The petition of Samuel Casky [sic] praying for a pension

State of South Carolina

To the Honorable the President & Members of the Senate

The Humble Petition of Samuel Casky [sic] Sheweth to your Honorable body that your Petitioner was a Soldier in the Revolutionary War; He Served the early in that period & for a considerable part of it, was under the immediate command of General Washington himself. After his discharge from General Washington, he removed to the State of South Carolina. His first tour of duty in this State was for four months as a Militia Man under Colonel Simons [probably Lt. Col. Keating Simons of the Berkeley County Regiment], during which time he was in the battle fought at Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], in the heat of the summer, The bravery which the Americans displayed in this engagement is within the recollections of most of you. Your Petitioner’s services were such as a heart of Patriotic & Valor could bestow. Although he was left by his officer, who during the engagement had concealed himself in a Cellar among some feather beds, he still stood to his post & leaned upon his Cause. After the Battle of Charleston your Petitioner returned to his home. Shortly after your Petitioner turned out under General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter]. The General understanding that the British had erected a Fort on the Congaree, [2 indecipherable words] with his men for the purpose of taking the Fort, when we arrived within firing distance the engagement took place & immediately a reinforcement of British troops appeared on the opposite side of the River, with a small loss we were obliged to give back. – We then went down the River to Hamptons & thence to the Bluff Fort. General Sumter here divided his horse, Some with himself & with Colonel Hampton [probably Lt. Col. Henry Hampton]. I fell in under Colonel Hampton. It so happened that the fire at this Fort was wholly kept up by General Sumter owing to the side of the river which he took. After the engagement was over at the Fort, we were all brought back into one

1 The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) 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 “SC” file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.
2 http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/
3 This sounds like the engagement at Fort Granby in February 1781 when Sumter made his first unsuccessful attempt to take that Fort. https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_granby_1.html
body. General Sumter then dispatched thirteen of us to go to Fort Bluff to discover if we could [determine] the movement of the British. We could make no discovery & so reported the General then moved towards __ Bluff. Some few went with him – a great many returned home & so did I. – I was then out a tour with General Marion [Francis Marion] & was with him in the Eutaw Battle [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781]. I stood my ground throughout this battle & there were but four or five of us that done so. I shot during the whole of the battle from behind a Post-Oak tree, – I directed my balls with as much deliberateness [?] & Certainty as I possibly could. Your Petitioner thinks he would not exaggerate were he to say that one hundred balls were shot into this tree during the engagement –. Your Petitioner begs leave to state that the services he rendered to his Country [indecipherable word] has Contributed in some degree to the achievement of the Independence of his Country. He has for all his services received nothing like pay & the losses he sustained in that Period has tended in some way to heap poverty on him in his old age. The prime of his life was devoted to those services: Had he now as then Valor & Strength, he would make no appeal to the feelings or gratitude of your Honorable body. But the hardships & long fatigues of the Camp which he endured in his youth has had the effect of advancing those disabilities which a decline of life brings along with it – Your Petitioner is now 76 years of age lacking 4 or 5 months – he is poor, has a wife who is old & frail, & no one to work for, or support them. Your petitioner therefore prays that your Honorable body would allow to him a pension & he will ever pray.

November 30th 1824 S/ Samuel Casky, X his mark

[p 6]
Affidavit of James Hood

[p 7]
State of South Carolina Lancaster District

James Hood came before me and states on oath that he knew Samuel Casky in the Revolutionary War. He knew him at the Congaree Fort under General Sumter. He knew him in the Eutaw battle, was in this engagement as long as it lasted. We both shot from the same tree, & I knew that he behaved with great bravery in this battle. I know that he was with General Marion when he crossed the Edisto at Parker’s Ferry [August 31, 1781]. Marion met the British as they were going to Charleston where a considerable Skirmish ensued & the British were forced to give ground. This deponent states that the said Samuel was also under General Sumter at the Bluff Fort. There was a skirmish at this Fort & the Americans had to withdraw with a small loss – this deponent also states that the Character of the said Samuel as to honesty & valor in the war, was good. I know him now, & still know that he is still a man of good Character.

Sworn to before me
this 30th of November 1824
S/ Amaba (?) Howard, QU

S/ James Hood

[p 8]

5 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_parkers_ferry_2.html
6 SC1250
Report of Committee on Pensions on Petition of Samuel Caskey in favor
By Senate
D.

[p 9]
The committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of Samuel Caskey praying to be put on the Pension List, sent to this house from the Senate as granted, Report, that your Committee have had the same under Consideration, and Recommend that this House do concur with the Senate and that Samuel Caskey be allowed a Pension from and after the Session of the Legislature Respectfully submitted by your Committee December 1824
   S/ Wm Rouse C of C

[Note: Receipts in the file indicate that the veteran received the pension of $60 per annum continuing through May 31, 1833.]