

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Gaston S32265

f67SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/4/10 & 8/4/15 & 5/8/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Illinois, County of Marion

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judge of Circuit Court now sitting William Gaston a resident of the County of Marion and State of Illinois aged Seventy-five years 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States first as a drafted militia in the State of South Carolina and County of Chester in the year 1775 first tour of Broad River under Captain Marshall [John Marshall] to rout some Tories who were encamped 50 or 60 miles from where I lived. The second tour drafted militia under the same Captain to Charleston about 150 miles. In 1776, in a third tour in the same year under the same Captain to Purysburg on Savannah River. Field officers not recollected. In all a service of six or seven months.

After Charlestown fell into the hands of the British in 1780, he entered the service as a mounted volunteer under Captain John McClure, Colonel Lacy [sic, Edward Lacey], & General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] field officers. After several skirmishes he fought at the Battles of Rocky Mountain [July 30, 1780], Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780], Hook's defeat [sic, Huck's defeat or Williamson's Plantation or the Battle of Brattonsville, July 12, 1780], and King's Mountain [October 7, 1780] (when General Sumter was surprised [Fishing Creek, August 18, 1780] near McDonald's Ford on Catawba River he is this applicant's horse fell into the hand of the Enemy for which he never was compensated). Afterwards several Scouting parties terminated his service of nearly two years as a mounted volunteer when he was dismissed by Captain Steel who was his Captain from the time Captain McClure fell at Hanging Rock – and also that his discharge if he ever had one is lost. That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except Mrs. Jane Gaston relic of John Gaston deceased aged about 87 years whose testimony to a part of his services follows below in her separate affidavit.

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Subscribed & sworn to on the year aforesaid.

S/ Wm Gaston, ~ his mark

The affidavit of Jane Gaston, who being duly sworn deposes & says that in the year 1780, according to the best of her recollection, she with her late husband John Gaston, was living in Chester County S. C. and that William Gaston who has subscribed & sworn to the foregoing Declaration, was then a single man, & living with this affiant & her said husband John Gaston, being a cousin of the said John; and that she recollects distinctly when the said William Gaston volunteered under General Sumter to fight the British & Tories – and that he remained absent in

the service for about two years, except when he would return home a few days on furlough. She states her age to do be about 87 years.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Jane Gaston, X her mark

S/ R. Ricker, Clerk in open Court

[p 58: Thomas Rice, a merchant residing in Jefferson County Illinois, and Matthew Rainey of Marion County Illinois gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Amended Declaration of William Gaston for a pension under the Act of Congress of June 7th, 1832

Personally appeared in open court before Thomas C. Brown one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois & by law assigned to hold Circuit Court in the County of Marion & State of Illinois William Gaston, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith by reason of old age & 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 two months I served as a private under Captain Marshall in the year 1775. For one month & 14 days I served as a private under Captain Marshall in the year 1776. For two months I served as a private under Captain Marshall in the year 1776. For one year I served as a private under Captain John McClure in the year 1780 & 1781. For one year I served as a private under Captain __ Steel in the years 1781 & 1782 and for such service I claim a pension. And he further states that he did not know that it was necessary to have a clergyman nor could he learn better, as his declaration was written out by one of his neighbors who he supposes knew no better himself, if he had known it, he could have procured one. He further states that he had a record of his age made in his own Bible, & that he gave the Bible to his son John who lives on Shoal Creek Bond County in this State but he does not know what has become of it.

Query: Where & in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania on the 10th day of July 1757.

Query: Have you any record of your age, if so where is it? Answered above.

3 Query: Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the The revolution, and where do you now live?

Ans: In Chester S. C. where I lived a while after the Revolution, then I moved to Kentucky & thence to Illinois: and now live in Marion County. The other interrogatories are already answered in the best of my recollection.

Subscribed percent sworn in open Court this 23rd day of September A.D. 1833.

S/ Rufus Ricker, Clk

S/ William Gaston, ~ his mark

[Daniel Williams, a clergyman, and Donald R. Chance, a clergyman, state that they believe the applicant to be about 75 years of age and that he is reputed in the neighborhood to have been a revolutionary war soldier and that they concur in that opinion.]

[Applicant died in Marion County, Ill. on January 12, 1838.]

[p 8: On February 28, 1860, in Marion County Illinois, William Gaston, Junior and Ann Raney [could be "Ann Rainey"], filed an affidavit stating that they are the heirs of William Gaston being his son and daughter; that their father died January 12, 1838 in Marion County Illinois; that they are making this claim to obtain the pension due their father under the act of Congress of 1818.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 2 years service in the South Carolina militia as a private.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to William Gaston pp12
Audited Account No. 2730
Transcribed by Will Graves 5/8/21

[p 2]

[Book R [No.] 464 2 June 85 [1785]

Mr. William Gaston his Account of Sundries for Militia use.

Amounting to £33 Stg. [Sterling]

N: B: a Horse charged £60 [old South Carolina] Currency or £8.11.5 Sterling oath which is not Certified

Ex^d. W. G. [Examined by William Galvan]

J. M^c. A. G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 4 (retake of page 3)]

State of South Carolina to William Gaston Dr

Duty John in Captain John McClure's Company

a Horse man 135 days £135

21 Days Horseman's Duty C. Steel's [Captain John Steel's] Co. 21

15 Days Duty ditto in Ditto 15

£171

A Horse lost in Service appraised to

60

£231

£33 Currency [sic]

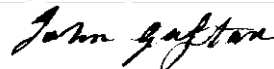
State of South Carolina Camden District} Personally came Alexander McKown and Samuel
McKnow before me James Knox and Being Duly Sworn Saith on oath that the [sic, they] have
appraised a Certain Iron gray horse the property of William Gaston the [they] have appraised
Said horse to Sixty pounds. Sworn before me this 10th June 1783

S/ Jas. Knox, JP

[p 5]

Received 9th June 1785, full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 464 Book R by in order

S/ John Gaston



[p 6]

I do hereby Empower the Bearer John Gaston to Receive an indent to the amount of my Account
against the Public for service &c

S/ William Gaston

¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) 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 number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

William Gaston

Chester County

October 29th 1785 } The above signed & acknowledged before me the above Date
S/ Jas. Knox, JP

[p 7: Printed form of indent No. 464 Book R]

[p 8: Reverse of the above Indent]

[p 9]

[No. 3507]

[Book] X No. 114 9 August 86 [1786]

William Gaston for Militia duty, since the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] in Roebuck's [Benjamin Roebuck's] Regiment per Anderson's [Col. Robert Anderson's] Return [not extant]

[old South Carolina] Currency £83
Stg [Sterling] £11.17.1 ½

Received 9th of August 1786, full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 3507 X, per order
S/ Jno Alexander

Jno Alexander

[p 10: Repeat of the above information]

[p 12 (retake of page 11)]

Gent.

Please to deliver unto Mr. John Alexander my Indent with the Interest thereon and you will oblige yours to serve
To the Commissioners of
the Treasury of South Carolina

S/ William Gaston

William Gaston