



# The State of South Carolina

On this the twenty sixth day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty two, I personally appeared in open Court Marshall Thomas Coffey one of the Circuit Judges of the said State and presiding Judge in the Court of Common Pleas in and for the District of Chesterfield and State of South Carolina who being sworn according to Law, made oath to the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed on the 7th June 1832. — That he was born in the month of September 1758 in Galloway County State of North Carolina — That about twenty years of age he removed to Rowan County in the last State mentioned where he resided until March 1796 when he removed to the District of Lancaster where he resided nearly five years when he removed to Chesterfield District where he now resides and was residing since his removal from Lancaster District. — That in the month of February 1776 the Militia of Rowan County forming part of the Militia from that State were taken aboard at York Point in Cumberland County 1776 against the Tories who were then assembled at York Point (now York) and that he marched in person and of course under the command of Colonel James Smith the Major was James Buchanan his son was John Robinson and the whole detachment was commanded by Genl. Moore — That his Brigade advanced in the direction of Fayetteville the Tories dropped the rifle and muskets and were attacked and defeated by Genl. Crosswells Brigade — That he was in person at that time the best of his recollection in a week that from the above period until the year 1781 he was frequently in small detachments and for short periods against the Tories sometimes for a week only and at other times longer — That in the month of November 1781 he was compelled to leave his home by the Tories, he went to the Cape Fear river (20 Miles below Fayetteville) that from that time to the first of September 1782 he was at Camp No. 1 of that time in actual service sometimes under the command of Col. Wm. M. Darlington and during the whole time the Regiment was commanded by Col. Robinson — He was in one skirmish and defeat of the Tories at York River this was about July 1782. The next engagement with the Tories was in Fayetteville in August 1782 in which the Tories were defeated — he recollects to the

the names of only two of the captains who commanded the Tories at the  
two first ones. Mobley & Scarborough. At the Brown Mountain in 1781  
he was in an engagement with the British & Tories combined - that the  
Army was commanded in that engagement by Genl. Patton - but Robt.  
was the commander of his Regiment in the three last engagements.  
And he himself is under the impression the enemy was not minding  
the Army - In the last mentioned engagement the enemy attacked  
the Americans in the night time - The American Army was defeated  
entirely - The most obstinate part of the fight was maintained by Col.  
Merrill of the Continental Army who was at that time in the  
Army & he died - that the command of a detachment that he led  
was during the Brown Mountain engagement was for about 8 weeks  
that he led about the first of December 1782 in was in no other engagements  
in was in the same with a few days ~~at~~ <sup>at intervals in</sup> the  
Month of March 1783 when he was finally discharged - that from  
the Battle of Brown Mountain to the end of the final discharge of his  
Regiment he had quarters at Elizabeth town in which he was finally  
employed in a detachment to help in the Tories to head quarters  
and affording protection to the inhabitants of that place in some of his  
country.

That previous to the date of his discharge he volunteered  
in a Regiment under the command of Major Pickens or  
and that a Colonel Powell commanded the Company - that at the  
time the Volunteer was ordered to March for Charlotte he died  
the 11th Dec 1782 as a substitute for three months service - that  
his substitute was not furnished and was then captured - that  
Powell was captured at the said time and was not returned until  
was absent in England at that time excepted that he should find  
his substitute was not received for two months of time - that  
the defendant is unable to recollect exactly the whole period  
or time of time he served during the war but he has  
nevertheless without keeping any account of the time but the de-  
fendant does not believe that including the 3 months service of  
his substitute he served more than ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> years - that the  
longest period he served at any one time was during the  
time they had a fight with the Tories at Elizabeth town.

was about eight weeks during which time he was not permitted to visit his home.

The letter and for this purpose that he does not know that any of his communications in regard are now alive - That about about the year ago he was informed that Mr. [unclear] of [unclear] 1800 was a clerk but if he be dead he does not know that any of his fellow clerics were alive.

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 the agency of any tribe whatever known to him.

By <sup>his</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>order</sup> of the <sup>Honorable</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Chief</sup> ~~Justice~~ <sup>Justice</sup> of the Court of Common Pleas & Sessions at Chesterfield Court house for the West. State of Missouri, in open court. And the said court do hereby declare their opinion, after the investigation of the matter, & after perusing the returns & returns presented by the war department, that the above named applicant is a resident of the State of Missouri, and that he is a resident of the State of Missouri, and that the said applicant is a clergyman, resident in Chesterfield, Missouri, and that Michael Miller who hath signed the said annuity certificate is also resident in the same State & that they are well satisfied with and are worthy of your implicit confidence & credit.

John Long, Chief Justice  
John Long, Chief Justice

John Long, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and Sessions at Chesterfield State of Missouri do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Michael Miller for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal of my office this 10th day of September Anno Domini 1802

John Long, C. J.

South Carolina  
Chesterfield District } The Hon<sup>ble</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Hudson of the and before me made  
oath that he has for several years resided in the neighborhood of  
Woodstock - that he believes him to be of the age he has represented  
that he has to separate and to reside in the neighborhood in which he  
resides, to have been a revolutionary patriot and that he was always  
believed it true. That he has known him for thirty years - that he has  
that he knows no cause why his integrity should be even questioned - he  
for the State that in 1780 was with Mr. Miller who was seized  
below and that his character stands fair, unimpaired & unimpeachable  
even to this day.

William Hudson

27. day of September 1862 }  
B. J. Earle presiding Judge  
in open Court at Chesterfield  
Court house in the Dept. of State affairs.

Michael Miller of the District of  
Chesterfield that he has resided in the neighborhood of  
Woodstock for upwards of thirty years and while he resided in the  
District of Lancaster that for the last few years he has resided in  
- that he was always reported uniformly believed to have been a  
patriot of the Revolution and of which has never doubted Mr. Miller's  
Character was always been fair and has not known his veracity  
questioned.

Michael Miller

Witness to in open Court }  
this 27. day of Sept 1862 }

B. J. Earle presiding Judge  
in open Court at Chesterfield Ct  
in the State of South Carolina.

The State of North Carolina  
Christiefield District

Before me Richard Gantt one of the Circuit Judges of the said State and Presiding Judge at Christiefield Court House, at Fall Term 1786, personally appeared Messrs Stephens who being duly sworn in open Court, depose and swear that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods below mentioned, as a private, volunteer soldier in the Militia of the State of North Carolina for more than two years, as is more particularly set forth in detail in the annexed Declaration which has been heretofore made before this Court about to the War Department viz commencing in August 1776 six weeks - that from the conclusion of that service to the year 1781 he was in the service at least one year and an half and his impression and belief is that he was about one third of that time in actual service and most generally for short terms of duty - the Militia of his County were divided into three classes and one class was always on duty in that and the adjoining Counties - That from 1778 to s.p. 1782 he was at least one third of the time in actual service and from the last mentioned period to March 1783 he was constantly in service except absent on furlough for a few days at each time - that he hired a substitute for three months which is more particularly set forth in his former Declaration - that Defendant is now in his 60th year at least two years during the Revolutionary War and for which service he claims a pension - The Defendant further declares that he never according to his recollection took any written discharge

from the service or if he did the same how long  
has been lost or destroyed. The Defendant fur-  
ther states that he does not know that any of  
persons who served with him are now alive or  
if alive, where they now live. That he has been  
been in his former place of residence for eleven  
years and does not know who among his fellow  
soldiers now live and that he is therefore unable  
to procure the testimony of any witnesses as to his  
actual service

Given to be true  
this 1<sup>st</sup> day of Oct. 1833

Moab Stearns

Richard Gault  
Justice of Peace

In case of public trial  
Chauvignac v. Stearns

I, John Craig Clerk of the  
Court of Common Pleas for the District and in the State  
of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains  
the original Amendment to the petition in case of  
Moab Stearns for the recovery of certain services  
from the United States for revolutionary services  
and that the same was done in full.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set  
my hand and Seal of my Office at Columbus  
Ohio, this first day of October  
1833

John Craig C. P.

1  
Leah Stewart

Most Stephen

12.7.22

**BRIEF objections to the admission of Pension Claims, of which those answered in the negative, in red ink, will apply to the claim of which require further proof or explanation.**

*Meat - 11-10-18*

- I. Does the declaration show where the applicant resides? *yes*
- II. Did the declarant make the declaration in the county where he resides? *yes*
- III. If the applicant did not make the declaration in the county where he resides, is there any reason assigned for his not doing so?
- IV. Has the declarant mentioned the period or periods of the war when he served? *yes*
- V. \* Has he mentioned with precision the length of his service, and the different grades in which he served, in language so definite as to enable the department to determine to what amount of pension he is entitled? *No*
- VI. Has he given the names of the officers under whom he served, in conformity with the regulations? *yes*
- VII. Has he made a relinquishment of every claim to any other pension than the one under the Act of June 7, 1832? *yes*
- VIII. Has the Court given their opinion? *yes*
- IX. Has the Clerk given his certificate? *yes*
- X. Is the Clerk's seal affixed? And if so, has it a device or inscription by which it can be distinguished from any other seal? *yes*

- XI. Has the applicant obtained the evidence of a clergyman and another respectable citizen as to their belief respecting his age and the general belief in his neighborhood relative to his revolutionary service? *yes*
- XII. If the clergyman's affidavit has not been produced, is there any reason assigned for not obtaining it? *no*
- XIII. If the applicant has no documentary evidence, and has not obtained the testimony of at least one living witness, has he stated in his declaration that such proof cannot be had? *no*
- XIV. † If the applicant's name is not found on the rolls of military service, has he produced a witness or witnesses as to his service?  
 If he has produced direct proof as to service, has the magistrate who administered the oath, certified to the credibility of the witness or witnesses?  
 Has the proper officer certified to the official character and signature of the magistrate as the regulations direct?
- XV. Does it appear from any of the papers that the witness was in such a situation, or of such an age, as to have a personal knowledge of the applicant's service?
- XVI. ‡ Are the papers authenticated as the regulations direct? *yes*
- XVII. Are the seven interrogatories prescribed by the War Department answered satisfactorily? And, if not, which of them is not so answered? *2, 4, 6, 7.*

## EXPLANATORY NOTES.

† QUERE V. In a case where the applicant cannot, by reason of the loss of memory, state precisely how long he served, he should amend his declaration by making an affidavit in the following words:  
 "Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace, &c. A. B. who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades: For ——— year ——— months, and ——— days, I served as a ——— For ——— months and ——— days, I served as a ———; and for such service I claim a pension.

It is important in all cases to determine with precision the period for which each applicant served, and the particular rank he held, as the law directs the pension to be paid according to the grade of the pensioner and the length of his service. The use of the phrase *about three or four months* is too indefinite, and all such qualifying expressions are objectionable. Some persons who apply for pensions merely state they served two years in the militia, &c. without specifying the tours; the names of the officers, and other particulars respecting their service. This form of a declaration is highly objectionable. It must in every case be clearly shewn under what officers the applicant served; the duration of each term of engagement; the particular place or places where the service was performed; that the applicant served with an authorized corps called into service by competent authority; that he was either in the field or in garrison; and for the time during which the service was performed, he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

**QUERRE XIV. Proof of Service.**

In a case where the name of the applicant is not found on the records of the Department, he must prove his service by two credible witnesses, who are required to set forth in their affidavits the time of the claimants entering the service, and the time and manner of his leaving the same, as well as the regiment, company, and line to which he belonged. The magistrate who may administer the oaths must certify to the credibility of the witnesses, and the official character and signature of the magistrate must be certified by the proper officer, under his seal of office.

**QUERRE XVI. Mode of authenticating papers.**

In every instance where the certificate of the certifying officer who authenticates the papers is not written on the same sheet of paper which contains the affidavit, or other paper authenticated, the certificate must be attached thereto by a piece of tape or narrow ribbon, the ends of which must pass under the seal of office of the certifying officer, so as to prevent any paper from being improperly attached to the certificate.

In every case where the clerk of the court, or other certifying officer, has no public seal of office, the certificate of a member of congress, proving the official character and signature of the certifying officer, should accompany the papers.

REFLECTED

10115

P. O.

*Moab Stephens*

Service: *Moab Stevens*

*A.O.T.*

Enlisted: *Aug 13, 1901*, 18

Discharged: \_\_\_\_\_, 18

Application filed: \_\_\_\_\_, 18

Alleges: \_\_\_\_\_

Re-enlisted: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

P. O. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Recognized. \_\_\_\_\_ Contract

\_\_\_\_\_ Cert. of Dis. Searched for \_\_\_\_\_, 18

Moab Stephens  
South Carolina

Suspended

~~Jan 27 1835~~

~~James [unclear]~~

det 27 April 1835

Jat. R. Currie

10115

## SOURCE INFORMATION

**Image url:** <https://www.fold3.com/image/19726036>

**State:** North Carolina

**Veteran:** Stevens, Moab

**Pensioner:** [Blank]

**Service:** N.C.

**Pension Number:** R. 10,115

**Conflict Period:** US Revolutionary War

**Served for:** United States of America

**Publication Number:** M804

**Publication Title:** Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files

**Nara Catalog Id:** 300022

**Nara Catalog Title:** Case Files of Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Applications Based on Revolutionary War Service, compiled ca. 1800 - ca. 1912, documenting the period ca. 1775 - ca. 1900

**Medium Description:** The records in this collection include entire pension files for soldiers and sailors who served in the Revolutionary War. Unlike selected records, which were typically chosen subjectively for genealogical content, these records reveal more details about each veteran's history and service, as well as more information about his family, state of health, and life after the war.

**Publication Browse Title:** Revolutionary War Pensions

**Publisher:** NARA

**Record Group:** 15

**Short Description:** NARA M804. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.

**Roll:** 2286

**Image Title:** Page 2