

William Benson, born in Fairfax County, Virginia, about 1745 married Eleanor Key, whom we believe was a daughter of James Key, and he a son of Martin Key, about 1770. About 1775 they moved to Spartanburg District, South Carolina and settled on Fairforest Creek, not far distant from the present city of Spartanburg. He became one of the districts most substantial citizens.

Their children were:

Willis (or William)	Born about	1771 d
Gabriel	" "	1773 d
Abner	" "	1776 d
Nancy	" "	1778 d
James Key	" "	1780 d
Rebecca	" "	1782 d
Robert (called Elias)	" "	1784 d
Thirza	" "	1786 d
Elizabeth (called Eliza)	" "	1788 d
Patience	" "	1790 d
Mary (called Polly)	" "	1792 d
Nimrod Earle	b May 10	1794 d Sept. 28, 1854.

The South Carolina Census of 1790 shows William Benson living in the 96th District of Spartanburg County. This Census Report has been published in book form and can be found in most large libraries.

William Benson was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army. His service was as follows:

"The State of South Carolina To- William Benson-		Dr.
Jan'y 15, 1781 - 7 head beef cattle for use of General Morgan's troops at 13 per head	91	0
18 1/2 bushels of corn for use of South Carolina and Georgia Militia	9	5
135 days service self and horse as a private at 20/ per day	199	5
----- 1782 To duty done as Adjutant for the Spartan Regiment under the Command of Cole. Benj. Roebuck, from the 8th of April till 21st May both days included being 44 days at 45/60 per day	334	5
	135	0
	234	0

Certified by me- Benj. Roebuck, Colonel,
Spartan Regiment.

96th District South Carolina.

Ninety Sixth District South Carolina.

Personally appeared before me William Benson and made oath that the foregoing account is just and true and that he hath received no part of the same.

Sworn to this 26th day of May 1783.
(signed) James Jordan, J.P.

44 days at 60/	132
7 head cattle	91
18 1/2 bushels corn	9
	<u>5</u>

232

5

33

3

D.. 3/4 St.

State of South Carolina

To - William Benson

Dr.

For duty per Cole. Anderson's return -

£ 55

To - Commissioners of Public Treasure - Charleston:

Gentlemen: Please to deliver my indent if ready to the bearer, Mr. William Goodlett to discharge the credit of land, and this shall be a receipt against -
Your Very Obed't and Humble servant -
(signed) William Benson, July 25, 1785.

Acknowledged before Baylis Earle, J. P.

Received July 8, 1785, full satisfaction for this account in an indent No. 167 Book U by Virture of an order.

(signed) William Goodlett.

Auditor General's endorsement on warapper:

No. 167 July 8, 1785

Lib. U Mr. William Benson - his account of Militia duty as private since the reduction of Charleston -

2. Children	Amount to current -	£ 55	S	D
	St.	£ 7	17	1 1/2

Received 23 Sept. 1785 from Commissioners of the Treasury, full satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 716 X.

(signed) William Benson

State of South Carolina

Office of Historical Commission -

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of two accounts against the state of South Carolina from William Benson for services rendered and supplies furnished to the said state during the war of the Revolution, which amount was duly approved and paid and is now on file in this office which is a department of the executive branch of the government of South Carolina.

Given under my hand and seal this 13th day of June 1924.

(signed) A. S. Salley, Jr., Secretary,
Columbia, S. C.

(Seal)

J. A. Crawford, the writer, 1705 West End Ave., Nashville, Tenn. has become a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution on the William Benson line, and his cousin Miss Elizabeth Cofield, of Tuskegee Ala. has become a member of the society of Daughters of the American Revolution on the same line, we both being descendants of William Benson though his daughter Rebecca who married Ignatius Stokes.

J. A. Crawford's National No.-44529 - State No. 529 - Elizabeth Cofield's National and State No's are unknown to writer at this time.

It will not be necessary for those descendants from William Benson, though his son James Key Benson, to prove William Benson's service