

Old Muster Pay Roll Records of Camden Preserved

By Mrs. Mary Givens, State Historian and Beatrice F. Lang, Secretary, Camden Historical Committee

Some years ago the Georgia Military Department office of Adjutant General, turned over to the State Department of Archives and History for permanent preservation, many old muster rolls, pay rolls, and military letters, long in their custody. These historical old records tell the story of the struggles on the frontier with the Indians who were harassing the white settlers, stealing their cattle, horses and ammunition. It became necessary for the Governor of the State to keep the state militia men in the respective counties constantly on the alert and in the service of the State to regain stolen property, goods and ammunition. Not only were the Indians stealing, but dis-

turbing the peace of the white settlers and scalping defenceless women and children. One pay roll for militia

service on the frontier of Camden County under the command of Major William Bailey in 1817 is of particular interest to Camden Count-

ains as the names of many men, among the 126 names on the pay roll, have living descendants in Camden County, neighboring counties and in Florida today. Major Bailey's original pay roll

shows by the name of each man, his rank, days of service in the year 1817, and the original signature of each man as he receipts for his pay.

Major William Bailey's name is well-known by the old timers in Camden. He was first commissioned Ensign of the 381st District Company of Camden County, Georgia Militia, Feb. 22, 1812, promoted to rank of Captain of the 381st District Company

on Dec. 21, 1814 and later promoted to the rank of Major in 1817. At the same time he was holding a military commission in the State Militia, Major Bailey was serving as one of the justices of the Inferior Court of Camden

County from 1815 to 1824. He was also Commissioner of the Camden County Academy in 1816. Major Bailey held many other offices of great trust. This pay roll came to light while the Camden County Historical Committee was busily engaged in digging up hidden treasures pertaining to Camden County in the County and in the State Department of Archives and History.

The names appearing on Major William Bailey's Pay Roll in 1817 are as follows:

Captains: Gabriel Priest, William Cone, William Lang, William Scott.

Lieutenants: Charles Howell, Jonathan Hall, Basil Low, James Lofton.

Ensigns: Zachariah Roberts, Emerald Brigham, Lieut.

Sergeants: Lewis Winkler, Joseph Psalter, John Carter, Theophilus Rosier, Bartley Woods, Isaac Varn, Joseph D. Hardee, Morgan Pevatt, William Flint, David Brown, Thomas Tucker, Burbon Lowther, William Gibson, John May, Amethest Brigham, Zachariah Bailey.

Privates: William Seals, George Long, Lewis Bashlott, Robert Miller, David Mizell, Wade Hampton, Solomon Walker, John Clark, Joseph Holder, Isaac Pratt, John Demott, Nathaniel Stephens, Arthur Moor, Daniel D. Copp, Matthew Bessent, Allen Parish, Joseph Tulles, John Osteen, John Cirkland (Kirkland), Robert Ward, Joseph Prevatt, Joseph Crews, Timothy Hopkins, Tery Parish, Joseph Rain, Jacob Osteen, Campbell, Jesse Jons, Lewther Randal, Jehu Mizell, Henry Swearingame, Samuel Swearingame, Samuel Clark.

Isaac Miller, Edward Courter, John H. McIntosh, Thomas King (3d), — Bloodworth, Ezekiel Weeks, Joel Tison, William Johns, James Sparkman, George Morrison,