

Orphan Boy Fights Major Battles During the Revolutionary War

Genealogy Tips by Jeannette Holland Austin



Kettle Creek

When the British attempted to take Charleston, he was serving in the army of General Greene and was sent to defend Sullivan's Island, a win for the patriots. Then he returned to Wilkes County and joined the company of Captain John Hill.

Micajah Brooks stated in his pension that he was born in Chatham County, North Carolina and was an orphan. When he was about fourteen years of age he was hired out to a widow woman by the name of Mrs. Locklin in North Carolina.

The widow sent him to on an errand to Ramsour's Mill and while there, Colonel Benjamin Few rode up on horseback in the company of twenty or thirty others. Few, slapping Micajah upon the head, said: "My buck, don't you want to go with me and serve your country?"

And he answered, "Gladly."

Few then engaged the miller to send the horse and bag back to the widow Locklin. So began the long career of Micajah Brooks as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. First, he served as a scout on the Georgia frontier in the

counties of Wilkes and Warren.

He was uneducated and considered to be a young wild boy who never paid any attention to dates, but remembered that he entered service under Captain George Barber and Colonel Elijah Clarke in Wilkes County as a volunteer, thus engaging him in the skirmishes around Little River and the Battle of Kettle Creek on February 14, 1779.

Colonel Greene spent much of his time in the backcountry of South Carolina and Georgia engaged in guerrilla warfare, especially after Charleston and Savannah were captured. The local militias were busily engaged in maneuvers throughout the war