

Aiken Fite

State of South Carolina
District of Fairfield

This Wrd Aikin was apparently
unrelated to the James Aikin
family on Little River. Wrd was with
the Rev. W. Martin Congre-
gation

On this 3rd day of November 1832 personally
appeared in open court before Wrd Martin Judge
of the court of Com. Pleas for Fairfield District in
the State of South Carolina now sitting at
Fairfield Court House, William Aiken a resident
of Indian Creek about two miles from the town
of Winnsborough in the District of Fairfield
in the State aforesaid aged seventy-two years
since Feb^{ry} last who being first duly sworn
according to law doth under oath making
the following declaration in order to obtain
the benefit of the act of Congress passed
June 7th 1834

Deponent was born in the Kingdom
of Ireland County Antrim about three miles
from Ballmena between the first and twelfth
days of February A. D. 1768.

Deponents father and family moved
from Ireland and landed in Philadelphia
in 1775 and settled on Brandywine Creek
about forty miles above Philadelphia where
his house was burnt by accident and all
record of the family ages if any ever existed
as deponent suppose but deponent is
ignorant whether they had been recorded being
young at the time. Deponents father and mother
always _____ him being born at the time the
French _____ of _____

Deponent left his fathers in 1779 and came
to South Carolina Fairfield District lived with
his uncle David Thompson on Jackson Creek
until Feb^{ry} _____ 1781, when he was called
(over)

in to do militia duty under Captain ^{John} Gray. Deponent does not know nor believe there was any draft but believes that Captain Gray ordered all men out he certified that were fit for duty. Deponent was marched to Major John _____'s plantation (afterwards Gen^l Pearson (?) on Broad River as a place of rendezvous. Andrew Grey was lieutenant and also James Kincaid. The Company was employed in dispersing (?) and killing (!) the Tories. The troops performed several excursions through Mohley settlement in Fairfield District. On one of these they dispersed (?) a body (?) of Tories thinks at the house of one Jones? in Mohley settlement at which the Tories lost one and killed William Smith and then fled. Deponent was out under Captain Gray in this tour two months, at the end of which time Captain Edward Martin arrived with some men and Deponent was transferred to his Company. William Gray was Captain Martin's first Lieutenant and William Owens second Lieutenant. Captain Martin sent his company under his first Lieutenant to Congaree fort a little above the present site of Stanby and returned home to collect more men. Lieutenant William Gray with his company and several other militia companies lay around the fort until it surrendered. Captain John Turner & Company, Capt John Winn & Company were there.

a Company of artillery arrived in the morning before the fort surrendered. I think a Colonel Taylor Commanded the whole of the militia Depoent on the morning of the surrender whilst on guard was fired on by a detachment from the fort.

The guard was beat back until _____ by a company from the main army. After the surrender the army was marched (?) from the Congaree to _____ where they encamped and lay for some time. The depoent served two months from the time he was transferred to Captain Martins Company until discharged making the tour a tour of service four months in all.

Staid at home at his uncle David Thompson _____ out(?) in scouting parties until July 1781, when depoent with Captain Edward Martins Company was again ordered out. Was marched on to the Congaree below _____ where the Company met with Captains _____ Winn, Jno Turner with their companies. Other troops were there also _____ the men and marched toward Orangeberg and near Orangeberg fell (?) in with a detachment of Gen^l Greenes Army. Encamped near there two or three days. Was also met by Col. Henry Hampton & his State Troops. The militia and Hamptons State Troops joined and marched down through the low country. Was at Dorchester twenty miles above Charleston. At the 45 milc house (?) and back and _____ through the _____ of lower country. The troops were all mounted

Major John Pierson(?) was — and Colonel Richard Winn commanded the Regiment of Militia — — was Adjutant. The Deponent was out about two months. This time he was allowed indents for only two months.

Deponent was from(?) sometime in February 1781 until the last of October 1781 constantly in Militia Duty either in the tours particularly(?) mentioned or in scouting parties against the Tories under Captain Martin with the exception(?) of a few days one or two days at one time and the — at another. And believes that he was out in militia duty fully eight months in all. All the time a private.

David Hamilton, John Slocum(?) and Robert McCreight were all out with deponent under Colonel Richard Winn in the tour to Dorchester the 45 mile house etc. They all live on Jackson Creek in this District. They could also testify as to scouting duty but deponent knows of no person now living who was with him at the taking of the Congaree fort. There may be some of them who present alive but deponent does not now recollect or know of any such. Received no discharge

Deponent in November 1781 went in to Pennsylvania and returned in June 7, 1783 with his father and family and settled in Fairfield District on

Jackson Creek and lived there until about the year 1800 when he removed and settled where he now lives at first above mentioned where he has lived ever since that time. He hereby relinquishes any claim — to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll or their agency of any State.

Wm Akin
(signed with signature)

J Elliott J P
(signature)

Other papers in pension file from National Archives were statement from daughter Marika swearing to Hannah's widowhood to receive arrears pension payment.