Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abram Alexander S8013 f16NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/19/07 rev'd 7/12/14

[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 North Carolina, Cabarrus County: Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Cabarrus begun and held at the Court House in Concord October 15, 1832

On this 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for Cabarrus County North Carolina now sitting, Abraham Alexander, a resident of the County of Cabarrus and State of North Carolina aged seventy two years on the 16th day of March last – who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to attain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. I entered the service of the United States first as a volunteer in the County of Mecklenburg N. C. town of Charlotte, in the month of November on or about the 20th day, 1778 – in a company commanded by Captain William Houston – Lieutenant Stephen Alexander, Ensign William Gardner, in the Regiment under Colonel Francis Locke, under General Griffith Rutherford-- volunteered for five months. I went near to Charleston S. C. from Charlotte N. C. thence to Purisburgh [Purrysburg] on the North Side of that River – this was while the British were stationed along the Savannah River [several illegible words] was present to cover the retreat of a part of the Army when defeated at the Battle of Briar Creek [March 3, 1779]. Served out my five months and was discharged about the 20th of April 1779 by Colonel Locke. I again, in the same County, in the month of April 1780 became a volunteer in a company under the command of Zachius Wilson [Zaccheus Wilson] in the Regiment of Col. Alexander [George Alexander] under General William Davidson [William Lee Davidson] for six weeks went to Ramsour's Mills [June 20, 1780] – was some time on foot and some times mounted – as the nature of my service required. After the battle, [I] was a part of the guard and took prisoners to Salisbury – thence I was marched to Colson's [Mill] [at] the mouth of Rocky River against the Tories [July 21, 1780] – was discharged sometime in June 1780, after having served six weeks by Zachius Wilson. I was then in June 1780 in the same County & State drafted for three months, and placed in a company under the command of Captain Givins [Samuel Givens], Lieutenant Falls – was myself a sergeant in a Regiment commanded by Colonel George Alexander under General Griffith Rutherford – went from Mecklenburg to South Carolina – and was in the battle of Camden, usually called Gates' defeat – on the 16th of August 1780. Served out the three months and was discharged about the first of September 1780 by Captain Givins. I again volunteered in the same County & State in September 1780 under Captain William Gardner – Colonel Alexander as a minute man and was continually in the service chiefly against the Tories till August 1781 [balance of line obliterated] officers during this time whose names I do not recollect but he served this eleven months and was discharged by Col. Alexander. I again volunteered in the month of September in the County of Mecklenburg N. C. for three months in a company commanded by Captain William Gardner – Lieutenant Robert Patterson, Major White, Col. Phifer [probably Lt. Col. John Phifer] and General Rutherford – marched to Wilmington N.C. – near which place we heard of the surrender and capture of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781]

– served out the three months and was discharged in December 1781 by Captain Gardner. I served in all twenty months & two weeks. I have lost, mislaid or destroyed all my discharges. I was always a volunteer in the service except once when I was drafted for three months. I always lived in Mecklenburg when I entered the service. That he was born on the 16th day of March 1760 in the State of South Carolina – brought, when a child to Mecklenburg N. C. and has lived since the Revolutionary war always in Mecklenburg, now called Cabarrus. He has no documentary evidence of his service. He refers to Paul Walter, Charles Blackwelder, George Barnhart & Will Carrigan. His family record is in a Bible now at home.

He refers to the Reverend Dr. John Robinson and General Paul Barringer as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. He 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 any agency in any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ A. Alexander

Questions propounded by the Court to A. Alexander

1st: Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: in the State of South Carolina -- 16th of March 1760.

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

Ans: I have in a Bible at home

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

Ans: Always in the County of Mecklenburg in that part of the County of Mecklenburg in C. now called Cabarrus.

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

Ans: I was always a volunteer except once when I was drafted.

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.

Ans: I was at Briar Creek – Gates' defeat – and at Ramsour's Mills immediately after the Battle – I was at Wilmington – at Briar Creek. I knew Colonel Lytle – Captain Craige – I do not remember the No. of any regiments.

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

Ans: My discharges are all lost. I [was] first discharged by Colonel Locke – then by Zachius Wilson – then by Captain Givins – and by Colonel Alexander – then by Captain Gardner.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Ans: General Paul Barringer and Dr. John Robinson, D. D.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ A. Alexander

We, George Bernhardt[1] and Charles Blackwelder[2] hereby certify on Oath that Abram Alexander who has signed the above declaration & interrogatories was a soldier for three months in our mess in the

[1] **George Barnhardt R544**

[2] **Charles Blackwelder S6658**

expedition to Wilmington N. C. under Captain Gardner & General Rutherford.

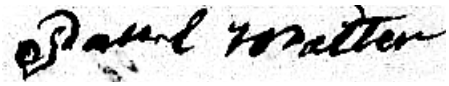
Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Geo Bernhardt

S/ Charles Blackwelder, X his mark

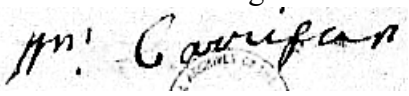
I Paul Walter[3] hereby certify that Abram Alexander who has signed the above declaration was a soldier in the Revolution for five months under Colonel Locke & General Rutherford in the expedition to Briar Creek as stated by him.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. S/ Paul Walter



I William Carrigan[4] of said County do hereby certify that Abraham Alexander who has signed the above declaration was a soldier for five months in the expedition to Georgia – at Briar Creek – for three months to South Carolina at Gates defeat – and for three months to Wilmington.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid. S/ Wm Carrigan



[John Robinson, a clergyman, and General Paul Barringer gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of $41.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 12 months and 12 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

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[3] **Paul Walter S7821**

[4] **William Carrigan S8177**