To the Honorable the President & other Members of the Senate the Honorable Speaker & other members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina

The petition of Sundry the inhabitants of Barnwell District humbly Sheweth That Simeon Cushman a worthy citizen of said District is of an advanced age that he suffered considerably during the Revolution War that he had his dwelling house burned & lost the whole of his property during Said War, & Suffered Considerably whilst Colonel Brown’s [Thomas “Burnt-Foot” Brown] had him a prisoner in Augusta that he has Resided fifty years in this District & Edgefield & Barnwell has always supported an unblemished Character, he is at this time in very poor Circumstances your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the said Simeon Cushman may be allowed a pension and your petitioners will ever pray &c

S/ Benjamin Hightower
S/ Thomas Hatcher
S/ William W Williams
S/ Philip Lamar
S/ George Lamar
S/ John Randall, Junior
S/ James Woodard
S/ Charles Woodard

[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.]

[p 3]
The Committee on Pensions, on the Petition of Simeon Cushman which was referred to them Report
That the Petition is from sundry Inhabitants of Barnwell District, praying that the said Simeon Cushman may be placed on the Pension list, and not the Petition of Simeon Cushman, as the petition is headed – They therefore recommend that the prayer of the Petitioners be rejected
S/ Sam’l Warren, Chairman
Committee on Pensions

To the Honorable President & Other Members of the Senate, the Honorable Speaker & Other Members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina at Columbia December 1820
The Petition of Simeon Cushman of Barnwell District, Honorably Sheweth, that your petitioner was a great Sufferer in the Cause of his Country during the Revolutionary war, that he done much active Service for his Country under Commanders that are no more, that he resided during those perilous times on Savannah River in this State, opposite Augusta, Georgia, that the commanding British officer of that State (Colonel Brown) Sent over a party of troops & burnt your Petitioner’s House & destroyed the whole of your petitioner’s property & kept your petitioner a prisoner for some time during which he suffered greatly your petitioner has hitherto been able to Support himself by his own exertions but from his advanced age he being Seventy Seven years of age & great infirmities he is no longer able to do so, your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honorable body at your present In session will take his case into Consideration & allow your petitioner a pension & your petitioner will ever pray &c
S/ Simeon Cushman

The petition of Sundry the Inhabitants of Barnwell & Edgefield District Joins in the prayer of the above named Simeon Cushman, we believe the Statements made in his prayer to your Honorable body to be facts, he has resided amongst us nearly sixty years, he has always supported the Character of an honest and industrious man, & of a true friend of his Country during the Revolutionary war, he is now incapable of Labouring for his support & is in quite low Circumstances. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable body at your present Session will place the said Simeon Cushman on the Pension list & your petitioners will ever pray &c
S/ William Cooper
S/ William W Williams
S/ Benjamin Odom
S/ George Lamar
S/ John Walker Q U
S/ Darlene Peeples
S/ Philip Lamar
S/ Absalom Mosley
S/ John Hatcher
S/ Benjamin Hatcher
[p 10]
The committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of Simeon Cushman praying to be placed on the Pension Roll

Report

That they have considered the same, & recommend that the prayer thereof the not granted

S/ Samuel Warren, Chairman

[p 13]
To the Honorable President & other Members of the Senate, The Honorable Speaker & Other Members of the houses of Representatives of South Carolina

The petition of Simeon Cushman of Barnwell District humbly Sheweth

That he was a great sufferer in the cause of his Country during the Revolutionary war, that he done much active Service during that time, in this State; was taken Prisoner by Colonel Brown the British Commandant of Augusta who sent a party & burned your petitioner’s dwelling House & destroyed the whole of his property leaving his family in great distress, during a long & painful imprisonment your petitioner suffered in that garrison a part of the time under sentence of death, your petitioner, is at this time far advanced in life (upwards of Eighty years of age) has met with many misfortunes is at this time so much reduced by his Circumstances to be under the necessity of Soliciting some assistance from your Honorable Body as one of the Sufferers of the Revolutionary War.

And your petitioner will ever pray,

October 13th, 1822

[p 14]
The petition of sundry Inhabitants of Barnwell & Edgefield District’s joins in the prayer of Mr. Simeon Cushman to the Honorable Legislature of South Carolina & hope that there Honorable body will take his case into their serious consideration, though the statements made in Mr. Cushman’s memorial took place prior to most of our recollection yet we believe them to be truly represented, he has resided upwards of half a century amongst us & has always supported an upright good Character, we have not the smallest doubt but Mr. Cushman could procure the
necessary vouchers of his Services & Sufferings during the Revolutionary war were it not for the death & removal of his contemporaries in that arduous struggle they having always represented him to us as such. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable body will take his case into Consideration & have him placed on the pension list & your petitioner’s will ever pray &c

S/ Simeon Cushman     S/ John Randall, Senior
S/ William W Williams S/ William Woodard
S/ George Lamar      S/ Silas Randall
S/ John Randall      S/ John D Lamar
S/ Gulion Evans      S/ William D Wade
S/ Absalom Mosley    S/ William Burckhalter
S/ George Lamar      S/ Silas Randall
S/ John Randall      S/ John D Lamar
S/ Gulion Evans      S/ William D Wade
S/ Absalom Mosley    S/ William Burckhalter
S/ Marshal Burckhalter [?]
S/ [signature too faint to decipher]
S/ Daniel W Johnson
S/ William Mosley
S/ [Christian name too faint to discern] Weeks
S/ Philip Lamar
S/ Tarleton Brown
S/ William Bucklion [?]}

Rejected for want of vouchers

[p 17]
The committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of Simeon Cushman
Respectfully Report, That your Committee have had the said Petition under its consideration but for want of sufficient Evidence and Vouchers recommend the prayer thereof the not Granted
12th December 1822

[p 19]
To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina

The humble petition of Judith Cushman Sheweth to your Honorable body. That she is the widow of the late Simeon Cushman, who served, as a volunteer, for upwards of two years, in the militia of South Carolina, during the revolution of the United States with Great Britain, and with him suffered many of the privations of that period. That she was the lawful wife of the said Simeon during the war and has never married since his death. Your petitioner would pray your Honorable body to take into consideration her infirmities from old age and destitute condition, and grant her such relief as is provided by the State of South Carolina for the widows of Revolutionary soldiers.

Your Petitioner would further set forth, that the said Simeon never received a Pension from South Carolina nor the United States for his Services, and your Petitioner deeming herself entitled to what her husband would be, where he now alive, would pray your Honorable body to grant her the said amount, if to your Honorable body it would seem meet,² Your Petitioner would further pray that your Honorable body will place her name upon the Pension Roll and alleviate

² In Samuel Johnson’s Dictionary of 1755, the first definition of the word “meet” he gives is “Fit; proper…..”. Johnson noted that even at that time the word “meet” was rarely so used. It must have become fairly popular in South Carolina in the early 1800’s, however, as it appears in many petitions submitted to the SC Legislature.
the infirmities of old age and a want of the means of support, and your Petitioner will ever pray
and so forth –

Sworn to before us
20th day of November 1839 S/ Judith Cushman, C her mark
S/ William Woodward, JP
S/ S. H. Weeks, JP

South Carolina Barnwell District}

Personally appeared John Randall Senior and being sworn as the Law directs Swears that
he was acquainted with Simeon Cushman during the Revolutionary War between the United
States and Great Britain, that he lived in Edgefield District, and entered the service of South
Carolina in the fall of 1778. He entered General A. Williamson’s [Andrew Williamson’s]
Brigade as a private and was commanded by Captain John Hammond of Colonel LeRoy
Hammond’s Regiment. I knew the said Simeon to be engaged at the siege of Augusta Georgia,3
commanded by Captain Bacon [probably Nathaniel Bacon] of Colonel Leroy Hammond’s
Regiment, the said Simeon was also engaged at the battle of Stono [June 20, 1779], and that he
served upwards of 2 years in the said service of South Carolina during said Revolutionary war,
and this deponent’s further Depoeth, that he knew Judith Cushman during the said war & that
she was at that time the wife of the said Simeon, and that she is now the widow of the said
Simeon & has never married since his death. That she is old, indigent and destitute of the means
of support.

Sworn to before us
20th day of November 1839 S/ John Randall, X his mark
S/ William Woodward, JP
S/ S. H. Weeks, JP

South Carolina Barnwell District}

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina

The humble Petition of Judith Cushman Sheweth that she is the widow of the late Simeon
Cushman who served in a company of South Carolina militia for some time during the
Revolutionary war (as has been shown to your Honorable body) and that she was the wife of the
said Simeon during the performance of the said service, and necessarily suffered many hardships
and privations, in consequence of the absence from home of her husband, and your Petitioner
would further show that she has never married since the death of her husband (Simeon Cushman)
who died about the year 1825 or thereabouts, and that he (Simeon Cushman) was never placed
upon the Pension Roll of this state or of the United States, and, therefore, your petitioner being
old and in great want prays your Honorable body, to grant and allow her to receive that portion
to which her husband would have been entitled, where he now living, or so much of the same as
may seem meet & just to your Honorable body. If your Honorable body should deem it impolitic
to grant the prayer of your petitioner Then she would request that she may be placed upon the
pension Roll of this State made and provided by your Honorable body for the relief of
Revolutionary soldiers and their widows who may have survived them & your Petitioner will
ever pray & so forth

3 Presumably the first unsuccessful Siege of Augusta [September 12-18, 1780] led by Colonel Elijah Clark
http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/
The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Judith Cushman praying for the amount due her deceased husband and to be placed on the pension Roll of this State beg leave to report that they have had the [word obliterated and rendered illegible] under consideration and recommend that the prayer thereof the not granted.

S/ P. C. Caldwell, Chairman