

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ephraim (Ephram) Liles (Lisles) W8051 Margaret Lisles f71SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves 3/27/10 rev'd 12/20/13 & 8/13/23

[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 9]

Georgia Twiggs County:

On this day, to wit: the sixteenth day of February in the year of our Lord 1835, Personally came before the Inferior Court of said County sitting for County purposes and as a Court of Ordinary, Ephraim Lisles, a resident of said State and County, who being 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 the 7th of June 1832. That in his sixteenth year, in the year 1778, he entered the Service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: That at the commencement of his service he resided in South Carolina, Newberry district. That his first service was a two months tower [tour] in the Militia, in the place of his father, who was old and infirm. That he was stationed at and near Augusta, on the Savannah River, the Main Army under General Williamson [Andrew Williamson]. That he recollects Major Lisles and his Lieutenant John Caldwell and that during this Term of service he was in no hostile engagement. That from the expiration of said two months tour, till the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], he thinks in 1780, he was almost constantly upon scouting expeditions against the Tories of South Carolina on the waters of Saluda and Bush rivers. That he was frequently appointed by his officers to take charge of small detachments, Some of whom were Captain James Kelly, Captain Lisles and Lieutenant John Caldwell. That after the fall of Charleston he repaired to North Carolina and there remained till General Butler [John Butler] marched his Army to the relief of the Citizens of South Carolina. That he joined the Army under Captain Boles (not as a soldier) and there remained till the Army reached the Adkin River [sic, Yadkin River] -- thence he joined a Company under Col. Taylor [Thomas Taylor] and marched with him till he arrived at Fishing Creek, South Carolina, there he joined General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], as a Soldier, Col. James Liles, Major John Liles and Capt. Henry Liles -- from thence he marched to the fish dam Ford on Broad River and that on his march he received a slight wound in his thigh, in a rencounter with the Tories. That on the night of the same day, at the Fish dam Ford, he was in the battle [November 9, 1780]¹ fought by General Sumter against the British and Tories, under Colonel Wemyss [James Wemyss] -- after which he was in several skirmishes against the Tories, till Col. Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] came up with General Sumter at the Black Stock Ford [sic, Blackstock's]² on Tyger River, where a battle was

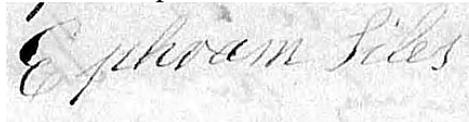
¹ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fishdam_ford.html

² https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_blackstocks.html

fought [November 20, 1780], that he was in the battle and that General Sumter got wounded in the shoulder -- after which he was almost constantly upon the scout, under the various officers, till General Sumter got well and joined the Army. That he was present when the British surrendered [May 15, 1781] the Fort at Granby South Carolina to General Sumter after the union of Sumter with Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] of the Horse and that it was under General and various subordinate officers, with various successes until the end of the war. That he has no recollection of having received a written discharge from the Army, but if he did, he has long since lost it. That there is no record of his age to the best of his knowledge, but from the best information he was born the 14th day of February 1762 -- That to the best of his knowledge and belief there is no person alive by whom he can prove the foregoing Service and that he knows of no person by whom to prove he was in or served in the American Army of the Revolutionary war, except he can do so by Edward Kelly,³ of the County and State first aforesaid, whom he states was a Revolutionary Soldier. That from Newberry district he removed in 1818 to Fairfield district South Carolina and while there true from the State of South Carolina a pension for 6 years at \$60 per annum for services as a Soldier of the American revolutionary War. That he removed from there to Georgia, Twiggs County and has here resided ever since. That since he removed to Georgia, he has drawn a two years pension from South Carolina, but that the same has been long since stopped. That his name is or was on the pension roll of South Carolina, but that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that he is in very indigent Circumstances.

Sworn to & subscribed, the day and year aforesaid

S/ Ephram Liles⁴

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ephram Liles". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

S/ H. H. Farwer, JIC

S/ Joseph A. Chappell, JIC

S/ Henry Solomon, JIC

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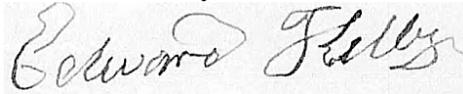
Georgia Pulaski County: Personally came before me, John B. Bush, a Justice of the peace for the said County, Edward Kelly, who is old and infirm and who has recently moved from Twiggs County to the County first aforesaid, and who after being sworn deposes and says on his oath that he was an American Revolutionary Soldier and fought on the side of American Liberty and that he is now in his seventy seventh year of his age. That his father's family, including himself, before and during the War, made it their home in South Carolina, in the neighborhood of a large family of the Liles. That they were all considered good Whigs and fought for their Country, the most of whom this deponent has seen in actual service and served himself under Colonel James Liles. That Ephraim Liles, who resides in Twiggs County and whose name is subscribed to the foregoing declaration for a pension, was a part of this family and known as Little Eph. That this deponent never saw him in actual service; But he was reputed to have served his country, at a time when the duties of this deponent lay in Georgia & the Savannah side of South Carolina and that this deponent has no doubt but he did serve his Country as stated in said declaration.

³ Probably: [Edmond \(Edmund\) Kelly R5840](#)

⁴ Veteran also signed his name on several documents in the file "Ephraim Lisles."

Sworn to before me this 7th of January 1836.
S/ John B. Bush, JP

S/ Edward Kelly



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Georgia Twiggs County: On this the 14th of November 1836, personally appeared in open Court, before the Inferior Court for said County, now sitting, Ephraim Liles, a resident of said County & State aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Supplemental Declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That from the two months expedition under General Williamson till the fall of Charleston, his services were somewhat detached: but from his joining the Army after its fall to the end of the War the Service was constant, either camp duty or scouting, fighting etc. That during his service he was under officers already named and frequently he had command of detachments etc. That he can only recollect the general outlines of his Services and with a few exceptions he cannot go further into detail than already done. That his recollection is frail. That he is very poor and helpless and the reason why he has not sooner applied was depending upon South Carolina a long time and after she failed the application was made as soon as he could get any person to draw & send on his declaration.

Sworn to in open Court the day & year above written.

S/ Ephraim Liles

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum.]

[Other facts in the file: The veteran died April 4, 1854 in Twiggs County Georgia aged about 104 years old according to his widow; veteran married Margaret Young in Newberry District South Carolina on July 1, 1796 or 1797 (both dates appear in the file); his wife filed for a widow's pension by application signed November 30, 1854 while residing in Twiggs County Georgia; the veteran and his wife had 9 children but their names do not appear in the file.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁵ relating to Ephraim Liles, Jr. [later Sr.] pp 28
Audited Account No. 4580

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

8/13/23

[p 7]

No. 2580 Book X

29 April 1786

Ephraim Liles Junior

For Militia Duty in Waters's [Philemon Waters'] Regiment since the fall of Charleston

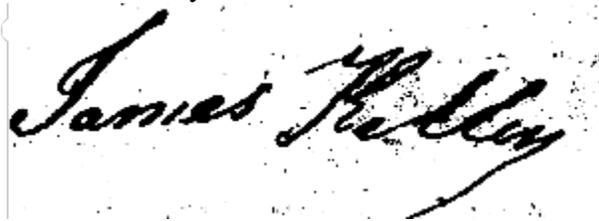
⁵ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian 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.

[Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] per Anderson's [Col. Robert Anderson's] Return [not extant] Amounting to

[old South Carolina] Currency	<u>£499.0.0</u>
Sterling	£71.5.8 ½

Ex^d J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

Rec'd 29th April 1786 full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 2580 – X, per order
S/ James Kelley



[p 8: Restatement of the veteran's services as set forth above except in a slightly different format.]

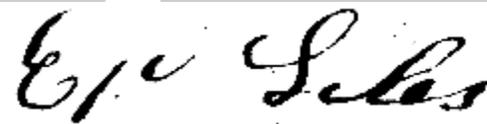
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South Carolina

Ninety Six District } May 29th, 1786

Gentlemen

Please to Send by Capt. James Kelley my Indent With the Interest & you'll oblige your
S/ Ep Liles



Messrs

Commrs. of the Treasury

I do hereby Certify that I saw Ehraim Liles [sic] Sign the Above Order the day Above
S/ Robert Rutherford, JP

[p 10]

No. 2581 Book X

29 April 1786

Ephraim Liles Junior

For Militia Duty in Waters's Regiment since the fall of Charleston per Anderson's Return
amounting to

Currency	<u>£35.0.0</u>
Sterling	£5.0.0

Ex^d J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

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Rec'd Columbia February 11, 1796 from the Commissioner [of the] Treasury the Amount of the

above Account in an indent 2581 Book X

S// Ephraim Liles



[p 16]

The Petition of E. Lyles [sic] Senior to the House of Representatives of South Carolina to be placed on the Pension Roll

Pensions

By Certificate and voucher of [undeciphered word or abbreviation] Dawkins and others prayer granted

[p 17]

19 November 1824

State of South Carolina

To the Honorable the Speaker and rest of the members of the House of Representatives of the State aforesaid

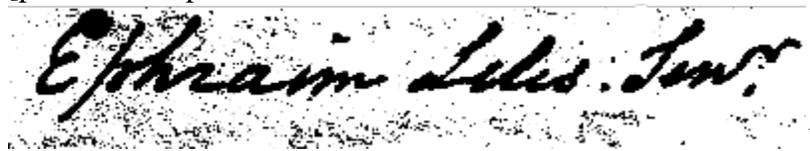
Humbly Sheweth that your memorialist engaged at the age of Sixteen in the American Service in defense of his injured Country after the reduction of Charlestown he was in constant active Service, often employed as a Spy, was at the Surrender or taking the Granby Fort⁶ by Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] & Sumpter [Thomas Sumter], was at the battle of Blackstock's, at the taking part of Col. Tarleton's troop who were making their escape with Considerable plunder, Negros & Horses, was continually in Service until the close of the War.

Your memorialist was wounded in the thigh, not so as to disable him, was at the Fish dam Battle. Your Petitioner being now far advanced in life having devoted Several years of his most Active life to his Country's Service, now unable to work, or nearly so, hopes that your Honorable Body will take his case into Consideration as he is a poor man with a family of Small children and grant him Such relief as you in your wisdom think proper and he as in duty bound will pray

S/ Ephraim Liles Senr.



[p 18: Same petition to the South Carolina Senate



⁶ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_granby_2.html

[p 20]

November 24th 1824

I do hereby Certify that Ephraim Liles Senior was an active Soldier in the revolution War in the year 1780 & 81

S/ Hugh Means

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hugh Means". The letters are dark and fluid, with a prominent loop at the end of the word "Means".

[Note: The veteran was placed on the South Carolina pension list at the rate of \$60 per annum with the 1st payment being on June 9, 1825 in the last voucher being dated December 19, 1833. The veteran signed each of the receipts for his annual pension with his signature their own appearing for example as follows:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ephraim Liles". The signature is written in a dark ink and shows a clear, legible cursive style.

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