Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Scott W8706  Mary Scott  SC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 3 June 2015.

A Statement as Near as I can of servis Don by me in the war of Independence  first Campain In south Carolina commanded by General [Benjamin] Lincoln  I was now vollenteer horsman  rode my own horse and found my own arms and clothing  had my horse cripled by crosing a Ditch but took a fine horse from the Enemy  General Lincoln gave orders for me to keep that horse for the one I had hurt  he was wourth two of My own  this horse was stole. The battle at sono [sic: Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779] took place now and the end of this Campan ended in the Capture of Lincoln and his army in Charlestown [12 May 1780]. I was not taken  The next Campain I was in was with General [Horatio] Gates A very unfortunate one for Me  I had now provided a fine horse and was well armed  I vollentered a gain with about twenty more  we met Gates and his army at Peedee [sic: Pee Dee River]  we advanced with the army to the old mill above Camdon [sic: Rugeley’s Mill about 16 mi N of Camden SC]. Gates advanced in the Night met the Enemy  formed his line and fought next Morning  our army totelly Defeted by an Inferior Number [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]  The baron Decalb killed by a Deep stroke of bayonet just above his short ribs In the left side [see endnote]  I was wounded and taken  I now had to suffer for ten months  I was drove on to Charleston in a very weak state of health from the loss of Blood  huried on Bord the prison ships  the small pocks put on Bord with us  A number of Brave men lost here  I was next sent Into an old house on the warf called Gadis warf [possibly Gadsden’s Wharf]  the tide went all round the house and covered the floor at times  here A number Died In the small pox  we ware next sent to the Baraks  few Now living  I now began to Recover a little  I now saw plainly few would live to get home  I made an atemp to Ascape A dark wet Night between Crismass and New year two of us got safe through the Gards  was out some time  had got as far up as the settlement of winsborow [sic: Winnsboro, 135 mi from Charleston]  was taken by some of tarltons horse [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton’s Legion]  I was taken to Lord Cornwall’s [sic: Cornwally’s] Camp hancuffed  was there when Morgin and tarlton fought [sic: when Gen. Daniel Morgan defeated Tarleton at Cowpens SC, 17 Jan 1781]. The prisoners now Drove night and Day In Irons to Camdon  there was Chained to the jail flour to the spring without any kind of clothing but a few Rags on my back  I was Exchanged here end my second f[?] Campain  I now got home not well pleased  the brave General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] had now made his aperance in the south  I rested two weeks and with the asistance of My friends got well fixed for an other Campain followed and Overtok Greens army  was out ten Months without lousing[?] any thing  left Green’s army at Ebenezer in Georgia  here ends my third Campain but was but one Campain as I was all that time In the servise or In a worse place  to Conclude the hole I rode my own horse found my own arms and clothing  In the three Campains Except the last part of the last time I rode a horse that was not My own his own In our army and left the horse and owener in the army  Recd no pay Except a lame woman for the last ten months  all my statements submited to the Legeslater for their Decision whether they will allow me pay for my losses and servises or not

Mr John McCalla  John Harris and Joseph Bla[ck] I wish you to Certify if you think my statement Correct  John Harris knows if I served the first to Campain  John McCallas father [two or three illegible words]  Joseph Black now our seneter personally present the last Campain  as I am very much palsied and can see but little I shall rite no more but subscribe My Name a friend to freedom this 24th of October 1827

to the Care of the six members from Abbeville  M Wordlake  Presly McComb  Starker Davis and Black
State of South Carolina  
District of Anderson  

On this sixth day of October A.D. 1851 personally appeared before the Court of Ordinary for the District aforesaid Mrs. Mary Scott a resident of the same District and State, aged sixty one years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Pension Laws of the United States, or any of them under which she may be entitled either on her own account, or that of her late husband William Scott: That her said Husband William Scott dec’d. first entered the service in Mecklenburg County North Carolina as she understood, but performed most of his service in South Carolina, that as she was not married to him until long after the close of the war of the Revolution, in which he performed his service, she is unable to give any thing like a concise statement of his said services; but submits a statement made out by him, which is in his own hand writing, dated 27th October 1827 with his genuine signature thereto, which was made out for the purpose of submitting to the Legislature of South Carolina, but abandoned, as he then had a competency, and feared that he might be viewed in the light of a beggar; as more full and correct than any think she can now state; yet she has repeatedly heard him speak of his services, both to herself and others who had served in the same war. She also submits the certificate of Sam’l Martin Clk. and Wm Polk [William Polk] Lt. Col. 3’d Reg’t in evidence of his services which will doubtfull prove satisfactory. She further declares that she was married to the said William Scott in Abbeville District in the State on the third day of November A.D. 1803. the marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev’d. Doct’r [Moses] Waddill a Presbyterian Minister – her maiden was Miller. She had a Family Record in which was recorded her marriage to William Scott as above, and she thinks she yet has it amongst her connections, but she is not herself keeping house, it may not be found. it was made by her husband the said William Scott in his own hand writing. She has never married since the death of her said husband William Scott, which took place in Abbeville District on the 9th day of June A.D. 1830 but continues a widow. Mary Scott

State of North Carolina

I hereby Certify that William Scott of Mecklenburg County served as a Sergeant in my Troop in the third Regt of Light Dragoons in the Brigade Commanded by Gen [Thomas] Sumter and in Returned in my pay Rolls entitled to pay from the State of South Carolina there for Given under my hand this 11th Day of June 1783 Sam[?] Martin CMC

Certifyed Wm Polk Lt Colo. 3d Reg’t.

South Carolina  
Abbeville District  

I Joseph Calhoun Mathews do Swear I was well acquainted with William Scott that we lived in a bout two miles of each other that he was generally known to have served in the Revoluationary War. I have often heard him tell other gentlemen with my self of some of his hardships, that he was taken prisoners in Camden at General Gates defeat, that he was put in prison and had liked to had sufocated for the want of fresh air. he said he was in several battles. I think Stono. I am sure he said Savannah he said he seen Count Polasky fall [sic: Kazimierz Pulaski, mortally wounded at the Siege of Savannah on 9 Oct 1779]; he said he was in the battels of the Cowpens [sic], he has often shown me the Sword he said Colonel [William] Washington cut out of the hand of Tarlton; Mr Scott was near and seen it fall marked the place and afterwards got it he has kept it as a Trophy of war; and now is in the posesion of the family; I think he said he Inlisted in North Carolina in a troop of Cavilry he said he done most of his servises in South Carolina Jos C Mathews

Sworn to this 13 of July AD 1853 before James M Caslan a Maj [Magistrate?]

NOTE:
Baron De Kalb is said to have been wounded 11 times, and there would have been no way for
Scott to know personally which of the wounds resulted in De Kalb’s death three days later.

The file includes what appears to be part of an original family record that reads, “William Scott and Mary was maried No’br ye 3\(^{st}\) 1803.”

On 25 Sep 1855 Mary Scott applied for bounty land. On 20 April 1867 she applied for restoration of her pension that was suspended during the Civil War, during which time she subsisted by the “charity of her friends.” On 20 May 1871 she applied for an increase in her pension.
Addendum to William Scott W8706  
South Carolina Audited Accounts relating to William Scott  
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 6833  
Transcribed by Will Graves  
9/4/20

[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 30]  
[The following document is heavily edited for spelling and punctuation for ease of reading. There is no punctuation in the original document. Because the transcription of this document was so challenging, I’ve attached images of it so that people interested in this veteran can try their hand at rendering a better transcription.]

A statement as near as I can of services done by me in the war of Independence. [My] first Campaign in South Carolina Commanded by General Lincoln. I was now a volunteer horsemen rode my own horse and found my own arms and Clothing. [I] had my horse crippled by crossing a Ditch but took a fine horse from the Enemy. General Lincoln gave orders for me to keep that horse for the one I lost or had hereto[fore]. [H]e was worth two of my own. [T]his horse was stolen [when] the battle of Stono took place and the End of this Campaign Ended in the capture of Lincoln and his Army in Charleston. I was not taken. [T]he next campaign I was In was with General Gates a very unfortunate one for me. I had now provided a fine horse and was well armed. I volunteered again with about 20 more we met Gates and his Army at Pedee [River]. [W]e had advanced with the Army to the old Mills above Camden. Gates advanced in the night, met the Enemy, formed his line and fought next morning. [O]ur Army was totally Defeated by an Inferior Number. [T]he brave Decalp [DeKalb] killed by a decet [sic, descending?] stroke of a bayonet just above the short ribs in the left side. I was wounded and taken lost my horse and arms . I now had to say for hereon that I was drove on to Charleston in a very weak State of health from the loss of blood. Lived on board the prison ships the smallpox [one or more undeciphered words] with us a number of brave men left here. [I] was next sent to an old house on the wharf [?] [one or more undeciphered words] Gedis wharf [Gadsden’s wharf?] the tide went all around the house and covered the floor at times. [H]ere a number died in the smallpox we were next sent to the barracks [several undeciphered words] I now began to recover a little I now saw plainly few would live to get home. I made an attempt to escape a dash – [paper damaged and several words rendered illegible] Christmas [?] and New Year two of us got safe through. [T]he Guards was out some time. [I] had got as far up as the settlement of Winnsboro. [I] was taken by some of Tarleton’s horse. I was taken to Lord Cornwallis Camp, handcuffed. [I] was there when Morgan and Tarleton fought. [T]he prisoners now drove night and day in irons to Camden there was chained to the floor in jail to the spring without any kind of Clothing but a few rags on my back. I was exchanged here ends my Second Campaign. I now got home not well pleased. [T]he
brave General Green [Nathanael Greene] has now Made his appearance in the South. I rested two weeks and with the assistance of my friends got well fixed for another campaign, followed and overtook Greene’s Army. [I] was out ten months without losing anything. [I] left Greene’s Army at Ebenezer in Georgia. [H]ere ends my third Campaign. [T]o [undeciphered word] I rode my own horse, found my own clothing and arms in all those Campaigns Except the last I rode a horse that was not my own, his owner in our Army. I left the horse and owner in our Army. My first horse that was lame so far recovered I got him home. I received no pay but the last campaign and fifty Dollars [undeciphered word or words] for the last campaign Correct. So far as I can remember all of which I have sent to the Legislator to see if they will allow me anything for my losses and services. I am very much palsied [?] and can see but little or I could give a more particular Account of them times. I am with Respect yours this 24 of October 1827

S/ William Scott

To the Care of the 6 Men hear from [undeciphered words] Wardlaw, Presley, McComb, Starks, Davis and [illegible]

N B The time I was Chained to the floor in Camden Jail in [undeciphered words] to my Constitution more than all the [undeciphered word] of my sufferings put together.

[p 34: The Veteran’s petition was not granted by the committee which investigated it for lack of “evidence sufficient in their opinion to substantiate the facts therein stated.”]
A substantial portion of the text was overwritten by another hand, making it difficult to read. The remaining text appears to be a narrative describing events or experiences.
now year. I was often taken through the woods and
out some time. Had not got as far as the settlement of
wine-berries was taken by some of the停留 town,
so was taken to land cornedale barn. To hand the
were there, when they came and I think they took
from very much. Driven back to the army
without any kind of clothing, but a few rags on my
back. I was exchanged later to do more work around
I was got home not well. I cleared the brave general
from his absence in the south for two
weeks and with the assistance of my friends
I was well fixed for another friend to follow and
and look for other army. I was not in the
covered many things left. Another army was given
in good time. How in the night and to
the army. I was not well. My friend came again to
find me. I was not sure. The last to ride home
that was not my own. I was own in an army. I left
the horse and never in our army. My friend knew that
was home to see them. I went home and said to
the last for our friend. I could remember all of which I have one.

There was my coffee and on service in a very much
season and done but little of it. I knew a
more than I could be.

To the care of the main army for assistance
and then to join another. I had done and at
the time. I was clear to the friend for your
information to them more than all the.