

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Eli Porter R8349

Mary

f56VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/5/12

[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.]

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the Act entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the revolution" approved on the 15th day of May 1828 I Ely Porter of Stone Lick Township in the County of Claremont in the State of Ohio do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution for 3 years sometime in the month of January 1777 and served out that period, and after it was over; continued in its service until its termination; at which period I was a private in Captain McCarty's Company of the 8th Regiment of the Virginia Line. And I do also declare that I afterwards received \$80 in money from Captain Abraham Hite and not a certificate for the reward of \$80; to which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th of May 1778. And I further declare that I was not on the 15th day of May 1828 on the Pension List Roll of the United States.

S/ Eli Porter, X his mark

State of Ohio Clermont County: SS

On this 26th day of July 1830 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for the County aforesaid expressly made so by the Laws of this State Eli Porter resident in said County, aged seventy years who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and 1st of May 1820, that he the said Eli Porter enlisted for the term of during the war, sometime in the month of February in the year 1777 in the Company commanded by Captain William Vose [William Vause or William Voss], in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Wood in the line of the State of Virginia, on the Continental Establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Corps for about three years when his Regiment marched to the Southward and was taken at the capture of Charlestown South Carolina [Charleston South Carolina, May 12, 1780], he being left behind on furlough in Virginia, and before he could Joined his Regiment the place had fallen; he then Joined or was placed in Captain Nathaniel McCathy's [Nathaniel McCauley or McCawley or McCarty or McCarty?] company in the 8th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Mathews in which Regiment he served until after the Capture of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781], when he was honorably discharged from the service at Winchester in the State of Virginia, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the pension roll of any State and that some five or six years ago he made application for a pension under the act of 18 March 1818 and 1st May 1820 but failed in his application for want of proof. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever

disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. The property I own at this time is as follows, to wit

one mare 12 years old value	\$30.00
one horse colt one-year-old	15.00
one yearling colt	10.00
one cow	9.00
6 head of sheep	4.00
5 shoats	2.50
1 Bureau	6.00
1 old table	2.00
1 Bed & bedding	16.00
and a few pots & dishes and some other articles of plain kitchen furniture worth in the aggregate perhaps	<u>10.00</u>
	\$104.50

I am at this time indebted in the following sums to the persons hereinafter named to wit

To John Williams	\$30.00
to Estate of Lytle Hall	9.00
and other small say in amount	4.00

That since the 18th day of March 1818 – to the best of my recollection the following changes have taken place in my property, namely I have lost four cows and one half or by disease called the murrain, I sold one mare at the value of \$25 to pay a doctor's bill, and I do not recollect that I sold any other articles than a wagon and plow which I was compelled to do in order to pay just debts, save and except some articles of small value which went to the ordinary support of myself and family. I owned no real estate house or locked – I am a Cooper by occupation, but am unable to follow it in consequence of bodily weakness and shortness of breath, I have a wife living but no children, with me, I solemnly declare that in consequence of old age, bodily infirmity and my indigent circumstances, I stand in need of the assistance of my country for support.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 26 day of July 1830

S/ M. S. Bryan, Clerk

S/ Eli Porter, X his mark

[f p. 15]

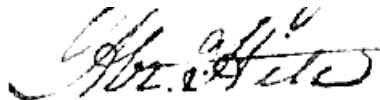
I Abraham Hite of Jefferson County State of Kentucky do hereby Certify that I was formerly a Captain in the Revolutionary War in the 8th Regiment of the Virginia line, I have at this time in my possession a register of the names of the Soldiers that was in said Virginia Regiment, and the term of their enlistment.

I was this day applied to by Ely Porter for a Certificate of his having been a soldier in Captain William Vann Company of the 8th Virginia Regiment, and the time he served in said Regiment. On examining the aforesaid Register I find that said Ely Porter is returned in the said register of Captain Vann's Company as having enlisted during the War, I know said Ely Porter served as a soldier in said Vann's Company, I have no recollection of said Ely Porter, being with

the Regiment when on its March to southward in December 1779. I am confident he was not with the Regiment when it was captured at Charles Town in May 1780, how long said Ely Porter actually served in the Army or when he was discharged I have no knowledge of.

Given under my hand this 29th day of August 1829.

S/ Abr. Hite



[f p. 17]

The deposition of John Short

John Short¹ of lawful age being duly sworn deposes and saith that he the said John Short and Eli Porter both served together in Captain McCantey's company in the United [States] service at the capture of Lord Cornwallis' Army at little York at the close of the war between the United States and Great Britain commonly called the Revolutionary war and further this deponent saith not.

S/ John Short



[Attested March 2, 1830 in Claremont County Ohio]

[f p. 20]

I John Bray² of Switzerland County State of Indiana do hereby certify that I was a Soldier in the revolutionary Army was in the 12th Virginia Regiment and was finally attached to the 8th Regiment of Virginia regulars and served 3 years altogether. I enlisted under William Vause's. I was this day applied to buy Eli Porter for a Certificate of his having been a Soldier. I know that Eli Porter belonged to William Vause's Company and the same Regiment that I belong to & we served together three years he then enlisted for during the war I never saw cents until the 31st day of August 1829 and I remember him well although it had been so many years as near as I can recollect we enlisted in the month of January 1777. I know it was in that year.
September 2nd 1829 S/ John Bray, B his mark

[f p. 21]

Andrew Stepleton³ of Switzerland County State of Indiana do hereby certify that I was a Soldier in the revolutionary Army was in the 12th Virginia Regiment and was finally attached to the 8th Regiment of Virginia regulars and served 3 years altogether. I enlisted under William Vause.

I was this day applied to buy Eli Porter for a Certificate of his having been a soldier. I know that Eli Porter belonged to William Vause's Company and the same Regiment that I belong to and we served together 3 years, he then enlisted for during the war. I never saw same until the 4th September 1829 and I remembered him well although it had been so many years, as near as I

¹ [John Short R9534](#)

² [John Bray W4145](#)

³ [Andrew Stepleton S36799](#)

can recollect we enlisted in the month of January 1777. I know it was in that year.
September 4, 1829

S/ Andrew Stepleton

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Stepleton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[f p. 8: On August 11, 1854 in White County Indiana, Mary Porter, a resident of said County and state, aged 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Eli Porter, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him December 6, 1817; that her husband died November 4, 1848. She signed her application with her mark. A note in the file indicates that her claim was denied because she failed to furnish record evidence of her marriage.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per annum commencing October 4th, 1830, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

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Addendum to Eli Porter R8349

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 14 Jan 2021.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) in two files. One file includes copies of the federal pension application. This appears to be the same person as Elias Porter R20199.]

Cincinnati May 29th 1834.

Sir Eli Porter a revolutionary soldier of the U. States residing in the vicinity of this city conceiving himself entitled to land or rather scrip in lieu of land under the act of Congress of the 30th of May 1830. He receives a pension from the U. States by virtue of his services in the army of the Revolution proof of which is now on file in the War Department. The same testimony by which he several years ago substantiated his claim to pension I mean by the affidavit of three individuals one of them an officer cannot now be had again in consequence of the death of some of the witnesses. In this case the next best evidence I thought would be a certificate from the Commissioner of Pensions setting forth the time it was proved to his satisfaction that Porter served in the Virginia line. His letter to that effect I have the honor to enclose to you. If this letter should not answer his purpose, would not copies of the affidavits on file in the war Depart[part missing at bottom of page]entative to his services may be had at the Secretary of State office in your city. To facilitate the examination of his claim I will repeat what Porter relates to me concerning his services, but not having copies of the original affidavits before me by which he proved his services and Porter who is an old man giving the narrative from memory alone, I will not vouch for its entire accuracy. Porter states that in the year 1777 he enlisted for during the War in the company commanded by Capt Vose in the Regiment commanded by Col. Wood [James Wood BLWt2419-500] it being the 12th of the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment. That he served in this Regiment and in the company commanded by Vose for three years when Capt Vose resigned, and first Lieutenant Williams took the command of the company in which he continued to serve until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781]. That after the capitulation he with his company or a part of his company, with other troops, forming a Detachment were sent to guard the British Troops to Winchester Virginia, after which he never Joined the main army, but was discharged at that place by Col. [Daniel] Morgan of the Revolutionary Army.

I believe that the act of the Legislature of Virgi[part missing at bottom of page] Establishment one hundred acres of land. To obtain a warrant for that quantity if he should be found entitled to it, is the object of Porter's application to the Executive of Virginia. If a warrant should issue in his favour, will you have the goodness to enclose it to me, and his receipt or any proper acquittance for the same if necessary shall be forwarded to you. I am not certain that application for this military Bounty is made in proper form, or that certain fees of office are not required for attending to the business. In this matter I desire to be instructed by you and your regulations in either case will be promptly complied with.

Wit the highest respect U have the honor to be Sir your very obt. servant

Sam'l Huut Agent for Eli Porter.

William Selden Esqr/ Register of the Land office/ Richmond Va.