



South Carolina Department of Archives and History
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Soldiers' Board of Relief, 1861-1864

1. Organization and Duties, 1861-1864

The Act which established the "Soldiers' Board of Relief" was passed on December 21, 1861. According to the provisions of this Act, the General Assembly was authorized to appoint not less than five nor more than ten freeholders from each tax district who were to be called the "Soldiers' Board of Relief." This organization was to continue during the existence of the War and for four months thereafter. Each district board was authorized to fill up any vacancies which occurred within it. It was authorized also to levy an annual tax, to be collected by the State Tax Collectors on the taxpayers of its district and to direct the Treasurer to distribute the money to families of soldiers who had volunteered in the service of South Carolina or the Confederacy. Each board was required to elect a treasurer and a secretary from among its members, who were to keep a record of all its transactions, to be responsible to the board, and to furnish bond payable to the board. Each board was required also to send returns of its receipts and expenditures to the Court of Common Pleas in its district.¹

Acts passed on December 18, 1862 and on February 6, 1863 revised the organization and duties of the "Soldiers' Board of Relief." According to the provisions of these acts, the General Assembly was required to appoint annually the members of each district board, and the membership of the district boards was changed to consist of not less than three nor more than twelve freeholders. Each district board was required to distribute money appropriated by the State Treasurer to families, residing in its district, of soldiers, sailors and marines who were serving in the Army or Navy of the Confederate States as well as to families of soldiers who had been killed or wounded. It was required also to send returns of its receipts and expenditures to the General Assembly and the State Treasurer and to report the names and addresses of its officers to the Comptroller General.²

¹ S.C. Statutes, 1861 (13), pp. 15-16.

² Ibid., 1862-63 (11), pp. 137-140.

Subsequent act further modified the organization and increased the duties of the "Soldiers' Board of Relief." An act passed on December 17, 1863 provided that the membership of each district board be increased to consist of not less than three nor more than twenty-four members. This act directed each district board to divide its district into sections equal to the number of members on its board so that each member could be assigned to one section. Besides providing relief to families of Confederate soldiers, each member of the board was directed to ascertain and to collect taxes in kind of rice, corn and wheat from every producer or manufacturer in the section assigned to him.³ An act passed on December 23, 1864 provided that the district boards continue to operate as they had in 1863-64. It provided, however, that they send their reports of receipts and expenditures to the State Auditor. Relief was extended to include families of free Negroes who were employed by the Confederate States.⁴

2. Appointment of Members, 1861-1864

On December 21, 1861, the General Assembly passed a resolution appointing the original members of the district boards of relief.⁵

On January 22, 1863, the General Assembly passed a resolution which reorganized the procedure for appointing the members of the "Soldiers' Board of Relief." The members of both houses of the General Assembly from each election district were required to nominate the members of the boards of relief in their respective districts and to report their names to the House Committee on vacant offices and officers. This Committee was required to report the nominations for the entire State to the General Assembly for confirmation. The names of appointees were to be listed in the Columbia newspapers.⁶ This procedure was continued annually through December 20, 1864.

Names of appointees do not appear in the report of the House Committee for vacant offices and officers of 1865, and there is no mention of the "Soldiers' Board of Relief" in the Reports and Resolutions or the Statutes of 1865.

³ Ibid., (13) pp.191-94.

⁴ Ibid., (13), pp.239-44.

⁵ Reports and Resolutions of the South Carolina General Assembly, 1861, p.334.

⁶ Ibid., 1862, p.233.

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Abshire, Lucinda	Joseph	9,360,485,72	27,83	96,251
Abshire, Martha	Joseph (son)	223		33
Adkins, Jane	Wade	210		55,315,399
Adkins, Selina	Jackson			325
Allen, Jane	Thomas	85,449		285
Anderson				441
Archer, Elizabeth	C.M.	222,476,255		194,295
Archer, Mrs.	McKibben	104		
Armstrong, E.C.	Wm. F.	100,207,370,518	15	4,135,354
Arrawood				225,430
Asewood, Rosa		219		201,212
Atkins, Jane	Thomas	47,262,357,131	2	321
Barnes, Jane	Samuel	209,404		56,316
Beamguard, Mrs.	Samuel	16		345a
Beard, J.W.			110	
Beckham, Mary Ann	John(son)	102,150,284,480	123	21,62,153
Beheler, Catherine		30		
Beheler, Jane		29,137,414,549		367a,368a,369a,370a
Bell, Elizabeth		130a		49
Bennett, Elizabeth H.	Robert	212		15
Bennett, Lucinda	Philamore	52		323a
Bennett, Mary		34		323
Beurette, Elizabeth	Robert F.	304		229,394
Beurette, Mary	William	234,292,487	79	93,146,323a
Bias, Catherine	Noah	417,550		356a,557a,358a
Blackman, M.H.	E.	148,344,506		69,163,183,364
Bobbitt, Vina	James (son)	142,293,483		68,188,456
Bolin, Catherine		173,531	58,59	204,216,220,223,419,382
Bolin, E.J.		551		447
Bolin, Lewis				222
Bolin, Margaret		239,246		200,217,329
Bolin, Martha		174,536		352
Bolin, Mary Ann	John	495		
Bolin, Patsey				205,218,219,459
Bolt, Rebecca		247		
Bowen, Mary M.	B.L.	53,181,249	7	122,309a,320a,370
Boyles, Harriet	Jackson	45a,133	18	6
Boyles, Jane	William	45b,172,335,552	90	7,329a
Brakefield, Emiline	James	238,538,80	121	333a,457
Brandon, Jane E.	J.R.	259,425		85,335
Broom, D.A.	Henderson	77,189,251	11	298,311,351a,454

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Broom, Lehta	Greer	190,248		121,448
Broom, Martha	Joseph	74	9	
Brown, Dicey	William	203	112,113,145	306
Brown, S.A.				404
Burnsides, Elizabeth	Hiram	3,163,525,345	124,138,139	28,358,362
Byars, S.A.	J.A. Strain (brother)	107,282,478	33,100	86,235
Camp, Jane	Stanford	86,547	28	73,75
Campbell, M.E.	William	371		309,421
Carder, Margaret	John	244		54,158,173
Carder, Mary	James	245		
Carroll, Grizzela	Robert	378		100,355a
Carroll, Lucinda	Thomas	176,354		116,410a,449
Carroll, Margaret		44,171,313	1,12	110a,319,368
Caten, Elizabeth	Elijah	211		400
Chambers, Barbara	John (son)	287,440		138,282
Childers, Abraham				335a
Childers, Dulcina			77	
Childers, Jane		198,511		333,388
Childers, Jinnie		339,400	76	202,224,330,386
Childers, Martha			78	
Childers, Susan		241		
Christmas, Hulda		83,426		119,321a
Clark, Arrena		169,369		319a
Clark, Charlotte		407,418,544		406,407,452
Clark, E.D.	James	8,362,451		10,228
Clark, Enaline	Henry	502		317
Clark, Lotsy		96		
Clinton, Ann	G.W.	37,439		346a
Clinton, Mary	Jefferson	87,330,539		162,361
Cobb, Caroline		221	56,57	203,334a,336a,381c,383 384,451a
Cobb, M.C.	G.W.	512		195
Cobb, M.L.	John G. (father)	286,475		426
Collins, Patricia	Thomas	162,270,419		19,31,53,63,357,427
Cowley, Martha	Jackson (son)	258,450		
Crook, Narcipa	Wiley			187
Culp, Dolsey		146	125,137	129
Culp, Dorthy A.		14,340,520		44,360
Culp, Sarah		191,376,516		32,161,428
Damerson, Mary J.	Jasper	110,508	106	91,230
Dammon, Martha		372		241

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Davidson, Margaret	James F.	216,288,396		11,263,345
Davison, Mary J.	Joseph	306		
Dickson, Dulcentia		78		
Doggett, Margaret R.	John	261		
Doster, Elizabeth	Alpheus	38,109		287
Dover, Allied		115,405		124,458
Dover, Elizabeth		202,398,517	46,47	111,227
Dover, Malinda		226,429,522		206,215,226,342a,385
Dover, Martha		57,359	3	301
Dover, Patsey				371a
Downy, Mary		32,136,415,554		363a,364a,365a,366a
Downy, Tempy	E.J.	31,134,556,413		359a,360a,361a,362a
Eakins, M.E.	Gilbert	496		253,258
Elders, E.		25	89	
Erwin, Francis		155,180		180,372a,374
Faress, Jane				450
Farris, Nancy		26a	111	313a
Ferguson, Jane A.	James	157		84
Ferguson, Pricilla	R.A.	253		431
Fewell, Elizabeth	James	124,349,558		261
Foster, E.E.		477		377a
Foster, Margaret	Franklin	368		
Gardner, Elizabeth	Franklin	346,537		
Garison, Mary A.	Peter	224,353,491		26,154
Garison, Nancy	Aaron	128,266,447		23,57,169,432
Garrison, Margaret	Edward	406,541		244,142
Gill, Robert		75	120	
Givens, Elvira J.		433		
Givens, Mary A.		470		405
Givens, Mrs.	brother	79a		
Gladden, Hester	T.C.	33,214,377,560	29,103	90,149,246
Grant, Catherine	L.M.	285,437		281,385
Green, Charlotte	Thomas	310		291
Green, Margaret		71,113,367	24	8,318
Hagins, Jane	Sylvanus	23,35,188,298,493	24,99	88,240,94,131
Hagins, Meditha	Warren	279		134,150
Haines, Margaret				440
Hand, Lucitta		325,519		45
Hardin, Sarah		317,466		387
Hardwick, Francis	William	98		
Harris, Hannah	John Henry	324		

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Hemby, Nancy	R.W. Moulton	127b,309,474		177,48,179
Hemry, S.E.	Thomas	546		
Hines, Margaret	Yeaman	243,391		171
Hobbs, Catherine	W.D.	479		237
Holbrooks, Adaline	Martin	17,60,141,303,504	37,82,86,107	2,98,101,141,242
Honey, Harriet	William H.	106,302,458	130	34,40,172,184,435
Horten, Mary D.		68b,559		371
Hullenger, Mary Ann		116		
Hullinger, Cynthia		95,420		277,380a
Ingram, Roseanna		140,394	132	22
Ingram, Susannah	Samuel	91		46,354a
Jackson, Isabella	Demsey	151,454		
Jackson, Jane	John	323,526		165
Jackson, M.J.		385		429
Jefferys, Dicey	William A.	393,562		130,239
Jefferies, Mrs.	Burrell	12a		130,239
Jones, Jane	John, (son)	2,254,471		381
Jones, Mary A.	E.	22,64,276,166,494	31,102	78,79,80,126
Jones, Polly	Greer	138	84	
Keister, Sallie	S.G.	410		41
Kincaid, Susan R.	John A.	227		
Koestler, Sarah E.	S.F.	213		
Lanear, Amanda		231,379,523		106,332a,379a,396
Lanear, Oney		220	72,73,74	337a,384a,391,392,418
Lanier, Neony	James	524		
Little, Sarah	W.J.	332		314
Lock, Dennis J.	W.H.	392,472		160
Maner, Lavinia	Niram	41,122,250	4	308a,315a,317a,318a,376 377
Marks, Laura C.	William D.	215,416		37,402,432
Marmoth, Rebecca	James	4		
Martin, Martha	Robert	341,403		350a
Martin, Mary				325a
Martin, Polly		205	42,43	110
Massey, Mary A.		490		381b
Matthews, Jane A.	Owen	201,322		5,156
Mattocks, Mary E.	Dan	499	25	5,192,349
Mattox, Mary		229,306,434	19,119	108
McCammon, Martha	Matthew	6,337	142	
McCammon, Rodisa	Milton	13,326,543	127,141	43,59
McClain, Alumettis B.		272,411,111	133	
McClain, Ann	Jonathan	540		

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
McClain, Lucia	Jonathan	301		117
McClain, Lydia Jane	Robert	23,63,170,305,497	38,93	129,252
McClain, M.	A.B.	455	20	47,443
McClain, Nancy		37,119	144	422
McClain, Sarah	James	118		
McCright, Cynthia		366		60,182
McCullough, Margaret	Andrew	273,129b,461		58,170
McDaniel, Catherine		230,388	69,70,71	190,351a
McDaniel, Sarah	Robert	97		
McRight, Catherine	John	15		
Meacham, Elizabeth	A.J.	167,280,463		104,103,148,405,453
Meadows, Elizabeth	John (son)	228		
Menas, Mary	James	50		322a
Merritt, L.A.	Henry	365		310
Miller, Elizabeth				276
Miller, Lydia		117,382		290
Miller, Margaret		535		139
Miller, Sarah Jane	James	92		
Milling, Elizabeth I.	William A.	93,548,327		256,452
Milling, Sarah J.	Joseph	328,553		254,255
Moore, C.J.		448		349a
Moore, Elizabeth	James	177,333,422	129	164,356
Moore, Louisa	Alcestus	43b		
Moore, Mahala		153,421	128	65,355
Moore, Margaret	Albert	145,336,40a		20,324a
Moore, Miriam	William	267,431		438
Moore, Mima	William	101,147	122	61,353b,438
Moore, Rachel		380		
Morgan, Mary	William	42,329,131	13	378a
Morgan, Nancy	George	443		336
Morris, Elizabeth	W.A.	66,143,348,529		99,191,350
Morrison, Hannah	Robert (son)	73,88,252,557	26,118	109,343a,342
Mullinax, Dulcinia		54,123	5	369
Mullinax, Eliza Ann	Rice	489		332
Mullinax, Elizabeth Ann	Richard	36		9,338a
Mullinax, Gincey		240	60,61,62	274,327a,331,393
Mullinax, Jane C.	James	384		395
Mullinax, Julia Ann		55		314a,312
Mullinax, Lean				340
Mullinax, Mary Ann		195,315	67,68	112,266,411

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Mullinax, Naty		56,154,192	6	300,313,375
Mullinax, Rachel		358		304
Mullinax, Salina		185	53,54,55	207,221,271,418,326a
Mullinax, V.J.	G.W.	48,152,178,320	10	303
Murphy, Margaret J.		27,59	39	
Murphy, Mary L.		277,507		81,238
Murphy, Malinda	Joseph	159		373
Murphy, Polly		40		82
Nealy, Tab	Thomas	331,542		
Neel, Hannah		423	48,49	338,341,415
Nivins, Cynthia	T.G.	363		312a
Nivins, Elizabeth	W.H.	51		307,326
Nivins, Margaret	James	364		
Owens, Lythia (Tillitha)	James, Newton	99,201,343,460		439
Owens, Margaret	Edward	46b	17,134,135	359
Owens, Nancy	Powers	125,314	87,104,105	42,89,133
Parish, Eleanor		290,397		347,346
Parish, M.A.	James A.	129a,275,500		52,189
Parish, Mrs.		26b		378
Parker, Elizabeth P.		19,82,387,545	35,	127,236
Parker, Mary Ellen	Nirwood	139,350,498		10,339,341a
Parks, Milly	Uriah	5		324
Patterson, Elizabeth		442,446		374a
Patterson, Mrs.		68a		
Pearson, Elizabeth	David	21,61,164,297,486	30,81,88,109	1,83,143,128
Pearson, Mary	Charles	84,509	32,94,95	97,232,249
Peters, D.N.		10	116	
Peters, Julia Ann	David	300		
Peterson, Jane		186	50,51,52	208,211,270,390,328a,416
Peterson, Patsey		183,225	63,64,65,66	267,275,339a,344a,412
Pinkston, Sarah L.	William	237,289		12,264
Pinkston, Susan	William	400		344
Pursley, Elvira	Pinckney	94,204,389,513	14	3,136,353a
Pursley, Holly	John	179,79b		
Quinton, Mary		395,482		348a,379,409
Rainey, Louisa	Jonas	130b,193,311		180
Ramsey, Martha	D.W.	438		
Ramsey, Patsey		196,316	44,45	113,268,414
Riggins, Lavinia	Reuben	242,436		64,168,363,365
Roach, Jane	Franklin	39,160,488		70,71,175,181

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL 1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Roach, M.F.	B.F.	399		
Roberts, Mary		386,527		125,234
Ryefield, Sally		108,168		118,152,375a,376a,408
Ryefield, Sarah		465		
Russell, M.E.	David	268,555		
Sanders, Jane C.	John	216,257,462		13,294,337
Sandlin, Mary	J.A.	43a,144,445,338	117	348
Sandlin, Matilda		90		
Searwood, Rosa		161,318		213
Seates, Amanda	Matthew	89,295		288
Seates, Mary		69,175		114,115
Seezy, Lydia		70		120
Sexton, Esther	Daniel	274,127a,473		50,178
Shaw, Louisa	Robert	291,441		259,260
Shillingham, Caroline	William	46a	16	185
Shillingham, Elizabeth	John	121,383		25
Smith, M.A.	R.A.	28,62,165,281,492	34	72,140,233
Sprouse, Sarah	William	218,263,469		296,334,382a
Starnes, N.J.	C.B.	49,182,308	8	315a
Stewart, Catherine	D.A.	444		327,403,423
Stewart, Fanny		7		328
Stewart, Martha		375,510		308
St. John, Viney Ann	Thomas	260,427		286,293
Swann, Jane		284,166		147,245
Sweat, David		149,269,430		27,159
Sweat, Eliza	Richard	408,505		437
Sweat, Keziah	James	105,521		24,167,176,352a,434
Teag, Mrs.		20		196,197,198,199
Timberlake, Martha	Richard	390,528		87,23,247
Wallace, Martha L.	Hugh B.	81,208,334,452	114	265,278,347.373a
Wallace, Mary	James	126,533,356		17,174,279
Wallace, Rocinda	James M.	233,271		67
Ware, Scythena	James	103,361,435		18,155,436
Warmath, M.R.	James	206,321,459	143	39,166
Weaver, Sally	Thomas	135,307,515		35,123,283
Whisnaut, John				289
White, Eliza	Jerome	312		
White, Isabella	William	65,355	22	293a
White, Nancy Ann	John	401		340a
Whitesides, Thomas				440a,445

YORK DISTRICT SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF PAPERS

NAME	HEAD OF FAMILY	PETITION(S)	ACCOUNT(S) FALL1862	SUBSEQUENT ACCOUNT(S)
Wiley, Polly			92,101	
Wilkerson, Mary	G.W.	374,467		4,311a
Wilkerson, Mrs.	Henry	11,256		297
Williams, Elizabeth	E.P.	114,561	97,98	74,77,250
Williams, Hannah	A.H.	76,283,351,534		102,262,424
Williams, Mary A.	William	18,58,187,299,503	80,85,91,96,108	95,132,144,243
Wilson, Sarah C.	Robert	468		320
Wilson, Serula	John	424		322
Wisher, Cynthia	Jackson	428,532	75	214,343,353,269
Wood, Mary A.	James, Lewis (sons)	67,112,481,264	21,23,115	137,280
Wood Paulina	Thomas	120,200,412,456	126,140	157,186,443
Wood,Rachel	R.L. (son)	232,530		107,331a,397
Wood, Rebecca				350
Wren, Elizabeth		217,352,402		366,66,458
Wren, Martha R.	J.A.	194		38,51
Wright,Ann				451
Wright, Nancy C.	Wm. A. Fewell (son)	235,296		76,92,248
Wylie, Elizabeth	William	342,464		105,380
Wylie, Mary	William, Stanhope (sons)	197,278,453,514		145
Young, John				444