

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Edwards R13943

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

South Carolina }
Greenville District } On this the fourteenth day of October in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions Joseph Edwards a resident of the District of Greenville and State of South Carolina aged eighty 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated – That he first entered the service under Captain [Tilman] Weaver and Joseph Jackson, Lieutenant, in the Spring of 1778 and served not less than two months – was marched to Richmond Virginia – was placed by the Captain to drive a waggon and bring in provisions for the company. The second tour he went under Captain Elias Edmunds for not less than two months – marched to Richmond and went to other towns and places in Virginia. The third time he served two months under Captain John Ball. The fourth tour he served under Captain John Churchwell not less than two months was marched to guard Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] The fifth tour he served not less than two months under Captain Charles Williams The sixth tour he served not less than four months under Captain Jennings or Ginnings [probably William Jennings] and Lieutenant Blackwell marched from Richmond to Albermarle [sic: Albemarle] – was put guard the Baggage Wagons. this tour was known by the name of the running tour [see endnote]. He seved the greater part of his time in driving a waggon was off driving a waggon when Corn Wallace was taken at the Battle of York Town [sic: Cornwallis taken at the Siege of Yorktown; 19 Oct 1781]. He cannot from old age and the consequent loss of memory swear as to the precise period of his entering the service, nor as to the exact length of each tour – but to the best of his recollection not less than the periods mentioned above, and at some times between the year 1778 and the taking of Corn Wallace in 1781. He seved alltogether not less than fourteen months as a private in the militia of Virginia and for such service he claims a Pension. He lived in Fauquier County, state of Virginia when he entered the service. Was drafted evry time. Was in no battls – the whole of his service was done in the state of Virginia – he does not recollect the names of any regular officers of continental regiments, in as much as he was placed at waggoning and detached from the main army. He has no documentary evidence. He knows of no one whose testimony he can procure as to his sevice. He was discharged from sevice some five days after the Battle of Yorktown.

1st Was born in Fauquier County Virginia in the year 1754 Febuary 1st. 2nd Has a record of his age at home in his Bible. 3^d Was living in Fauquer County, Virginia when called into service and has lived in Greenville District South Carolina where he now lives, ever since the Revolutionary War. 4th He was drafted each tour. 5th In consequence of the reason all ready given being principally employed in waggoning, he does not recollect any regular officers or continental regiments. 6th He never received a discharge. 7th He is known in his present neighborhood to General James McDaniel, Thomas Taylor, Asa Crowder and others who can testify as to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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. Joseph hisXmark Edwards

NOTES:

The title “Running Tour” comes from an incident in May or June 1781 when soldiers marching at night panicked during a thunder storm.

Edwards’s claim was not allowed because service as a waggoner in the militia was not construed as military service by the Pension Office, contrary to its own regulations.