Copy/Extracts from the Colonel of the Senate [South Carolina] for 1793

"Read the petition of John Bowie, Samuel Earle, Richard Tutt and Thomas Farrar presented by General Pinckney praying that the Honorable House would be pleased to grant the petitioners their commutation which they severally think themselves entitled to under a resolution of the Legislature of this State they being the only officers remaining of the three Independent Companies of Infantry raised in this State during the late War -- Ordered that the petition be referred to a Committee -- And a Committee was appointed accordingly, viz., General Pinckney, Captain Willson -- Colonel Brandon, General Pinckney from the Committee to whom was referred the Petition of John Bowie, Thomas Farrar and others late officers of the Independent Companies of this State praying provision to be made for their commutation presented the following Report -- That they have taken into consideration the case of the petitioners and find the following facts supported by the requisite vouchers to wit, That on the 25th day of February 1776 the said John Bowie was Commissioned as a Captain in the 10th Regiment of this State & that the said Thomas Farrar & others were appointed & commissioned as Lieutenants in the same Regiment and as such were entitled under the resolve of Congress to the Commutation of their pay. That on this 7th day of February 1777 the said officers with their men were detached from the Continental Establishment under a resolve of the Legislature of this State and on the express condition that the said officers should be to all intents & purposes on the same footing as the Continental officers as to pay, rations, clothing &c. That they were made Independent Companies subject nevertheless to all the rules & articles of war & expressly declared to be under the Commander in Chief of this State -- that in consequence of their being so detached they could not claim their commutation for their half pay during life from Congress your Committee are therefore of opinion that as the petitioners were detached from the Continental establishment by an express resolution of this State and on the express stipulation that they should be on the same footing in the above mentioned particulars as the officers on the Continental Establishment this State is bound both in Law & Equity to make immediate provision for the payment of that claim which your committee conceive they have on the justice of this State. Your Committee consider this as a liquidated claim to all intents & purposes and in as much as their pay is ascertained by law & a commutation for the same being equally certain does not require the intervention of an auditor to settle the same and of course that it is not on the footing of open accounts which are barred by they Act of Limitation. That the State of health of the first named of your petitioners was the cause of this application being made so relate as
appears to your Committee by satisfactory evidence."
"The report was negatived on account of Statute of Lim." [Limitations]

[p 4] (copy)
"Thomas Farrar of the State of South Carolina formally an officer in the first Independent
Company Commanded by Captain Benjamin Tutt do hereby certify & am ready to be qualified to
give requisite that Thomas Holmes the present applicant for his bounty land or some
remuneration for the same never applied to me for a Certificate & that the said Holmes resided
either in the Cherokee Nation or in the State of Georgia, I being the only officer then in existence
authorized to give certificates to those who made application and I gave to all that I knew who
had served faithfully but whom never made any application nor never asked for a pension till he
got so old & infirm that he was past labor & very much afflicted with the palsy which is the
cause of his coming forward now for the remuneration of his bounty land which I know to be just
and as it is a small boon he ought to have it -- he is now in the 78th year of his age & of course is
not very long for this world.
Given under my hand this 12th of November 1825
S/ Thomas Farrar"

[p 7-8]
(copy: original in SC Audited Accounts No. 2310, p 21 of 40)
To the Honorable the Speaker & Members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina. The humble petition of Thomas Farrar respectfully sheweth that your petitioner was shortly after the commencement of the war which resulted in the establishment of the independence of these United States appointed an officer in one of the Regiments raised by South Carolina on the Continental establishment and continued to discharge the duties of an officer in the said Regiment for some time when it was thought expedient by the Legislative authority of the State to detach two companies from the said Regiment and make them independent Companies and employ them on the North Western frontier as a protection against the neighboring Indians and other enemies of the Country in that quarter. The Companies then commanded by Captain John Bowie & Captain Tutt [Benjamin Tutt] were accordingly detached & in the latter Company your petitioner was a 2nd Lieutenant. On detaching these Companies the State of South Carolina placed itself to the Officers of them that they should be entitled to receive from the State all the pay, rations, emoluments & privileges of the officers of the Continental establishment. One of these emoluments was that the said Officers should receive after the termination of the war & having served during the same half pay for life which was afterwards commuted to full pay for 5 years. Your petitioner further states that he served faithfully until the conclusion of the war relying with confidence on the play aged faith of the State expected to receive his commutation, but in this expectation he has hitherto been disappointed, in consequence as he is instructed of the passage of an act or resolution of the Legislature limiting the time until which such claim should be received and the resentment of this claim after that period. This circumstance unfortunate to your petitioner arose from the sickness of Captain Bowie to whom the resentment of the claim was confided & who in consequence of his said indisposition was not able to arrive in Columbia until a few days after the time limited as before mentioned. Your petitioner further states that notwithstanding the limitation already mentioned the petition of this petitioner & the other officers was presented to both Houses of the Legislature and reports from the Committees of each House obtained
declaring the justice of the claim & recommending the payment thereof. Yet the Report was negatived for the reasons already stated.

Your petitioner further begs leave to state that this claim would not now again be presented, but for the Circumstance that the door has since generously opened to the admission of revolutionary Claims. In the decline of his life & pressed by straitened circumstances your petitioner finally anticipates from this House a generous attention to a claim which he hopes will appear too just to be rejected.

Your petitioner in conclusion I would barely remark that by suffering himself to be detached from his Regiment he gave up his opportunity of a rise thereby sacrificing at the shrine of patriotism the first best wish of a soldier. Your petitioner submits the subjoined account as the amount which he is fairly entitled to receive. And he will ever pray.

(Signed) Thomas Farrar

[from Audited Accounts]

The State of South Carolina To Thomas Farrar Dr
1783
12 May

to my commutation of full pay for
5 years at 5 shillings per day $1952.75
Int. on that sum until this date 683.20
$2635.95

[p 9]
[petition of Thomas W. Farrar as agent and attorney at law for Thomas Farrar relating to the above claim. This is dated 1818.]

[p 11]
State of Mississippi Claiborne County

Personally came & appeared before the undersigned Clerk of the Circuit Court in & for the County & State aforesaid Mrs. Lucinda J. Hankinson, who being sworn according to law, deposes and says, that she is the daughter of Major or Colonel Thomas Farrar. That her father Thomas Farrar was born in Virginia on the first of October A.D. 1754, married Mrs. Margaret Prince in South Carolina on the 7th of October A.D. 1777, that her father Mr. Farrar aforesaid died 24th of August 1833 at "Cold Springs" the residence of David McCaleb Esquire in Claiborne County & State aforesaid. That her mother died at the same place in the fall of 1831, some 18 or 20 months prior to her father's death. That this affiant's maiden name was Lucinda J Farrar and this affiant does hereby constitute, her only surviving Sister her agent to collect and retain for her own benefit any portion of said Major Thomas Farrar's property this affiant has fallen & may fall entitled to, to wit her Sister Mrs. Laura H. Bruce, wife of John Bruce Esquire of Pendleton County South Carolina.

Sworn to and acknowledged on this 23rd day of February A.D. 1857
Witness S/ Dan McDougall, Clk S/ Lucinda J. Hankinson
State of South Carolina District of Anderson

On this 20th day of March in the year of our Lord 1857 personally appeared in Open Court now sitting before me Herbert Hammond Judge of the Court of Ordinary in & for said District and which is a Court of Record, Mrs. Laura H. Bruce a resident of said District & State who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832: That she is the daughter and one of the heirs at law of her father Major Thomas Farrar deceased who has this Deponent has been informed & verily believes entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war and served as hereinafter stated: That in the year 1777 or 8 the Governor of the State commissioned Captains Richard & Benjamin Tutt, Captains Samuel Earles, John Bowie & Johue Moore to raise and command in Independent Companies under Major Benjamin Huger to guard what was then called the "frontiers" of this State embracing the present Districts of Anderson & Pickens & for many years called Pendleton District in this State, and that her said father said Thomas Farrar was commissioned a Lieutenant in one of said Companies and immediately entered the service and continued to serve said capacity until the year 1781 when he was promoted to the rank of Brigade Major in the Militia of this State under General Andrew Pickens in which capacity he served about 4 months and that the whole period of his service in said war was nearly 4 years; That in the year 1818 this state paid her said father his Commutation pay as an Officer of said Independent Company called into the service by the Governor of this State as aforesaid; her said father continued to live in said District of Pendleton now Anderson District in this State, until a few years before his death when he removed to Claiborne County in the State of Mississippi where this Declarant's mother died in the fall of the year 1831, and where her said father said Major Thomas Farrar continued to reside until his death in the same on the 24th day of August 1833: That he left no widow his wife having died as aforesaid, and that his only now living children are this Deponent & her Sister Lucinda J. Hankinson a of said County of Claiborne & said State of Mississippi. That her father never received any pension from the United States, and this declarant hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except this made hereby. Sworn to and subscribed on the day & year first above mentioned.

S/ Laura H. Bruce

S/ Herbert Hammond

[p 22: Certificate dated March 25, 1857 from the South Carolina Comptroller General's Office listing indents paid to Thomas Farrar for, among other things, recruiting men for the Independent Companies in 1777 and 1778 & Lieutenant in 1779 & 1781; for duty as a Major in 1781 & 1782; for duty as a Brigade Major under Brigadier General Pickens in 1781 from June 19th to July 20th.]