

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Lochridge (Lockridge) W472

Transcribed by Will Graves

[Transcriber's note: Although the digital image of this application is comparatively good with dark, clear lines of text, the handwriting of the original scribe is very difficult to decipher in places. As a consequence, this transcription probably contains more misinterpretations than I would normally find acceptable, but I felt the text of what can be deciphered was important enough to post this transcription in the hope that others will correct such misinterpretations as appear herein. Also, this applicant is clearly confused in regards to the dates of a number of the events he describes. Punctuation, grammar & spelling have been corrected as needed to provide clarity.]

State of Tennessee, Maury County: Circuit Court December Term 1832

This day personally appeared in open Court before William E. Kennedy Judge of the Circuit Court of Said County of Maury now sitting James Lockridge [sic] a resident of said County of Maury & State of Tennessee aged about seventy five years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832 --

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated --

This applicant has no documentary evidence of his age but from the best information he can obtain, believes he was born in March 1757 in a Rockbridge County in the State of Virginia. His father he thinks left Virginia when he was a boy of tender years & settled himself with his family, of which this applicant was a member, in Abbeville District South Carolina where this applicant was living when he entered the service. Applicant states that to the best of his recollection he entered the Service of the United States in the fall of 1774 as a drafted Soldier for a Tour of one month, to guard the frontier against the Indians. He was under the command of Captain William Baskins and he (Baskins) together with all those out at the same time were under the command of General Andrew Williamson, a Militia Officer. Genl Williamson & his command were stationed at a place called "Due West Point"<sup>1</sup> where applicant served one month, the time for which he was drafted.

Applicant thinks & believes he afterwards in the ~~Spring~~ Fall of 1775 volunteered on a Tour of about Two months against the Indians. He served this time under Captain Joseph Pickens and General Williamson; this tour was ~~spent~~ made mostly in the State of Georgia – Applicant believes he was, afterwards, perhaps in the month of July or August – following – again drafted (or it came to his turn by classification) to serve on another tour against the Indians. Captain Pickens was his immediate commander under Genl Williamson. We came over to the Nick-a-Jack [sic, Nick-a-Jack Creek near Sugartown] Towns now in the State of Alabama. The chief object of the tour was to take the British Indian agent Cameron [Alexander Cameron], who was supposed to be the principal instigator of most of the Indian outrages on the frontiers &c. There were about 4 or 5000 men of us altogether. We remained several days at & about the Nick-a-Jack Towns which had been deserted by the Indians. From here we returned to Abbeville District & were discharged. Applicant thinks he was out on this last Tour between two & three months. During the next 12 months applicant was frequently engaged in scouting parties against the Indians & Tories who were very troublesome but was not attached to any

---

<sup>1</sup> John Robertson believes this is probably a corruption of "DeWitt's Corner" which later became "Duet's Corner" and then "Due West."

regular command until the fall of 1777 when he was again drafted (or it again came to his turn according to classification) to serve for one month. Applicant was marched with the troops to Fort Seneca under the command of Captain Joseph Pickens – who was attached to the command of Genl. Williamson. He remained at the aforesaid Fort as a guard until expiration of the time for which he was called out. Applicant remained after his return from Seneca mostly in Abbeville & the neighboring counties not attached to any regular command but almost continually attached to some scouting party harassing & keeping down the Tories, who were numerous & troublesome. Applicant together with several of his young companions, went to Augusta in Georgia and joined Genl Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke], shortly before the battle which he fought the British, Tories & the Indians at that place who were under the command of \_\_\_ [blank in original] Brown, a Tory or British officer. Applicant was in the whole of this battle, which lasted two or three days – the British were about to surrender but unfortunately for us they were reinforced when much to our mortification they made us back out. This was in the summer of 1778 to the best of applicant's recollection. From this place we returned to Abbeville S.C., does not recollect exactly how long he was out in service at this time but supposes it must have been at least one month.

From Augusta, applicant together with most of those engaged in the siege or battle & particularly those who went with him from Abbeville, made the best of their way to the neighborhood of their homes. Applicant was not, nor indeed were any of the Whig men, suffered to stay much at home but he & his young Whig companions continued to scout & harass the Tories whenever an opportunity offered until late in the fall of the same year we heard that Genl Elijah Clarke & Colonel (or Captain) McCall [James McCall] had collected a force of about 400 or 500 men and were there in the neighborhood. Applicant & several of his companions lost no time in joining Genl Clarke with his Army. A few hours after applicant reached the Army news came in that 150 or 200 Tories were in the immediate neighborhood. General Clarke called about 100 volunteers to join him in this Sport of whipping them or taking them prisoners &c. Applicant joined the volunteers now against them, met them on the main road leading to Charleston where ~~we fought them~~ we found to our great astonishment & when it was too late to retreat with safety, that there were abt. 500 Tories & 150 or 200 British—we were compelled to fight or surrender; we fought as long as fighting was practicable, but were compelled to retreat with very considerable loss—several men[were] killed; Genl. Clarke was here wounded by a shot in the shoulder—a Maj. Lindsey was severely wounded by two balls in the leg—the loss of his right hand & some severe sword wounds on his head—Col. McCall was also slightly wounded. We were badly whipped & made the best of our way back to the main Army [text interlined at this point which appears to read “Genl. Pickens & several men were prisoners during this time”]. From this Clarke & McCall bent their course towards North Carolina. Applicant & most of the South Carolina volunteers &c returned to their homes & their usual occupation of annoying the Tories &c. Applicant was not attached to any regular command until the Spring of 1779, when Capt. Joseph Pickens raised a volunteer company to join Genl. Wayne [Anthony Wayne]<sup>2</sup> in the expedition to

<sup>2</sup> In stating that General Anthony Wayne was present in the South for the siege of Savannah in the spring of 1779, applicant is mistaken. I do not think Wayne was in the South at that time, although as noted by Nancy Lindroth below, he was in Georgia in 1782. If applicant is referring to the 1778 siege of Savannah, it is difficult to say with certainty to whom applicant is referring. It is most probably General Robert Howe of North Carolina who was commander of the Southern Department of the Continental line on December 29, 1778 when the Battle of Savannah occurred. For the person referred to to be Howe, however, the timing of the battle is incorrect in that, as noted, the Battle of Savannah occurred in late December 1778, not in the spring of 1779 as stated by the applicant. The other possible candidate is General Benjamin Lincoln who succeeded Howe as commander of the Southern Department and who mounted another attack on Savannah in the fall of 1779.

--According to a diary printed in the SC Historical Magazine, Captain Finney, of the PA Line was in Savannah in 1782. He traveled there starting 14 Oct 1782. p. 145: “Mon. 14<sup>th</sup> Set out for Jorgia with a Designe of taking Titles for some Lands purchased in the State. Arriv'd at the Town of Savana on Fryday ye. 18th whare I remaind for one week, hear I had an oportunity of Viewing a General sean of Dispatio...” He describes the area. Earlier in the diary he wrote a description of the areas of SC he traveled through as well. SC Historical Magazine, Vol. 98, Number 2, April 1997 pp

Savannah. Applicant joined his (Pickens) company and joined Genl. Wayne's Army not far from Savannah, remained but a few days when Captain Pickens was dispatched with his volunteer corps to protect the frontiers against the ravages of the Tories & Indians, applicant was of his company – the three months for which he first joined his company had already expired but we continued on duty about three months longer on the frontiers – he was not attached to any regular command, but still continued & considered himself one of Captain Pickens company and continued subject to be & was frequently & in fact almost continuously engaged in skirmishes with Tories & Indians until the spring or summer of next Year. Applicant was likewise at the battle of Augusta when retaken although he did not then belong to the Army – but had been down with wagons & team to haul up part of the plunder taken from the British at Fort Galphin, on the River below. We voluntarily crossed the River at Augusta just before the battle commenced & lent them a helping hand in the hour of need etc. -- However before this transaction, applicant had been at the Siege of Ninety Six with Captain Pickens company & remained in service there until he (Captain P.) was killed and until he (applicant) was dispatched on the aforesaid wagoning expedition by Genl. Pickens (the Captain's brother) about the time applicant returned with wagons the siege of 96 was raised. We were to have delivered our loads at a place called White Hall – but hearing that the siege was raised, applicant and another wagon here made the best of their way to Genl Pickens' Regiment at little mountain not far from his place of residence. Our troops were then on the retreat. Genl Pickens here commissioned a Captain McAlpine ( or McCopin) to raise a company to keep the Tories in that part in check, & bent his course towards N. Carolina. Applicant was attached to McAlpine's company & was sent by him as a spy on the British at 96. He was surprised in the night by party of British & Tories and in endeavoring to make his escape was severely wounded. He was shot through the thigh and a ball was lodged in his hip or haunch where it still remains, from which applicant has suffered much pain & inconvenience & still continues to suffer much. He made good his retreat however favored by the darkness of the night & concealed himself with the assistance of an obscure friend &c in the thickets for a few days and was in the greatest possible agony. In a few days the British left the neighborhood. Shortly after applicant recovered, he volunteered on a tour of duty on the frontier against the Indians for a month under the command of Captain Thomas Means who was attached to the command of Genl. Pickens – served his month & returned home.

Some short time afterwards he volunteered on a tour of three months under Lieutenant Carlisle [Francis Carlisle] attached to the command of Major Noble [Alexander Noble] we marched towards Charleston & met the North Carolina troops at Orangeburg on Edisto River where applicant was taken sick but still continued with the Army until we met another detachment of troops. Applicant being unable to do much was left with some other sick about 40 miles above Charleston where he lay until some soldiers on their return from Charleston furnished him a horse & attended him home &c. Some short time after applicant recovered it [became known] in the neighborhood that a considerable body of Tories had collected on Edisto River at a place called quote Bull Swamp”. Genl Pickens raised some two or three hundred men, volunteers for the purpose of dispersing them. Applicant again joined his company as a volunteer. The Tories, however, disbursed themselves before or about the time we reached them. When we returned to our neighborhood, we were astonished and grieved to learn that the same Tories had slipped of us, had passed through our country – had killed several men among others James McConnell & William Little (who was a brother of Colonel James Little) – took about 32 or 33 prisoners among them was John Pickens, brother of Genl Pickens. They made their escape with

---

126 to 152, *The Revolutionary War Diaries of Captain Walter Finney*, Edited [and annotated] by Joseph Lee Boyle, Historian, Valley Forge National Park. Original Journals on file in Historical Society of West Chester, Chester County, PA.

Note # 26 by Boyle, p 136: "...More than 700 men were on the "Georgia Expedition" under Anthony Wayne.

[Ref] Thayer, Theodore, *Nathanael Greene: Strategist of the Revolution* (New York: Twayne Publishers, 1960), p 401;

Note #50 by Boyle, p 145: "Wayne occupied Savannah after the British withdrawal on July 11. ."

[Ref] Morrill, *Southern Campaigns*, pp 41-66; Jones, "*The British Withdrawal*," pp 268-269; Coleman, *Revolution in Georgia*, pp 144, 187.

their prisoners to the Indian Nation where they (the prisoners) were all murdered but to little boys – Joseph McScuntree [?] & George Smith – who were afterwards given up by the Indians – On this occasion, applicant was out near three or four weeks-- some 12 or 18 months after this transaction it was reported that the Indians were coming in on our frontier in a large body, say 400 or 500 men. Applicant then volunteered under Captain Strain [sic, William Strain], the troops were commanded by Colonel Anderson [probably Robert Anderson], under Genl. Pickens. We marched into the State of Georgia at or near the High Shoals of Oconee River. We came in contact with the Indians. Had a pretty severe fight, lost one man, killed one white man & two Indians & hung two white men – from this place applicant returned to his home in Abbeville District S. C., which closes the principal acts & achievements of his Revolutionary Services.

Applicant will now state that he is aged and infirm and his memory particularly as to dates [is] extremely imperfect. He may therefore have misstated dates – and misplaced circumstances, as to the order of service in which they actually happened. Applicant knows nothing of the history of the Revolutionary War from books. All his knowledge of the facts connected with that Great & Glorious event were dearly bought by the sweat of his brow and the blood of his veins. He only knows & states those facts that passed under his personal observation – and the Youthful ~~knowledge~~ impressions of those facts, have undergone [??? several illegible words] affect of the lapse of Time and the lapse of memory.

Applicant never received any written discharge from any of the officers with & under whom he served. He has no written memorandum of his age or dates. After the close of the Revolutionary War he continued to reside in Abbeville District, State of South Carolina until 1796 – in 1796, he moved to & settled in Clarke County in Georgia where he resided until 1807 – in 1807, he came to the state of Tennessee and settled in Maury County where he now resides.

Applicant knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services – William Bunning [?], a pastor of the Gospel, and John Kilgoras [?] had been long and well acquainted with applicant and can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief as to his services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Applicant 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 the Agency of any State or Territory.

S/John Lockridge

Sworn to & subscribed in open court Oct. 28, 1832

[Note: signature of attesting officer is illegible]

Applicant would further state that he had been sent out as a spy not far from 96 & was taken a prisoner by party of Tories who were attached to the main body of Ferguson's [Patrick Ferguson's] Army, was kept several days – made his escape from them (together with some other prisoners) four days before the battle at King's Mountain and reached the Army just as the battle there commenced, he was in the whole of this engagement – was permitted to return to his home after the battle &c. Applicant would further state that, although he only served as a regular, drafted or volunteer soldier, attached & confined to the command of regular, organized troops about two years – yet he was almost continually employed during the whole war in the service, & was frequently in the interior between his regular tours – employed as a spy – or attached to some small scouting party.

#### Interrogatories & Answers

First: Where & in what year were you born?

Answer: 1757, Rockbridge County Virginia.

Second: Have you any record of your age?

Answer: I have not.

Third: Where were you living when called into the service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War & where do you now reside?

Answer: I lived in Abbeville District South Carolina when called into the service – have lived in the States of Georgia & Tennessee where I now live ever since.

Fourth: How were you called into the service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute, & if a substitute, for whom?

Answer: I was drafted, or called by classification several times -- & was several times a volunteer – never a substitute.

Fifth: State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental & militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services.

Answer: Never was attached to any regular troops -- & his answer to the balance of this question is particularly set forth in his declaration.

Sixth: Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, if so, by whom was it given & what has become of it?

Answer: I never received a written discharge.

Seventh: State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the revolution.

Answer: William L. Bunning [?], a preacher of the Gospel and John Kilgoras [?] all well acquainted with applicant & can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief in his services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

I, James Lockridge, do hereby certify that the answers to the foregoing interrogatories are true to the best of my knowledge & belief.

S/James Lockridge

Sworn to & subscribed in open court October 28, 1832

S/ [illegible signature], Clerk of the Circuit Court for Maury County