

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Elias Veatch R10926

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois }

White County }

On this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Hon. William Wilson Judge of the White Circuit Court being a court of record now sitting, Elias Veatch a resident of said County of White aged seventy three years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the militia under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Goodwin Colonel. Lt. Colonel name not recollected. Goodwin Major, Lang Captain, the lieutenants not recollected, nor the christian names of any of the above officers. That he was drafted and entered the service about the middle of April as he believes 1777. That he resided in the Camden district about ten miles from the town of Camden in the State of South Carolina. That he marched from Camden to Charleston & remained there three months there discharged & returned home. Colonel Mason [possibly James Mayson] in command of a regiment of regulars was at Charleston during this time. that he had a brother in the regiment under command of Mason name of brother Isaac Veatch. company not recollected.

That under the same officers and Lieutenant Whittaker he was drafted and entered the service about the middle of April as he believes 1778 that he resided as above stated and marched from Camden to the Savannah river a little below Augusta Georgia and then to Charleston where he remained until the expiration of his three months. then discharged and returned home Colonel Masons regiment there during this period.

That under General Simmons and the same officers except Lieutenant Whittaker whose place was supplied by Daniel Muse he was drafted and entered the service about the middle of April as he believes 1779. That he resided as above and marched from from Camden to the Black Swamp below Augusta Georgia. That General Moultrie was commander at that place: that the enemy pursued us from the Black Swamp to Charleston [see note below]. that General Moultrie with the troops under his command entered the town before the arrival of the enemy. That General Lincoln who had the winter previous [3 Jan 1779] taken command of the Southern army was then at or near Augusta came on soon after with the main army: that he belonged to the division which was to take possession of the Islands previous to the battle of Stono: that the division did not arrive until after the battle was over. That he remained in Charleston some time after the battle of Stono and that he served this time about four months was there discharged and returned home Colonel Mason's regiment was at Charleston during this period.

That under the same officers except Captain Lang the company in command of Lieutenant Elkins. that he was drafted & entered the service about the first of May 1780. That he resided as above, and marched from Camden toward Charleston, that when he arrived at the Congaree river he learnt of the surrender of Charleston [12 May]: that he was sent by Col. Goodwin to carry an express to Col. Sumpter [sic: Thomas Sumter] who was below between them & Charleston. that on the next morning after he had left his regiment he learnt of the advance of the enemy that he returned to his regiment that he was soon after discharged & returned home, out as he now thinks about one month.

That under the same Colonel Lieutenant Colonel Major and Captain Richard Tucker he entered the service as a volunteer on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1780 and marched to meet General [Horatio] Gates [at Rugeley's Mill] who had command of the Southern army. That on the 16<sup>th</sup> he was at the battle near Camden & in the early part of the engagement wounded and taken prisoner. that he was unable to walk for three months in consequence of the wound: that he remained in their hands as a prisoner of war until the retreat of Lord Rawdon from Wilmington N.C. to Charleston in April or May 1781. when he found means to escape and joined the main army under General Greene then at Dorchester [sic: see note below] that he was discharged by General Greene and returned home

That under Captain Whittaker he entered the service as a volunteer sometime in the summer of 1781. and after the surrender of Orangeburgh [sic: Orangeburg SC, 11 May], that he assisted in guarding the Tories at Orangeburgh about one month. that he was then discharged & returned home.

That he was born in Frederick County Maryland May 5<sup>th</sup> 1759

That he has in his possession a copy of the record of his fathers family: has no knowledge what has become of the original.

That his place of residence when called into service each of the above times was in the Camden district about ten miles from the town of Camden in South Carolina. that he resided there 18 months or about that time after peace was declared. that he then removed to Nolichucky river in what is now Green County Ten [sic: Nolichucky River in Greene County], but then a part of North Carolina. he resided there eleven years. he then removed to Jefferson County in same state, resided there one year. the removed to Powells valley McLane County [sic] (he believes) same state. resided there about two years. he then removed to Knox County Kentucky resided there two years. he then removed to Henderson County same state, resided there two years, and then removed to this County, where he has since resided.

That when out the three first times, the mess to which he belonged received a common discharge, that Gideon Sowney & Thomas Vaughn were two of his mess when out those three times. that he never received any of those discharges. That on the fourth tour he received a discharge from Colonel Goodwin, and that when he escaped from the enemy he received on application a discharge from General Greene and that on his last tour he received a discharge from Captain Whittaker and that they were all three burnt by accident some years since

That Peter Miller and Samuel Abbott are persons who live in my present neighbourhood and will testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution. That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

[signed] Elias Veatch

#### NOTES:

After Gen. Benjamin Lincoln had left camp in the Black Swamp of present Jasper County SC to march against the British at Augusta, Gen. Augustine Prevost marched from Savannah with the intention of besieging Charleston, driving Gen. William Moultrie's SC Continentals before him. Prevost arrived at the Ashley River on 11 May and demanded the surrender of the city. On learning that Lincoln was on the way, however, Prevost abandoned the siege the next day to avoid being trapped between Lincoln and Moultrie. Lincoln attacked Prevost's rear guard at Stono Ferry on 20 June 1780. Moultrie was to have landed on Johns Island on the opposite side of Stono River to divert British reinforcements, but he failed to arrive in time, and the battle was lost. Moultrie later stated that he could not get boats, but according to rumor, he had partied too late and missed the tide.

Lord Francis Rawdon was not at Wilmington NC. He retreated from Camden SC on 9 May 1781. After the Battle of Hobkirk Hill on 25 Apr, Gen. Nathanael Greene remained in the vicinity of Camden until after Rawdon's departure, then went to besiege Ninety-Six SC (22 May - 19 June), after which he spent most of the summer in the Hills of Santee. Greene did not arrive at Dorchester until 1 Dec.

In Washington County IL on 17 Apr 1843 Jane Veatch, 74, applied for a pension stating that she married Elias Veatch on 18 Feb 1790, and he died 13 Sep 1839. With her application she submitted an original family record transcribed as follows:

Elias and Jean Veatch was married fabury 18<sup>th</sup> 1790. He was born may the 5 1759 and shee was born June 3<sup>th</sup> 1769

Isaac Veatch thar son was born January 5<sup>th</sup> day in year of our lord 1791

James Veatch was born october 17<sup>th</sup> in yeare of our lord 1792

John Veatch was born march 1<sup>th</sup> in yeare of our lord 1795

Nancy Veatch was born aprile 8<sup>th</sup> 1797

Jeny Veatch was born Aprile 23<sup>th</sup> 1798[?]

Rachel Veatch Born July 16<sup>th</sup> 1802[?]

Elender Veatch was born September the 22 1803

Elias Veatch was born December 27<sup>th</sup> 1806

Her application was supported by William Veatch, another son, with whom his mother then resided.