

MEMOIRS

William Allen MELTON

Born: July 31, 1761

Death: June 6, 1836 - Walton County, Georgia

Parents: Nathan Melton and Nancy Allen

HIGHLIGHTS:

Arrival in Greene County, Georgia in November of 1786.

W. A. Melton lived in Greene County for a period of twenty-four years.

When William came to Greene County (1786 (November)), there became a need for the Militia which was in large part due to the uprising of the Indians, and subsequent Indian raids. Wm. Received a Commission in the State Militia and served as Captain of the Fifth Company, Greene County Regiment of the Militia from May 28, 1787 to May 9, 1793. A new Commission was received May 9, 1793. Wm. served from May 9, 1793 until September of 1804 as a Lieutenant Colonel in command of the First Regiment of Greene County Militia.

Background:

When the Revolutionary War began Wm.'s family was living in South Carolina on the Little Saluda River, Wm. Enlisted on May 8, 1778 (17 yrs old) and served in the South Carolina Militia as a Sergeant. In May of 1780 having served two years in the Militia, the Militia of South Carolina was surrendered and were given pardons in obedience to the British ultimatum - "Surrender, or have your homes destroyed and all your property confiscated." A mere year later they were released from their paroles and ordered into British service.

Pension Records of Wm. Indicated that these were hard and trying times, the old Whigs were still loyal to their country and with disregard to the mandates of Britain flew to their arms and gave the air of determination of Death or Freedom. Since the British were seizing rebel property during the parole period, Wm. Was given the commission of concealing the slaves from the British and their Tory spies. Wm. Did this for a period of a month (give or take), then he was sent orders to take them to Wadmalaw Island (below Charleston, SC) - He made the run of about 130 miles through the country which was thoroughly crawling with British and Tories. He successfully accomplished his mission and several other missions against the British and the Indians in North Georgia and along the Savannah River before the closure of the War.

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(Page Two)

LIFE AFTER GREENE COUNTY, GEORGIA

In March of 1800 Wm moved to Putnam County, Georgia and lived there until December of 1821 when he moved to Walton County, Georgia. He lived in Walton until he died in 1836.

MARRIAGE:

Marriage 1: Wm. Allen Melton married Polly Bates

Note: Polly was born April 24, 1762 and died ? (unknown died after childbirth)

The Melton Family Bible: *Wm. Melton, son of William Melton and Polly Bates Melton, was born on Jan. 29th, 1781. Wm. Melton, Jr. was born at 2:00 - Polly died at 6:00. Wm. Melton Jr. died on Feb. 9th, 1781, with less than 10 days of life. Loss of both Polly and Wm. Jr. with a ten day period must have been devastating to him.*

Marriage 2: Wm. Allen Melton married Rebecca Thompson on May 9, 1816 in Putnam County, Georgia.

Note: Rebecca was born Dec. 25, 1778 - she was still alive in 1853 (as widow of William Allen Melton she applied for Widow's Pension while she was living in Meriweather County, GA).

Note that the letter below does more justice than any of the research done thus far:

Letter Wm. Melton wrote August 19, 1835 to his son W. A. Melton. He sent it from Georgia to W. A. in Alabama.

"A History of the Age and Life of William Melton"

He was born 31 of July 1761 in North Carolina near the Hawfield on Haw River and in his 7th year of his age his father Nathan Melton moved from that place to SC then Edgefield District (lived here 15 yrs and in my 19th yr of age I married on 1 day of Jan. 1781 Polley Bates dau of Wm. Bates and she departed this life 29 of Jan. 1781 and on the 3 of July 1783 married the Widder Williams dau of Robert Allen. We moved from 96th District on the 9th of Oct. 1783 to Holston River now East Tennessee from thence on the 16 of November 1786 to Greene County, (State of Georgia). We continued there upwards of 24 years to the 10th of March 1810, we moved from Green County to Putman County and on 13 of November 1815, my wife Lucy departed this life. We lived together 32 years. We had 13 children, 10 now living with 03 grandchildren. I then on 9th of May 1816 married the Widder Boren, dau of Seth Thompson. We had 2 children. We moved from Putman to Walton County. (*Georgia*) on the 31st of December 1827 where we now live.

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(Page Three)

To my family as a soldier and an officer, in my 17 yr of age I turned out a Volunteer Soldier in the American service in the Florida Expedition on the 8th of May 1778. Served until 28 of Aug. following and on the 2 of Sept. I took my father's place as a soldier in an Expedition to the Frontier of Georgia and continued in his place and on my own in the American Service two years 6 mos and 10 days in the Revolutionary War until peace with Great Briton for which the US allowed me a pension during my life \$80.83 annually. I was in 7 battles against the British, 6 running fights and one general battle at Stone Perry on the 20th day of June 1779. On the 5th of Jan. 1787, I was elected Captain on the frontiers of Georgia and on the 28th of May 1787 the Creek Indians came into the District I commanded, killed Ezekiel, McMichel, and Wm. Jones. Now begins the Creeke Ware. I commanded as Capt. Of the district and 4 troops of hors until Jan. 1793 held the command 15 years. I ware in 13 battles with Indians, was at the burning of the Indian Village on the Chatehucha River above West Point. We arrived at the river before day. None knew where the (fouerd) ford were - two men volunteered their services to search out the ford to wit David Adams and Mr. Cribes. After a long search Cribes returned but no Adams. At length Adams went into town, took an Indian pony which was tide came tot he river, found the fouerd, pilotted 87 men across the river, then we went to the town which was 1/2 mile, burnt the town, held a great many indians, took 9 prisoners and returned without a loss of a man at that place.

This letter I believe probably sums up the Memoirs of this man better than any of us could do, it is hoped that by reading this Memoir you are somewhat helped by the information.

There must be multitudes of descendants with the 103 grandchildren from this man - all should be proud to call him their ancestor.

[Any descendants of - William Allen MELTON - Born: July 31, 1761 Death: June 6, 1836 - Walton County, Georgia -- Parents: Nathan Melton and Nancy Allen should contact the Greene County Coordinator to have their information posted with these Memoirs so that others may locate you.](#)

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