

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition relating to Elias Edmonds (Edmunds) VAS2004

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Transcribed by Will Graves

5/17/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#).] Fauquier County Legislative Petitions

To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The petition of Elias Edmonds, Joseph Blackwell, and Richard H Foote, respectfully represents, that at the commencement of the Revolutionary War, Elias Edmonds, father of Elias Edmonds, Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Blackwell, and Grand-father of Frances E, wife of Richard Foote, the petitioners, entered the service of the Colony of Virginia, as Lieutenant of a company which was among, if not, the first that marched from the County of Fauquier in that war. Not long after, Lieutenant Edmonds had entered the service, he was promoted to a captaincy of Artillery, and in the year '77 he raised a Company to serve for three years, and was ordered to the South. While there, he was promoted to the command of the 2nd Regiment of Artillery, and your petitioners are informed, and believe, that he served in that capacity to the close of the War. Colonel Edmonds served in the Campaign in North and South Carolina until '81, when he returned to Virginia, with the troops to which he was attached, to aid in the capture of the Army under Lord Cornwallis. He was, accordingly, with his Regiment at the siege of York-town, and was present at the surrender of the British forces [October 19, 1781]. Notwithstanding the termination of offensive hostilities, as they regarded systematic plans of subjugation, with the defeat of Lord Cornwallis, Colonel Edmonds, as your petitioners have been informed, did not leave the Army until it was finally disbanded: at which time he returned to the County of Fauquier, where he resided till the year 1800 when he died.

By the laws which were enacted at different sessions of the General Assembly, Colonel Edmonds, as one of the Officers who had served during the war, became entitled to half pay for life, or, to a commutation of that claim upon the State for another sum.

Your petitioners have made diligent search into the records of the government, and amongst his own papers, and there cannot be found the least trace of evidence which will justify a presumption howsoever slight, that Colonel Edmonds received any portion of his half pay for life, or any commutation therefor.

Your petitioners were infants when Colonel Edmonds died and it was not until the passage of the Acts for the relief of __ Armistead and others, that they were apprised that they were entitled, as the heirs of Colonel Edmonds, to his half pay from the close of the Revolution to the time of his death, or, to his commutation pay.

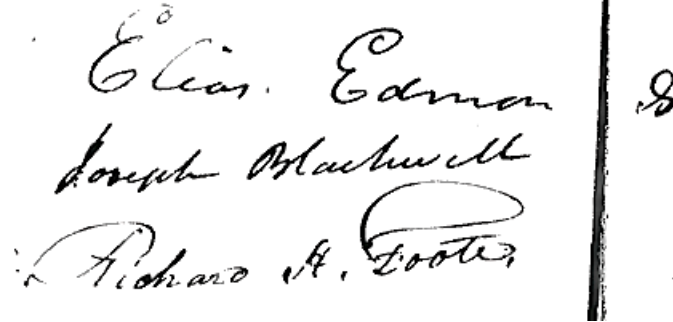
For proof of the service performed by the aforesaid ancestor of your petitioners, they respectfully refer your Honorable bodies to the testimony of various persons who were engaged

in the defense of the Colonies in the Revolutionary War, and which is filed here with.

Your petitioners, in conclusion, respectfully petition the General Assembly to allow them the commutation pay which said Colonel Elias Edmonds was entitled to, as a Lieutenant Colonel of artillery in the Army of the Revolution, and they will ever pray &c

S/ Elias Edmonds
S/ Joseph Blackwell
S/ Richard H Foote

Elias Edmonds
Joseph Blackwell
Richard H. Foote



[Reverse]

Petition of the heirs of Colonel Elias Edmonds
December 2nd, 1828
Referred to Claims
M. A. Chilton
(Laid on table 8th December)
Reasonable 9th December
12 Bill drawn

The Affidavit of John Dulin,¹ a citizen of Fauquier County:

The affiant being first duly sworn, says, that, in the year 1775, in July he believes, Elias Edmonds, deceased, father of Elias Edmonds of Fauquier, Elizabeth Blackwell, wife of Joseph Blackwell of Fauquier, and Grandfather of Frances E Foote, only child of Georgia Grayson, deceased who intermarried with Octavia Edmonds, daughter of the said Elias Edmonds, deceased, entered into the service of the Colony of Virginia, as Lieutenant of an Infantry company commanded by Captain James Scott. That said Edmonds from that time remained in the service until the close of the war. In the year '76, he was promoted to a Captaincy of Artillery and recruited a Company, with which he marched from Fauquier County for the term of three years, and while in the service he was promoted to the command of a Regiment of Artillery which he held at the close of the Revolutionary War in the [year] 1783.

The said Colonel Elias Edmonds was engaged in the battles fought by General Gates and Smallwood at Cambden [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] and other places to the South of Virginia.

This affiant was in service with Colonel Edmonds.

S/ John Dulin

John Dulin

¹ [John Dulin S39468](#)

[Attested in Fauquier County November 17, 1828]

This is to Certify, that sometime in the Summer of the year 1777, Elias Edmonds (now deceased) was appointed Captain in the State Artillery, and that I joined his Company sometime in August (Term of three years) but, sometime in the year 78 I received a discharge from Captain Edmonds, (being stationed at Yorktown Virginia) – after I left them, I understood that the State Artillery was ordered to march to South Carolina; and that Captain Edmonds, was appointed Colonel & Commanded a Regiment to the South – and in the Spring of the year 1781, the said Colonel E: Edmonds took Command of a Regiment of Militia, & I served a Tour under him as Ensign in Jennings Company.

Cedar-Grove, Fauquier

July 23rd, 1828

S/ Charles Kemper, S. F. C.



Auditors Office 3 December 1828

It appears by a List of Certificates in this Office, issued to the officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary Army in the Virginia State line agreeably to the act of 1781, that Elias Edmonds a Lieutenant Colonel of artillery received on the 6th March 1783 a Certificate for £483.2.1 which certificate was delivered to himself.

I further certify that it does not appear that Colonel Edmonds drew his half pay or commutation of five years full pay in lieu of thereof. The certificate first above referred to was Fort depreciation.

Given under my hand the day and year above written

S/ Jas. E. Heath

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Fauquier County, to wit,

George Monroe² of said County personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid, and made oath that he was well acquainted from boyhood with Elias Edmonds deceased a Lieutenant Colonel in the Artillery of the Revolutionary War – that he well remembers that said Edmonds was an officer in the Minute Service in said War; and that he was a near neighbor of this affiant, and that he never heard that said Edmonds ever resigned his commission in said Minute Service, and thinks, that if said Edmonds had left the Minute Service or resigned he should have heard of it: that said Edmonds came home after his appointment to the Artillery and commenced enlisting man for the Artillery. This affiant served under said Edmonds when he commanded a Regiment of militia at the Siege of York.

Given under my hand this 7th day of February 1838

S/ W. H. Gaines, JP

² Perhaps the same man as [George Monroe S46060](#)

[Note: This file contains another petition filed by the heirs of Colonel Edmonds. The petition was dated March 13th, 1838. The claim was rejected.]