

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Edmund Owens R7843

fn12NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/27/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcripts. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Indiana Posey County: On this eleventh day of August in the year of our Lord 1836 personally appeared before me Richard McPike a Justice of the peace now sitting in my office in the County of Posey and State of Indiana Edmund Owens a resident of the County of Posey and State of Indiana Robb Township aged eighty-one years the 14th day of February last 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 said Declarant was born on the Eastern Shore in Maryland Dorset County as he has been told by his parents. Said declarant's father moved from Maryland to North Carolina Craven County near New Bern before his recollection where he was raised and remained until the war of the revolution. In October 1778 said Declarant volunteered under Captain Archibald Weeks Colonel William Caswell and General Bryan the company that he volunteered in rendezvoused in Kingston [sic, Kinston] Lenoir County North Carolina and marched from there to Moncks Corner South Carolina at which place we drew our rations of Horse meat in the space in the place of Beef. We went from there to Savannah River near Augusta at Black Swamp. General Ashe [John Ashe] had the command of our troops there and crossed Savannah River and took a stand at Brier Creek. This was in February 1779 and in March we were attacked by the British and defeated – we retreated across to Black Swamp again at which place said declarant received a written discharge from Colonel Caswell and returned home in April following. In this tour said declarant served five months the time for which he volunteered and received his discharge as before stated. In September 1779 said Declarant was drafted in Craven County NC and in the ensuing October rendezvoused at Kingston Lenoir County NC the same place where he rendezvoused the first tour he served; under Captain James Pearce Colonel Shepherd and Colonel Lowry. We marched from Kingston to Wilmington NC from there to Georgetown SC where John Pearce Brother of Captain James Pearce died. Said declarant was one who guarded the wagons that Pearce was hauled in when he was sick, from there he marched to Charleston where we joined head quarters under the command of General Lincoln where said declarant remained in actual service until the last of March 1780 at which time said Declarant received a printed discharge from Colonel John Lowry. In this tour said Declarant was drafted for five months and served his time out and received his discharge as before stated.

Said declarant certifies that General Lincoln was lame in one knee or leg so that he

traveled with a Staff and had a very bad limp in his walk; he had a pair of white match[ed] horses and in the time of a review he rode one himself and had a black waiter that rode the other.

In the first of February 1781 said Declarant volunteered in Jones County North Carolina under Captain James Harrison, Colonel Avery and General Linnington [sic, Lillington] and marched to Bluford's Bridge near Wilmington in North Carolina for the purpose of attacking the British who had possession of Wilmington at that time in this campaign this declarant was an orderly Sergeant under the orders of Colonel Avery, who he volunteered under we lay at Bluford's Bridge until we heard the British had left Wilmington we then were discharged and said declarant went home after serving a tour of three months said declarant got a written discharge from Colonel Avery.

In this last campaign said Declarant states that he saw the British and American Flags meet which was the only time he ever saw anything of the kind in the three different campaigns he served – Said Declarant has no documentary evidence of his services and 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Attest: S Richard McPike, JP

S/ Edmund Owens, O his mark

[Peter Saltzman, a clergyman, and Thomas Gwaltney gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

In the following interrogatories were propounded to the aforesaid Declarant by the aforesaid Richard McPike, JP

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the State of Maryland in the County of Dorset in the year of 1755 as I have been told by my parents.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I never had any record of my age but my parents told me that I was born in the state aforesaid on the 14th day of February.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I lived in North Carolina Craven County and Jones County & continued there until 1797 – when I moved to Kentucky Muhlenberg County and remained there until 1828 when I moved to the State of Indiana Posey County where I now live.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans. I was a volunteer in two campaigns and drafted in one as stated in my Declaration

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I was acquainted with General Ash who I served with at Briar Creek in Georgia General Bryan Colonel Caswell General Lincoln who I served with at Charleston South Carolina Colonel Shepherd General Linnington who I served with at Bluford's Bridge near Wilmington, Colonel Avery and several others not named or recollected the Continental & militia regiments I do not recollect but I know that William Blunt [sic, William Blount] was brother of Governor Wily Blunt [sic, Willie Blount] of Tennessee and he the said William Blount was the man who paid me for my services and was paymaster in the Regiment that I belonged to and the general circumstances of my service you will find embodied in my declaration.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I have received a discharge at Black Swamp South Carolina from Colonel Caswell. I received a discharge from Colonel John Lowry in Charleston South Carolina and one from Colonel Avery Bluford's Bridge near Wilmington NC but I never thought these discharges would be any advantage to me and they are lost or destroyed so that I cannot tell where they are.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. I am well acquainted with Peter Saltzman & Francis Gwaltney – who I believe will Testify to their belief of my services in the revolution and a great many others of my neighborhood.