

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Erwin (Eirwin) R3369

Lydia Erwin

f28NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/26/08 rev'd 1/1/15

[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.]

State of Indiana, Hendricks County: SS

On this 16 day of April 1834 personally appeared before the honorable Bethewel F. Morris president and Thomas Lockhart & Elijah Anderson his Associates, Judges of the Hendricks Circuit Court at their April Session 1834, David Erwin, a resident of the County of Hendricks and State of Indiana, aged seventy-four or five years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to attain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was drafted into the Army of the United States in the summer of the year of the battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780] and served as a private in a company of North Carolina militia, in a company commanded by Captain Robert McClain [Robert McLane], Lieutenant James Crabtree, other officers' names belonging to the Company not now recollected, the declarant at the time he entered the service resided in the lower part of Guilford County in the State last aforesaid. He was drafted for three months, his company assembled at the time aforesaid near the high hills of Santee River -- they ranged through the country until the battle of Camden upon different scouting expeditions, that about one week previous to the engagement his company joined the Main Army commanded by General Gates [Horatio Gates] near their place of rendezvous, at the high hills of Santee River, and with his company incorporated with the Main Army, moved towards Camden, that the engagement began about 10 o'clock on the night previous to the Main engagement, that in the morning his company was brought to act in the battle, he had 40 cartridges & fired about 20 rounds before the militia broke ground, that out of his company one man was killed & two wounded -- from extreme old age & consequent loss of memory he is unable to remember the names of any other of the regular as well as militia officers with whom he was then acquainted, & being illiterate has since those events been unable to refresh his memory by reading, & for many years past has been deprived of the opportunity of conversing with those who knew anything of those events, that transpired at the time referred to & to which he shall have occasion to mention. From the before described engagement -- he returned to his father's in Guilford County -- where he staid a few days & when he received orders to meet with his company at Bell's Mill, 10 miles from his father's residence, where they assembled, & in a short time thereafter he was with the rest of his company discharged by his Captain & received a written discharge from him, which he has long since lost, having served the term of three months. The day on which the before described battle took place he cannot recollect, but he remembers that on his return home he subsisted on "roasten ears" & that it must have been in August or September.

2. That in the last of September or first of October of the same season of the battle of Camden the declarant volunteered for three months into a company commanded by Captain William York of the North Carolina militia, then residing with his father at the place aforesaid, that he served these three months as a private, except a short time he served as a Sergeant, not less than two weeks -- the other officers -- he has entirely forgotten The company assembled at one widow McGees & then marched to Litteral's Barracks [sic, Col. John Luttrell's Barracks], where they remained nearly three months, when they took a scout up Deep River until the three months expired, when he received a written discharge from his Captain which he has long since lost, that during this campaign he was in no engagement nor met with no regular troops to his recollection.

3 That in the summer of the year succeeding the battle of Camden the declarant again volunteered into the company commanded by Captain York while residing in the place first aforesaid, for three months to serve as a private in the light horse -- the principal object or rather cause of raising the company was to watch a body of disaffected or Tories commanded by one Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] & to which a brother of this declarant belonged by the name of John Erwin, Some years older than declarant & who resided about 20 miles from his father's residence -- the company assembled at Captain York's -- He does not recollect any other officer except one Colonel Daugan was occasionally with the company -- They were constantly engaged & in their scouts or marches the declarant with the company went down Deep River, passed up and down Tar River, Cain Creek, in pursuit of Fannen [Fanning] -- near the close of the campaign they came down on one side of Deep River & discovered Fanning's forces on the opposite bank there were shots exchanged from each side by the two forces, but owing to the width of the River at that place, no harm or injury resulted to either party -- At the close of the expedition he received a discharge from Captain York which he has lost, certifying his faithful service for three months in this last campaign.

4 That shortly after the termination of the last tour of service Captain York informed declarant that he with others of his company were about to proceed to the house of your declarant's brother John who had been associated with Fanning & to take him a prisoner -- and proposed to declarant to go with a body of men & take him, himself & command the expedition & thereby save his brother's life & have him sent to Charleston to be exchanged for some prisoner there confined who was attached to the cause of liberty -- Declarant accepted the proposition -- & took a body of men & proceeded to the residence of his brother, where they arrived in the night surrounded the house -- & declarant entered the house & took him prisoner -- & he had him delivered to Captain York or some other officer who had him with others sent to Charlestown for an exchange of prisoners & he was absent one or two years -- In this last [indecipherable word]¹ the declarant was not engaged but a day on such a matter.

In answer to the interrogatories required by the War department --

1 Declarant would state that he was born as he was informed by his parents in Pennsylvania that his father moved to Guilford County NC when he was three or four years of age he was born in the year 1759 or 1760

2 He has no record of his age

3 He was living in Guilford County when called to perform the several tours of service before described -- that three or four years after the Revolution he resided in and see thence he removed & lived in Georgia several years -- from thence to Kentucky -- & from thence he moved to

aaarntud

Hendricks County Indiana where he now resides & has resided for the last five years

4 He was as before stated drafted to perform his first tour of duty. He was a volunteer as to the others as before described

5 The names of officers & the general circumstances of his services are stated within as near as he can now recollect. His memory having almost failed him as to the names of his early Associates or with those with whom he was appointed in early life for the reasons within stated.

6 He received discharges from the service which he has lost as before described

7 That he has no documentary evidence of his services & he knows of no clergyman in his County or elsewhere who has any actual or traditional knowledge of his services as a soldier of the revolution but he is well acquainted with Joshua Hadley² the only living witness who has any actual knowledge of his services as a soldier of the Revolution & also with Thomas Lockhart one of the Judges of the Hendricks Circuit Court & two both of whom he is well known in his present neighborhood & who can testify as to his character for veracity -- the former can state facts tending to show his actual service in the latter as well as the former can testify their belief of the applicant's services as a soldier of the revolution

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state or territory in the union

S/ David Erwin, X his mark

Sworn & subscribed to the day & year aforesaid

J. T. Hadley, Clerk

[p 8]

I Joshua Hadley hereby certify under my affirmation that I am about seventy-one years of age that I now reside & have resided for last five years in the same neighborhood & County with David Erwin with whom I am well acquainted & who subscribed & sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be seventy-four or five years of age -- I would further state that during the Revolution I resided in Chatham County North Carolina & in the same neighborhood of John Erwin brother of declarant who is spoken of in declarant's declaration & to whom I was well known at that period & I believe I resided about 16 miles from the residence of declarant's father in Guilford County to whom I also was well known, but I do not recollect becoming personally acquainted with the declarant during the Revolution but might have seen him often as I distinctly recollect of being acquainted with his brother John & the rest of the family, but one circumstance I cannot mistake, that declarant's father & sister the summer after the battle of Camden visited the declarant's brother John who was opposed to the Revolution & was for some time a Captain above a company of disaffected that the father of declarant called on my father & I recollect he stated that his son David, meaning the declarant, had been or was then engaged as a soldier in the service of the United States and had taken a strong stand against the cause his son John had espoused, He was acquainted with Captain York mentioned by declarant -- also recollect that Captain McClain Colonel Daugan & ___ Crabtree were officers on the part of the United States I recollect that John Erwin was taken prisoner & sent to Charlestown & was absent one or two years there after-- The declarant is reputed and believed to have been a soldier of the revolution & of which matter I have no doubt from my knowledge of the foregoing facts as well as his general character as such --

S/ Joshua Hadley

² [Joshua Hadley BLWt1096-300](#) [file indicates "No Papers" for Hadley]

Joshua Hadley

Sworn & subscribed to the day & year first above written

S/ S. T Hadley, Clerk

[Thomas Lockhart gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 12: On February 16, 1848, in Daviess County, Kentucky, Lydia Eirwin [sic], at the house of her son, John, make oath that she was the widow of David Eirwin, “who was a Soldier in the Revolutionary war from Wilkes County Georgia and that said Eirwin moved into Hendricks County Indiana and in that County he made application for a pension for said service and was pensioned at the rate of \$32.50 per annum”; that her husband departed of life in Daviss County Kentucky November 20, 1843; that she married him in Wilkes County Georgia January 1787; that her maiden name was Lydia Hutchinson. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 13: On February 16, 1848 in Daviss County Kentucky, Robert H Eirwin gave testimony that he is a son of David and Lydia Eirwin; that he was born in Wilkes County Georgia May 25, 1794 and that his parents had 2 children older than himself; that his birth is recorded in his Bible. He signed his affidavit with his mark.

[p 15-16: Family Record]

Robert Eirwin was Born may the 25th day 1794

Biny Eirwin was born January the 18th 1796

Joseph Eirwin was born august the 28th day 1815

Rachel Eirwin was born December the 22nd day 1817

Aisley Eirwin was Born November the 16th day 1819

David Eirwin was born January the 4th day 1821

James Eirwin was born march the 27th day 1823

Thomas Eirwin was Born November the 8th day 1825

Lydia Eirwin was born april the 25th day 1827

John Eirwin was born april the 22nd day 1829

Robert Eirwin and his wife Biny Eirwin was married October the first day 1814

Joseph Eirwin and his wife Emily Eirwin was married November the 10 day 1839

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

Robert Erwin was Born
May the 25th day 1794

Biny Erwin was born
January the 18th day
1796

BIRTHS.

Joseph Erwin was born
August the 28th day 1813

Rachel Erwin was born
December the 22nd day 1817

Elsey Erwin was born
November the 16th day 1819

David Erwin was born
January the 11th day 1821

James Erwin was born
March the 27th day 1823

Thomas Erwin was
Born November the
8th day 1825

Lydia Erwin was born
April the 25th day 1827

John Erwin was born
April the 22nd day 1829

FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

Robert Erwin and
his wife Biny Erwin
was married October
the first day 1814

Joseph Erwin and
his wife Emily Erwin
was married November
the 10 day 1839

MARRIAGES.

his wife Biny Erwin
the first day 1814

his wife Emily Erwin
the 10 day 1839

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$32.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina Infantry and 3 months in the North Carolina cavalry.]