

Patriot Major John Liles

Major John Liles was the grandson of Ephriam Liles who arrived in the Colonies in the early 1600s. Major John was Compatriot John's 5th great grandfather. He was born in Ninety-Six District in 1755 in South Carolina. (Ninety-Six District is a former judicial district in the U.S. state of South Carolina and existed from 29 July 1769 to 31 December 1799). Major John's grandfather was Ephriam Liles who settled in Virginia in 1606. At the age of eighteen John belonged to a company of horse soldiers engaged in operating against the Cherokee Indians. When the Revolutionary War broke out he was still living in Ninety-Six District in South Carolina and was among the refugees, as they were called, having been drafted into the Militia before the British got possession of any part of South Carolina. He was then stationed at Augusta, Georgia under General Williamson. His eldest brother James Liles was the Colonel of the Regiment. John Liles served 3 months in this corps until the Battle of Stono Ferry under General Lincoln. He was soon after appointed a Captain of Horse and served as such for two and a half years. He was then promoted to the rank of Major of the infantry when General Sumter took the field against the British. While a major in the infantry and until the end of the war, records reveal he was in the battle of Hanging Rock under General Sumter, in the battle of Cowpens under General Morgan, in the battle of Eutaw Springs under General Green along with the previously mentioned Battle of Stono Ferry under General Lincoln. On September 4, 1838, Major John Liles applied for and received a pension while living in Escambia County, Florida for his service in the Revolutionary War under number 5.47930 which this act was passed by Congress on June 7, 1832. He soon after moved to Covington County, Alabama where his name is engraved on the Court House wall as being a soldier of the Revolutionary War. He is buried in Covington County, Alabama.