbursed in Consequence of the defeat suffered at the Fishing Creek [August 18, 1780]⁵ from Colonel Tarleton, a few days after the battle of Hanging Rock.

That he was afterwards sent by Captain William Alexander in a three months tour as a public Wagoneer to Supply General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and Colonel Washington [William Washington] then in Winter Quarters on General Thomas Polk's plantation in Mecklenburg County with provisions. This service was performed in the winter of 1780 & 1781 and immediately previous to the battle of Cowpens [January 17, 1781],⁶ that he served three months in the business of wagoning as above Stated and that his Captain told him this should Count as a three months time of militia Service.

That a few days after the expiration of the last mentioned service he was again called into service six weeks under the command of General Davidson [William Lee Davidson], who was then endeavoring to prevent Lord Cornwallis from crossing the Catawba [River]. With the death of General Davidson which took place at Beatties Ford [sic, Cowan's Ford, February 1, 1781]⁷ on the morning of the first of February 1781, the militia dispersed. He cannot recollect the name of the Captain of his company in this Service, his Lieutenant was Andrew Alexander.

About the first of April 1781 and soon after they Battle of Guilford which took place on the 15th of March 1781, he enlisted as a ten months man to serve under Colonel Wade Hampton in a Regiment of South Carolina State Dragoons. That he as well as many others of the same Regiment enlisted in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, that he belonged to Captain William Alexander's Company, that in this Service he was present in the battle of Strawberry Fields [July 16, 1781]⁸ 18 miles from Charleston. That General Sumter commanded in person on this occasion on our Side and General Stuart a Scotchman Commanded the British. Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] commanded the Continental dragoons and Col. Wade Hampton, the State dragoons. Colonel Henry Hampton and Colonel William Polk commanded the American Infantry. That during this service he was in what was called the battle of the Quarter House [July 15, 1781],⁹ a severe engagement between Colonel Wade Hampton's Regiment of State dragoons and a detachment of Scotch dragoons acting as guards to two wagons loaded with stores (principally gold) and arms designed to equip Tory dragoons. That the detachment of British dragoons was routed, and the wagons, horses, money and arms fell into our hands, and were immediately dispatched to General Sumter, then some 20 or 30 miles in our rear. This engagement in which Colonel Wade Hampton was present was fought four miles from the City of Charleston. On the same evening, being informed that some vessels conveying the British baggage up Cooper River were at no great distance, Colonel Hampton overtook and burnt them. The vessels were two small schooners, in the same fight, we approached the encampment of a Regiment of British troops consisting of new Irish recruits, a few miles below Monck's Corner, where we drove in their advance

³ Captain James Houston was severely wounded but not killed at Ramseur's Mill

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fishing_creek.html

⁶ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

⁷ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cowans_ford.html

⁸ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_strawberry_ferry.html

⁹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_quarter_house.html

guard. The Regiment retreated in the night towards Charleston, and next morning we pursued them and overtook their rear guard at the Crossing of a Lagoon, we took their rear guard and baggage, these events immediately preceded the battle of the Strawberry Fields above mentioned.

The Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781]¹⁰ took place during this term of service, and this applicant, during that Siege was attached to Colonel Washington's dragoons, who was employed by General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] then Commanding the Siege in various Services.

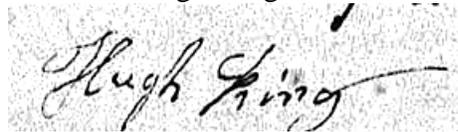
That we were dismissed from this Service at a Ford on Congaree River a short distance below the present town of Columbia South Carolina.

That he never received pay for this term of Service, but that believing no account would afterwards be taken of his different periods of Service, he entirely neglected to apply for or preserve his discharges and that he has no documentary evidence whatever to prove any part of his Services aforesaid, and that he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove any part of the same except James Shields and Matthew Wallis¹¹ who can testify as to the 10 months service last stated.

He is personally and well known to the Reverend John H. Edmiston, James Shields & Matthew Rhea residents of this County who can testify as to his character and the tradition of his revolutionary Service.

He hereby relinquishes pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Hugh King



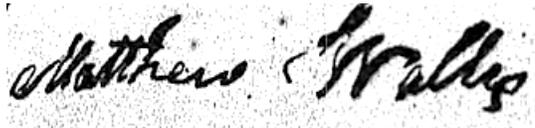
[p 8 & 19]

State of Tennessee, Maury County

This day came Matthew Wallis for me B. S. Hurt one of the Justices of the peace in said County, and made oath that he was personally acquainted with Hugh King of said County of Maury who claims under a late act of Congress as a United States pensioner, that deponent was an orderly Sergeant in Captain William Alexander's Company of dragoons of the State of South Carolina, and that the said Hugh King served as a private Soldier, in said Company some two or four months after which term the Company was commanded by Captain __ Giles [James Giles] making in all ten months service. Said Company was attached to the first Regiment commanded by Colonel Wade Hampton in General Sumter's brigade. Said deponent further states that he was acquainted with the said Hugh King previous to the Revolutionary war, and for a great part of the time since and that he has always supported a good moral character and entitled to Credit as a person of truth and any Court of justice, and that he has never drawn any pension to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 8th June 1833.

S/ Matthew Wallis



S/ B. S. Hurt, JP

[John H. Edmiston, a clergyman, and James Shields and Matthew Rhea gave the standards supporting affidavit.]

And the said James Shields makes oath that he was a neighbor of the Said Hugh King for and during and ever since the Revolutionary War, That he and two brothers of deponent's enlisted into Colonel

¹⁰ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

¹¹ [Matthew Wallis W1519](#)

Wade Hampton's Regiment of South Carolina State dragoons, during the Revolutionary War, and as he was informed, and believes served in Sumter's Army South Carolina, that said Hugh King was absent from his home then in Mecklenburg County North Carolina about 10 months while belonging to Colonel Hampton's Regiment. And the said James Shields further makes oath that he is well acquainted and was well acquainted during the Revolutionary War with Matthew Wallis whose statement on oath is detailed above, and that he has always been reputed and believed as a man of truth and entitled to Credit in any Court of Justice.

Sworn to in open Court.

S/ Jas. Shields

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jas. Shields". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized and slanted.

S/ Thos. J. Porter, Clerk

[p 20]

Amended Declaration of Hugh King in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 7th June 1832 – Granting pensions to the Soldiers of the Revolution.

The said Hugh King upon his oath declares that the different periods of service which he performed during the Revolutionary War – are truly and correctly stated in his original Declaration, according to the best of his recollection – the term of service of three months under the command of Major Davie as stated in his original Declaration commenced in the fall of the year 1778. His second tour of service of three months under the command of Captain McRee was performed in the latter part of the year 1779. His third term of service of three months was performed in the spring of 1780. His fourth term of service – for six months – under Captain Alexander is he thinks from the best of his recollection, erroneously stated in his original Declaration to have been performed about the year 1779. He now thinks it was performed in 1780 -- he thinks it commenced in the latter part of that year, but the precise time he cannot state – from memory his fifth tour of service for three months as a Public wagoner was performed he thinks in the winter of 1781-'2 – whether the year be correct or not & he cannot state positively from memory – of one thing he is certain [illegible word] that is that this tour of duty ended a very few days before the battle of the Cowpens. His sixth tour for six weeks – commenced as stated in his previous declaration commenced a very few days after the expiration of his last mentioned tour. His seventh tour of ten months under Colonel Wade Hampton-- commenced shortly after the battle of Guilford in North Carolina, -- the precise date he cannot with sufficient certainty remember. He states that by reason of old age, the great lapse of time and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively to the precise dates of the different periods of his service – but he knows he did perform all the tours of duty set forth and stated in his original Declaration – and according to the best of his recollection he served as a private not less than the period stated in his former declaration, amounting in the whole to a service of 27 months, --indeed he is satisfied that his whole service was for even a greater period – for he was out several times on scouting parties for a few days –and for his services as set forth in this and his original Declaration he claims a pension.

S/ Hugh King

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 23rd of October 1833.

S/ Francis Slawter [?], JP {Seal}

[p 29: On April 7th, 1838 in Giles County Tennessee, the veteran applied for the transfer of his pension benefit to the Tennessee agency giving as his reason for removing to Giles County that "all of my children married & left me except 1 daughter & my being unable to make support in my old age I removed to Giles County to live with my son in law (not named)."

[p 34: On July 8, 1845, Hugh King applied in Woodford County, Kentucky for a transfer of his pension payment due to his having removed to that County giving as his reason for moving that "my friends and relations with whom I lived in Tennessee died and removed to Kentucky to live with a son."]

[p 26: On January 27, 1846, Hugh King applied in Vermilion County, Illinois for a transfer of his pension payment due to his having removed to that County. He states as his reason for removing to Illinois that "he lost his wife some time since; and having 4 children living in Illinois he was desirous to reside with some of them."]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$93.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 10 months in the North Carolina cavalry and 14 months in the North Carolina infantry, all in the militia.]