

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ephraim Osburn R7822

f11VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/30/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky County of Perry: SS

On this 8th day of September 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Perry County now sitting Ephraim Osburn a resident of Harlan County Kentucky 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 Captain Enoch Osburn Lieutenant James Ward Ensign forgotten as a volunteer & first met at Osburn's Fort in Montgomery County Virginia in he thinks April but the year he does not recollect and stayed in the service until the end of six months the time of his tour when he was regularly discharged but the discharge he has long since lost as he did not know or expect it would be of any service to him – they were engaged generally in guarding the frontiers against the Indians & had frequent scouts but no engagement – the time of this service was perhaps a year or two before the Expedition against the Cherokees – He afterwards went as a volunteer under Captain Frederick Edwards for one month on Clinch River after the Tories. – The Route caught a deserter & brought him in but don't remember his name he was out this time one month –

He then went as a volunteer under Captain Abram Bletcher to the Cherokee Nation first met at the Long Island of Holstein [Holston River] & went on by the Bent of Nola Chucky [Nolichucky River] & there expected an attack but did not have one & he thinks stayed there 2 or 3 days – there were a good many troops from North Carolina & Virginia went on from the Island he recollects an Officer with the North Carolina troops by the name of Williams either a Major or Colonel but he thinks a Colonel: – His own Colonel was Christy [William Christian] – Somewhere on the way before they got to French broad River a flag was sent in by the Indians for peace – but it was understood that there were still more that would not make peace – & the Army proceeded on to the French broad River & halted expecting an attack – that night a detachment was ordered out to cross the River in the night about the crossing place & he was one that went – but there was no Indians there but there was signs the next day all crossed the River & took up camp and in preparing tents a man cut down a sapling & sell it on another that was laying asleep & killed him – from there they went on to the Dragging Canoe Town & they ^{the} Indians were all gone but one old blind Indian – the Army destroyed all they could find – they were there discharged & he got his discharge this tour was 2 months as he now believes & this tour was before the one after the Tories described before this.

He again went with Captain Brummett as a guard of Ammunition from the Led Mines across the flour Gap [Flower Gap] to North Carolina & delivered the Ammunition he thinks to Captain McCrane they stayed several days at the Led Mines waiting for the Led & he thinks was

gone one month this tour – He was several times in scouting parties after the Tories but don't now remember enough to tell the Officers nor described the trips – He is old & infirm & states what he can remember & might state much more, that is what he thinks but wants to state nothing but what he remembers. – He has made application in Perry County his adjoining County because there is no one handy to him to do the business as in Perry except at the Circuit Courts when it is only Lawyers & as he has been some acquaintance in Perry he hopes it is no difference as to the County – the time of his service cannot be better identified than by the Cherokee Expedition which is well known at the department as he cannot remember the year – he has lost all his discharges –

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.

S/Ephraim Osburn

[Micajah Napier and Edmund Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit. Daniel Duff, a clergyman, gave a separate supporting affidavit.]

I Jeremiah Smith 74 years of age resident of Harlan County Kentucky hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Ephraim Osburn of the said County of Harlan who has signed the foregoing Declaration in time of the Revolutionary War & have known him ever since; and know of my own knowledge that he served under Captain Enoch Osburn at Osburn's Fort & was own frequent scouts from the Fort; and I also certify that my Brother Joshua Pennington was in the Expedition against the Cherokee Indians. I understood that the said Ephraim Osburn was with him in the said tour & always understood that the said Osburn did serve in said tour.

S/ Jeremiah Smith, X his mark